

# Kirk Merrington Primary School Newsletter



Autumn Term

October 2023

I'd like to welcome our new children and families to KMPS. We now have 167 children in school! School is always incredibly busy so the children are always ready for a half term break (+ the staff!!) We hope you've found the opportunities to come into school useful and you know where your child is at and their next steps. We always have a focus on Reading but then spelling and times tables too as we know children need these to be successful and access the curriculum. We also strongly promote our values and encourage children to be independent and resilient. Do you know what our values are?

The best way for you to keep updated is through our school Facebook page where you can see what everyone across the school has been learning. Our website has the full curriculum on there, plus all the newsletters, club information, school meals, key dates and everything you need to know about school. Have a lovely half term.

Mrs Murray

## Attendance:

Our school attendance is **96.3%** this is mostly due to holidays and not illness. (97 children have 100% attendance- well done to them) We appreciate children get ill and sometimes they need to be off school.



If your child misses 5 school days for a holiday this is what they miss:

5 new sounds in their phonics- or a full spelling pattern.

A whole topic of Maths like time, shape or money. They might not cover this again until the following year.

They miss two lessons of PE plus Science, Art, History, Computing, RE, PSHE and music.

For KS2 this is 5 chapters of the class novel from the reading lesson and story time at the end of the day.

The children also miss lots of Dojos.

Some children really struggle when they get back- their friends play with other people and they can feel left behind.

Please think carefully about booking holidays- we appreciate the costs but the cost to education can be great too!

## What's happening?

**Reading-** We have now recruited a reading helper for every class. Thank you to our volunteers who have been coming in to give children a boost with their reading.

**Visitors:** Reception, Year 5 and 6 enjoyed a visit from the Fire Service on Monday to talk about their jobs and about keeping safe around Bonfire Night.

Lots of year groups have been out on visits with more planned for after half term. We are mindful of costs and grateful to the PTA for subsidising the cost of transport.

**Councils:** Our councils have all been active this half term. The Eco council have carried out a litter pick and plan to do this in the village to help the community. Our Sports Crew are full of ideas for sports activities on the playground and our School Council full of events for us to have in school!!!!

## Spotlight on British Values

- What are British Values?  
Fundamental British Values underpin what it is to be a citizen in a modern and diverse Great Britain valuing our community and celebrating diversity of the UK. These values are **Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect, Tolerance and Individual Liberty.** Each week in assembly and across the curriculum, we try to relate learning to these and the school values.

### Safeguarding:

Please **do not park in the school staff car park**. (unless you are using Little Darlings or Mrs Murray has agreed)

**Birthday cakes:** We promote healthy eating in school but as you may guess, the children would like to keep bringing cakes in 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

**Scooters**- please leave scooters and bikes near the MUGA and remind children not to ride them inside the school gates. Keeping children safe is our number one priority and we always respond immediately to any concerns. Should you have a concern about a child outside of school you can report this yourself anonymously on 0300 267979.

### Training Days for 2023/2024:

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Please be on time! 8:55am



### Reading Raffle:

We had our Reading Raffle in assembly. Every time children read at home three times per week they get a raffle ticket. Every half term two tickets will be chosen from each year group. The children can choose either a book or a book token. The lucky winners were:

Reception: (they are included next half term when they start reading at home)

Year 1: Freddie and Ella

Year 2: Allegra and Oliver

Year 3: Ollie and Harry

Year 4: Laina and Isaac

Year 5: Poppy S and Eleanor

Year 6: Romano and Joshua

### Assessment Dates for your diary for next year:

**Year 6 Sats** wc: 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Year 2 Sats** wc: 13<sup>th</sup> May - 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Year 4 multiplication check** any time in the 3 weeks from 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024

**Year 1 Phonic Screening Check**-wc: 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024

**Year 2 Phonics** for children who need to re-sit wc: 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024

### 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)

27.10.23 PD Day

6.11.23 Return to school

13.11.23 Odd Socks Day for Anti-bullying

14.11.23 Nasal Flu immunisations

17.11.23 Children in Need

23.11.23 Year 5 to Whitworth

4.12.23 PD Day

6.12.23 Christmas lunch

13.12.23 Rec, Y1 and Y2 Christmas play at 9:30am or 2:00pm

13.12.23 KS2 film night until 4:15pm

14.12.23 Y3 to Y6 Christmas play at 9:30am or 2:00pm

14.12.23 Rec + KS1 film night until 4:15pm

19.12.23 Break up for Christmas

3.1.24 Back to School

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

Several Times On Purpose

