



Dear Parents/Carers,

It was lovely to see everyone at our Parents Night before the October holiday although both appears to be a very distant memory now. Thank you to our Parent Council who organised the Halloween Discos for your children. According to the children, they had the best time and we are very grateful for the volunteers who gave up their whole evening to provide this event. Thank you! Our Christmas Fayre is on the horizon and I know the Parent Council will be very appreciative of any helpers and also of any donations. Please look at their Facebook page and keep your eyes on the app for more information. Later this month we will be sharing with you some of your child's learning by sending home our new progress jotters along with one of our tracking reports. We plan on doing this 3 times over the year. We hope that this will help your child talk about their learning and for you to see the progress your child is making throughout the year. You will have noticed a new installation in our school grounds. Room 12 have been working with the artist Alex Allan. They have been learning about the design process from looking at our environment for inspiration right through to designing and then the making of the sculpture. Whilst it is yet to be named, it has been inspired by our children's love of the outdoors, our mini woodland area and the dens they make. In fitting with our focus on sustainability, it is also made from reclaimed and sustainable materials.

As always, if you have any questions, queries or suggestions do not hesitate to get in touch with the team. We are very approachable and only too happy to help.

Best wishes, Linda Wright

PS Currently we are still using our school app for communication. Download the App called PSA & choose Kirktonholme Username Kirktonholme and ask our office for the password.

Keeping Kirktonholme Community Connected



Learning is the **HEART** of Kirktonholme

Happiness Excellence Achievement Respect Teamwork

Links to **Happiness**

Pupil Health & Wellbeing Survey



Thank you for helping your child participate in our Health and Wellbeing quiz. Here are this year's very positive (and amazing) results.

Do you feel...?

Active	95.7% said yes
Healthy	93.9% said yes
Nurtured	99.4% said yes
Safe	99.4% said yes
Included	87.7% said yes
Achieving	93.3% said yes
Responsible	90.2% said yes
Respected	86.5% said yes

163 responses

Almost all areas have shown improvement.

Respected is an area which has dropped by 3% & 12.9% of children said they didn't know if they felt respected. Our pupil Respect group will focus on improving this.

Links to **Respect**

Nurture Spaces



We place our children and their wellbeing at the heart of our school. As a result, one of our areas for priority this year is Nurture.

With the help of our Pupil Equity Funding, we have created and resourced a new space in our former school library called the TREEHOUSE. Miss Little and Mrs Conner will use this space on Mondays to Wednesdays to support the emotional needs of our children. This is a wonderful area which is very homely and looks radically different from a class setting. The children have come up with the name and it reflects the focus we have on nature in our school. We have also created another calm space near our P7 classes and we use this when teaching our KAMs (Kirktonholme Anxiety Management) groups.

Other improvements we have made so far include

- ✚ A calm space in every class where children can go if they are needing some calm time.
- ✚ Creating a Pupil Wellbeing Ambassador group
- ✚ further training for staff on attachment and nurture
- ✚ creating a whole school Behaviour Blueprint

We look forward to sharing more about this soon.



Links to **Teamwork**

Heart Groups



In our last newsletters we told you about our HEART groups. We are now looking for any parent volunteers to join us. The meetings are monthly on a Wednesday afternoon from 1.45-2.45. If you have an interest in an area and can help out with one of the groups then please email / speak to our office.

The groups are

- ✚ Captains
- ✚ Pupil Council
- ✚ Eco Warriors
- ✚ Health & Wellbeing Ambassadors
- ✚ STEM leaders
- ✚ Rights Leaders
- ✚ Reading Schools
- ✚ Making a difference
- ✚ Creativity
- ✚ Culture Club

Meeting dates: 22nd Nov, 17th Jan, 21st Feb, 1st May and 12th Jan. We would love you to come and help us make a difference to our school!

Links to **Respect**



As part of our Sustainability, we are lucky enough to have a clothing recycling bin situated near our refuse area. The next collection is the 21st November. Please consider this if you are having a clear out. All money raised through this recycling project is donated to our school.

Thank you to everyone who donated Halloween costumes. They were very much appreciated by our school community. Now we are on the lookout for any outgrown Christmas Tshirts and/or jumpers. Please hand in any donations to our office.

These are some of the ways we are fulfilling our pledge to reduce the amount of clothing landfill.

Links to **Achievement**

Sports Festivals



Our netball and football (boys and girls) teams have visited East Milton in the first of their matches. Our next fixtures are against Canberra. We are very proud of all of the children who are representing our school.

Links to **Teamwork**

Diary Dates

A full list of dates has already been issued but here is a reminder, along with some new events. Health warning - these dates can be prone to change!

Every Friday until 10th Nov P7 Bikeability

Every Tuesday until 21st Nov P6 Swimming

Tue 31st Oct R8 library visit

Thu 2nd Nov R7 library visit

6th - 10th Nov nursery autumn walks

Tue 7th Nov R9 library visit

Wed 8th Nov INDUSTRIAL ACTION - school closed

Thu 9th Nov R10 library visit

Mon 13th Nov INSERVICE DAY

Week begin 13th Nov

Scottish Book Week - come and read with me

Tue 14th Nov R11 library visit

Thu 16th Nov R12 library visit

Fri 17th Nov Athletics

Tue 21st Nov R13 library visit

Thu 23rd Nov R14 library visit

Sat 25th Nov Christmas Fayre 10am-1pm

Mon 27th Nov ELC Stay and Play PE all week

Wed 29th Nov ELC - P2 Tooth varnishing

Fri 1st Dec KOP3 conference

Fri 8th Dec Athletics

Mon 11th Dec P3&P4 party

Wed 13th Dec Christmas lunch (order in advance)

Thu 14th Dec am ELC Nativity pm P1&2 Nativity

Mon 18th Dec P5 & P6 party

Tue 18th Dec P7 party

Wed 20th Dec P3-P7 Carol Concert 9.30 & 1.30

Thu 21st Dec Nursery party am & P1 & P2 party pm

Fri 22nd Dec school closes 2.30pm

The last Friday of the month is Dress Down Day.

The next one is Friday 24th November.

Links to **Achievement** P7 Residential

FINAL reminder that £50 payment was due before October holiday. The remainder (£110) should be paid by the end of January.

School will be closed on Wed 8th Nov due to industrial action.