



# Kirk Merrington Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term 1

September 2022

It has been lovely having the children back in school this week. The building comes alive when the children are here. I'd like to welcome our new children and families. We hope your children will enjoy school and thrive here.

The first few weeks are always very hectic. We have sent out letters for clubs for this half term. Next week we will send out our full calendar of events for the year.

We have our new school meals provider, Chartwells, so there is a new menu. This was emailed out before the holidays but is available on the website.

Please also see the website for policies and any other information you might need about what your child is learning at school. This will be updated over the next couple of weeks.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Meet the Teacher meetings on Monday 12th.

Mrs Murray



## Reading:

We have invested a significant amount of money on new reading books as well as books for the library. We are passionate about teaching children to read well and promoting a love of reading so children read for pleasure. It is vital that children read at home to practise what they have been learning at school. We set a minimum of three times per week for them to read aloud at home and share a book with an adult. This can be just a few pages for 10 minutes, it does not have to take forever! Children get 3 Dojos for reading 3 times. (If they only read twice they do not get the Reading Dojo) The children will then receive a raffle ticket and each half term two children from each class have the chance to win a book of their choice or a book token. We hope this will provide some extra motivation for those who might be more reluctant.

Parents of the younger children will soon be invited to a meeting to explain our reading system in more depth. Children read daily in school, this might be one to one but is often in a group or as a whole class- we call this Shared Reading. This is where we teach comprehension, model good reading strategies and discuss vocabulary.

\*Please note if any books are lost or damaged then we will ask for £5.00 to cover the cost of a replacement. (Sadly, even the very thin early reading books cost us this much to replace)

## PE:

Please make sure children do not wear earrings for PE or they bring tape or plasters to cover them. Children are often outside for PE and so they need suitable warm clothes.

## PTA:

We want to get our PTA up and running again. We need adults to help us run events for the children, such as discos and movie nights. We aim to use the profits from this to subsidise the cost of school visits. We realise money is very tight for many people so we need to find a balance between not making that worse for you but still giving our children experiences to support their learning.

Please let me know if you can help. Thanks to those of you who have already been in touch.

## Homework:

We are reducing the amount of formal written homework we set. We want the children to prioritise reading followed by times tables, Mathematics and spelling. These are basic skills we think are crucial for their learning.

(Year 6 will be slightly different as the year progresses to aid them with transition)

## Residential visit:

Please watch out for a letter next week about a Residential for Year 5 and 6 for next Summer.

## Train:

Unfortunately, we have had further delays with the train and so for the third time we are having to delay our launch. This is hugely frustrating but as so many companies are doing the work for free then we just have to be patient!

### Safeguarding:

Please do not park in the school car park.

Please do not let children stand in the car park- be aware we have a parent needing to drop off using the disabled bay and so a car will be coming in for drop off and pick up.

### Training Days for 2022/2023:

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023

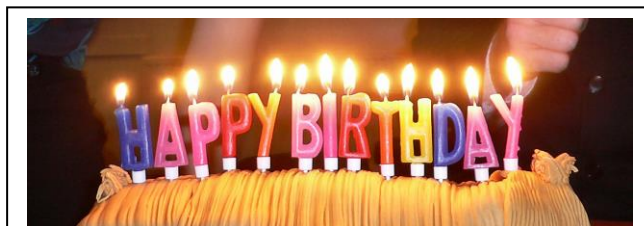
Please be on time!

8:55am



### Happy Birthday this half term to:

Blake, Anya, Thomas V, Isabelle C, Reuben, Brooke, Kallum, Naomi, Gabriel, Evie B, Lewis B, Nathan J, Poppy H, Chase, Cora, Izzie, Daisy, Willow S, Alahnna, Allegra, Poppy S, Stanley, Autumn, Isla S, Seth, Elizabeth, Sonny, Evie P, Grace, Layla, Alexis, Darley, Livy, Samuel and Harriet.



\*We promote healthy eating in school but as you may guess, the children would like to keep bringing cakes on their birthday. Please be aware of allergies of other children in the class and the number. If you choose to send a bought cake then this must be cut into the correct number of pieces as staff cannot cut it.

We appreciate this has a cost attached so please do not feel any pressure to bring anything in!

### Contact Details:

It is vital we have the correct contact details for you. Please let the school office know if you have any changes in phone numbers or names of emergency contacts who can pick up your child from school if needed.

### Dates for the diary: (More information to follow nearer the time)

6.9.22 Children return to school

12.9.22 Meet the teacher meetings at 4:30pm or 5:00pm

7.10.22 Harvest assembly led by Reverend Barbara- food bank donations would be gratefully received.

13.10.22 School Photographs

17.10.22 Parent Meetings

20.10.22 Last day- break up for half term

31.10.22 Return to school

16.11.22 Flu immunisations

### Assessment Dates for your diary:

Year 6 Sats wc: 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Year 2 Sats wc: 15<sup>th</sup> May - 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Year 4 multiplication check any time in the 3 weeks from 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Year 1 Phonic Screening Check-wc: 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Year 2 Phonics for children who need to re-sit wc: 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023

We use the **STOP** sign to help children understand the word bullying.

Several Times On Purpose

