



Kirk Merrington Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term 4

December 2020

It has been a long and challenging term for us all here at Kirk Merrington Primary School and I'm sure for the whole community. We are so proud of the way the children have taken the changes in their stride. Children are the best tonic and make us smile every day!

I wanted to say a huge thank you all for your support and kind words. The Year 1 parents in particular have had to become teachers and work especially hard this term as their bubble has had to have home learning twice!

I want to say a big thank you from me to all of the staff in school. They have worked so hard to give the very best to the children.

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas and we look forward to seeing the children back in the New Year.

Keep safe. Mrs Murray



Christmas

Thank you so much for all your generous gifts. They really have made us all smile this year!

The children are very excited about Christmas and have really enjoyed their parties and craft activities.

They have also enjoyed watching the Revenge of Rotten Chops from the Gala theatre at Durham



Happy Birthday to all the children who have had a birthday this half term!

Kasey, Harrison, Beth, Thomas T, Leo, Etta, Emma, Joshua J, Jess, Joey, Perry, Isla S, Lily-Mae J, Mia, Charlie, Austin, Finley, Harry, Thailia, Molly, Eleanor, Jo, Connor, Isabelle, Mae, Aira



Miss Goldsborough:

Some of you will already know that Miss Goldsborough is expecting a baby. She is due to start her maternity leave on 29th January. The class will be covered by Mrs Tuburu in her absence. Mrs Abson gave birth to a son on 7.12.20. He was 8lb 10oz and is called Jack 😊

Clubs:

After Christmas we are continuing the Year 6 after school club with the sports coach, Mr Walton, on a Wednesday and our Y4/5 club with Miss Wilson on a Thursday. We are also adding in a club for the Y3/4 class with Mr Walton on a Friday.

PTA:

Thank you very much for all the raffle prizes and tickets bought. The raffle has made £410 for PTA funds.

Thank you also for supporting our reindeer dash. The children had a great time and there was lots of lovely smiling faces. The sponsor money is still being counted! (We have had some huge amounts raised so thank you very much!!)

Communication:

Please see the school website for any additional information about school. Most children are able to be on Facebook now so we find this a useful way of showing you what the children have been learning in school!

All text messages go to the first mobile number on Parent Pay and emails to the email on the account. Please change these if you think you are not getting our messages.

Safeguarding:

Please let us know if your child is going to be absent and the reason for this.

Please try to ensure children keep to our markings for lining up before school and follow these rules on the school site. Some parents and children have become complacent and it is confusing for them. We have to remain vigilant.

We are also relying on parents sticking to social distancing rules outside of school. Thank you for your support with this.

Please do not park in the school car park.

Please do not let children play in the car park.

Training Days for 2020/2021:

Tuesday 1st September 2020

Monday 7th December 2020

Friday 30th April 2021

Monday 19th July 2021

Tuesday 20th July 2021

Please be on time!



What to do if a family member is unwell with Covid symptoms:

If you or anyone in your house is feeling unwell then it is important to get tested. Tests can be booked online through the NHS [testing and tracing for coronavirus website](#), or ordered by telephone via NHS 119. You need to keep your child off school and keep us updated about the result of the test. **If you test positive then all household members (including the children) must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days.** The 10-day period starts from the day when the first person in the household became ill or if they do not have symptoms, from the day their test was taken. If anyone else in the household starts displaying symptoms, they must stay at home for at least 10 days from when their symptoms appear regardless of what day they are on in their original 10-day isolation period.

If you are not experiencing symptoms but have tested positive for COVID-19 you also must self-isolate for at least 10 days, starting from the day the test was taken.

Train update:

We are now working with an architect on the internal design for the carriages.

We are also liaising with building control for the project to meet planning permission criteria and with the Fire service to meet Fire Regulations. This is a slow process but we are hoping the project will move more quickly once the red tape is sorted. The next job will be the building of the ramp which will of course meet the Disability Access requirements.

Once the ramp is in place we will be able to let the children go in and see inside before other works are carried out!

Covid restrictions are causing delays. We are also waiting for more information about the solar panels.

We have been overwhelmed by the number of businesses and committees who have shown an interest and donated to the project. Thank you to everyone who has passed on information or contacts to us.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/dare-to-dream-library-train-for-children>

