



# Kirk Merrington Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term

December 2017

It's that time of year again when it gets very busy in school!  
The dates have been on the newsletter for some time and so hopefully you'll be well prepared.  
Many of the classes have had their Dojo parties as all of the children have more than 100 Dojos.  
In response to some parent questionnaires we have been trying to ensure they are consistently applied (or removed) across the school. All Dojos will go back to 0 in the New Year and start over.



Mrs Murray

## School Events:

The Year 2 children attended a Multi Skills Festival and the Year 1 children attended a Gymnastics Competition. Both year groups demonstrated a good team spirit and were excellent representatives of the school.

### Dogs Trust

The children all received workshops from a member of the Dogs Trust where they learned some amazing facts!

### Anti-bullying Week

The children enjoyed the work they did during this week which helped to teach the children more about the different forms bullying can take and what to do if they ever experience bullying.

### Lumiere

Thank you very much for your support with our Lumiere and Uganda sale. We raised over £200 for school funds and made £65 for Uganda UK.

### Leadership Playmaker Award

Some of our older pupils have been working to achieve a Leadership Playmaker Award. As part of this they are learning how to lead games on the playground.

## Christmas Jumper Day

We have decided to make the last day of term a Christmas Jumper Day. On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December children can wear a festive outfit for a donation.

All proceeds raised will go to The Great North Air Ambulance. I am sure you will agree this is a worthwhile charity who save lives on a daily basis.



## Christmas Dates-

Please see overleaf.

All children have been issued with two tickets for the Christmas plays. Please return any unwanted tickets or let us know if you require any extra tickets.

## Facebook

Have you seen our Facebook Page yet?

We have been adding regular updates on there for you to see more quickly what children have been learning.

## PTA- Friends of Kirk Merrington

We are busy preparing for the fair. We desperately need some volunteers to help run stalls, please let us know if you can help.

All donations are gratefully received.

Thank you for all the raffle ticket sales and jars so far.

## Lunchtime Supervisor-

We have now appointed Miss Allison as a lunchtime supervisor and so we now have 4 members of staff on duty. This will help to maintain our high standards of behaviour.

## St Cuthbert's & Butterwick Hospice

We now have some Christmas soft toys on sale in the entrance for St Cuthbert's at £2.00 and Flumpets for the Butterwick Hospice at £1.50.



### Dates for your diary:

13.12.17 Reception, Year 1 and 2 Pantomime Visit  
14.12.17 Christmas Lunch  
15.12.17 Christmas Fair 2pm- collect from classrooms and come in the main entrance  
19.12.17 Rec, Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Play 2pm  
20.12.17 Years 3,4, 5 & 6 Christmas Play 2pm  
21.12.17 Carol Service at St John's Church- Christmas Jumper Day for a donation  
22.12.17 Teacher Training- PD Day (School Closed)  
11.1.18 KS2 Pantomime  
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:** More clubs to be confirmed

	KS1	KS2
<b>Monday</b>		
<b>Tuesday</b>		Y6 Booster- free (4:30 finish)
<b>Wednesday</b>		German- free (4:30 finish)
<b>Thursday</b>		Recorders- free (lunchtime)

### School Meals

Just a reminder that children will be choosing their own meals after Christmas. We have been preparing the menu board for the children to look at and taking photographs to help the younger children.