



## January 2024 Newsletter

Kirktonholme Primary School Early Learning Class



Our very best wishes for 2024 from all the team at Kirktonholme!

### Early Learning Class Applications

The closing date for Early Learning Class applications is 28/02/24. If you have a child or know of a child due to start nursery during session **2024/25**, an application form should be completed by the closing date of **28/02/24**.

South Lanarkshire Council have changed their application process and are asking families to make appointments with their first choice of nursery to complete an application form in the establishment **INSTEAD** of online. Any families who have completed an online form for Kirktonholme Primary School Early Learning Class and have not had a telephone call from Mrs Clow, acknowledging your application has been received, should contact the school office.

Please share this revised information with your friends and family.

### Toothbrushing



We aim to brush teeth after lunch every day to develop knowledge of both the importance of brushing our teeth and the actual process itself. Please encourage your children to brush their teeth regularly at home too.

### Christmas Hampers

We raised a grand total of £413.20. This was only possible because of your generosity and our team are all extremely grateful for your support.



### Spotlight on Learning

We are putting a spotlight on vocabulary every month and we will include our focus words at the end of each newsletter, please look and consider using these words at home to promote vocabulary acquisition.

Research shows that children need to hear a word many, many times before they will start to use it themselves and that having a wide vocabulary will help support future academic progress.

We have carefully selected words that we hope will help the children learn more about their world.

### Winter Walk



We are planning to take groups of children out and about in our local community again this term. Prior to any walk parents/carers will be asked to sign consent forms. If you have completed a PVG form we may ask for your help on the outings. As with last term, we are planning on taking one group out at a time. Mrs Moran has already carried out a risk assessment.

### Focus



As well as continuing our Winter focus, we are going to be learning more about Scottish language and traditions this month, this is in line with the rest of the school. The children will be able to look at our Google Classroom to see some photographs of their learning.

## Questioning

Last month we shared three of our key questions, used to promote curiosity and develop thinking skills.

What if...?

I wonder why...?

What do you think...?

This month we would encourage families to use these questions with your children.

## Kirktonholme's Parent Power Up

Thank you very much for the great response to Miss Mckendrick's questionnaire asking about your interest in PEEP sessions. Most families indicated that Early Literacy is an area that you would enjoy learning more about. Tuesdays 3-4pm was the most popular time for our first six week block. Miss Mckendrick will shortly be issuing a letter asking which families would like to attend with their children. We are only able to have 6-8 families per session, if the response is greater than this number, we will draw the names out of a hat. Families that are unsuccessful will be offered the opportunity to attend a second block of sessions in April/May.

We are really excited about our new initiative!

## Coffee Morning

We were delighted that so many of our families were able to attend our December coffee morning and get to know each other. We are planning another coffee morning for early March and hope that you will be able to come along.

## Payment Benefit

On 15/02/21 Social Security Scotland launched a Scottish Child Payment benefit for some children under the age of six. To check if your family is eligible visit mygovscot or telephone 0800 182 2222.

Please also see the Cost of the School Day section on our school website for further supports.

South Lanarkshire Council also has information for low-income families on their website, please take a look to see if there are any additional supports that you may be entitled to.

## Who is coming to collect?

If the adult collecting your child changes from the one stated at drop off time, could you please inform the school office? This request is made with the safety and security of the children in mind.

## Contact Details

Are your contact details and those of your emergency contacts are up to date? If there has been a change, please inform the school office.

## New Shoes

If your child's feet have grown recently and they need new shoes, please consider easy fastening shoes to help encourage independence. Remember to check that indoor shoes, left in nursery, still fit.

## Primary One Registration



If your child is due to start Primary One in August 2023, you must register them for school this month. School registration forms will be available on South Lanarkshire Council's website from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January. Schools will begin to contact families from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024, after the online forms have been completed. Parents/carers will need their child's **full birth certificate and two proofs of address in the name of the parent/carer completing the registration documents.** If any parent would like to discuss any aspect of school registration, please speak with Mrs Wright or Mrs Clow.

## Stay and Play

We had a great response to our fitness stay and play sessions, led by Mrs Thorpe, and our team really appreciated your positive feedback. We will be continuing with our stay and play sessions this term and there will be more details in our next newsletter.

## Road Safety



If you bring a car into our car park, our designated nursery parking area is adjacent to our door. Remember to follow our one-way system to help keep everyone as safe as possible.

## Vocabulary Spotlight



triangle drum tambourine

maracas bells rhythm sticks

## Dates for the Diary



**Week beginning 08/01/24** Primary One Registration

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January** Early Literacy Parent Power Up PEEP sessions starts 3-4pm

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February-Wednesday**

**14<sup>th</sup> February** School closed for half term holiday and InSet day

**28<sup>th</sup> February** Closing date for nursery applications for session 2024/25

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** Parents'/Carers' Evening

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March** school closes for Spring break at 14:30

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April** School reopens.

Office e-mail:

[gw14ktonholmeoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14ktonholmeoffice@glow.sch.uk)

Telephone: 01355222050