



# Kirk Merrington Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term 2

December 2017

Thank you for all of your donations and support for the school fair. We raised £1009.22 which has been match funded by Barclays. We are extremely grateful to the Auntie of one of our pupils for organising this for us!

It has been a long half term and the children are ready for a rest.

I would like to wish all of our families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

Mrs Murray



## School Events:

### Plays

I am sure you will all agree our Christmas plays were a huge success this year, our children did us proud. Some of the children are shy performing in front of an audience and for others it is their chance to shine!

### Church

All of the children visited St John's church to sing carols and share their work from their RE lessons. This was a lovely end to the term and a good opportunity for the whole school to celebrate Christmas together.

Revered Barbara has also been in to school to make Christingles with Year 2.

### Civic Pride

The Civic Pride team brought their mascot Scoop to talk to the children about their work on dog fouling. We have had lots of positive feedback and the path has shown some improvement. We do still need residents to report incidents to the council.

## 100% Attendance

There were **55 children with 100%** attendance for this term! Well done to you all.

The school attendance is currently **97%**

Mrs Bell's class 97.2%

Miss Goldsborough's class 97.3%

Miss Peat's class 96.8%

Miss Rawlings class 97.8%

Mrs Thirkell's class 98.0%

Mrs O'Sullivan's class 97.0%



## Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you very much for your generous donations for the Great North Air Ambulance. We have raised £145 for this amazing charity!



## PTA- Friends of Kirk Merrington

I'd like to express huge thanks to our PTA and all the other helpers for our Christmas Fair. We are very grateful to all of the time given for meetings, setting up events, buying goods etc.

We will let you know soon what we will spend some of the money on!



## Sporting Events

Lots of our children have won medals and trophies for achievements out of school.

Many of these are for sporting events where we have some talented gymnasts, footballers and golfers to name but a few! Keep up the hard work, we are very proud of you.



**Dates for your diary:**

22.12.17 Teacher Training- PD Day (**School Closed**)  
 11.1.18 KS2 Pantomime  
 17.1.18 Year 1 Multi skills event  
 1.2.18 Year 1 visit to Preston Park  
 8.2.18 Internet Safety Parent Assembly 2pm  
 9.2.18 Break up for Half term  
 8.3.18 Year 4/5 visit to Beamish  
 7<sup>th</sup> May- 18<sup>th</sup> May Year 2 SATs  
 14<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018 Year 6 SATs  
 25.5.18 Teacher Training- PD Day (**School Closed**)  
 11.6.18 Year 1 Phonic Screening Check

**Attendance**

In order to maximise their learning the children need to be in school every day. This year we are awarding termly certificates and gift vouchers at the end of the year for 100% all year.

Please try to arrange medical appointments after school. If this is not possible then the afternoon is better after the children are registered. If children are not present at the time of registration in the morning or the afternoon then they are recorded as being late, absent or medical.

Attendance is monitored regularly and we are expected to notify you when your child's attendance falls below 95%. Attendance below 90% is considered to be "Persistent Absence" and therefore triggers involvement from the Local Authority.

*Please note if you take your child out of school for a holiday for 7 school days without authorisation then you are likely to receive a **fine**. This is £60 per parent, per child. The fine is issued by the Local Authority and is paid to them.*

*Please see the attendance policy on the website for further clarification.*

We still require holiday forms to be completed so we know where the children are, even though holidays will be unauthorised unless there is sufficient evidence of exceptional circumstances.

**Breakfast Club/ After School Club- Little Darlings**

There are spaces in Breakfast Club should you require a regular place at the reduced price of £3.00 per day.

After School also has places which can be used as required at £7.00 per session per child.

Ad-hoc sessions can be arranged in agreement with Nicola Coulthard once children are registered.

**Safeguarding**

Please can you telephone the school before 9am when your child is absent as we need to make sure that the children are safe and where they should be. (01388 816230)

**Can you please make sure that you do not park in the staff carpark unless you need to use the disabled space.**

*Can we also remind you that the equipment on the playground should not be used before and after school.*

**Clubs for this half term:**

	KS1	KS2
<b>Monday</b>		
<b>Tuesday</b>		KS2 Multi sports (4:30 finish) Y6 Booster- free (4:30 finish)
<b>Wednesday</b>	KS1 Multi skills (4:30 finish)	German- free (4:30 finish) Kodu (computing club Y4,5 & 6))
<b>Thursday</b>		Recorders- free (lunchtime) Fitness

**School Meals**

Just a reminder that children will be choosing their own meals after Christmas. It is the same menu until February half term as Taylor Shaw only change it twice per year.