



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's the 1<sup>st</sup> of October and there is definitely a change in the weather! I hope you enjoyed the September weekend despite the change in the temperature and took part in lots of Beat the Street. The children are telling me that they love this. Thank you to everyone who managed to come along to our Meet the Teacher event earlier in the month and to the Maths Workshops on Thursday afternoon. I hope your brains didn't hurt too much after getting a mental maths workout. You will have noticed we teach maths in a fun and engaging way, and I hope you now have lots of tips on how you can help your child develop a strong sense of maths and numeracy. Extra practice of times tables and number sums (eg 4+6=10) is invaluable to your child. During September we have held our first coffee morning for our Primary 1 parents. This was based on feedback that some of our new parents would find it helpful to get to know other parents. Tomorrow, we are looking forward to welcoming our nurse parents for a coffee morning. At Kirktonholme, we value these relationships and attachments. Next week, we hope to see our P1 parents again as they are invited to learn about literacy at P1. Next week is shaping up to be extremely busy. We are looking forward to welcoming the HMIe Inspection Team. This is a big deal for us as they last visited 15 years ago. Thank you to everyone who completed their survey and have agreed to meet with them. We are hoping that they will endorse the excellent work of our school. You can expect the car park to be extra busy with so many visitors so please plan ahead. Here's hoping for a great week! 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 Please download our school app as all communication is issued through this. App is PSA & choose Kirktonholme Username kirktonholme and password is 2024.**

## Keeping Kirktonholme Community Connected



Learning is the **HEART** of Kirktonholme

Happiness Excellence Achievement Respect Teamwork

### Links to **Excellence**

#### Pupil Equity Funding



This year we have been allocated £63700 in Pupil Equity Funding. This is to help us close the poverty related attainment gap. At Kirktonholme, you told us you wanted our Nurture support to continue. Much of the funding is allocated to allow for Miss Little to lead our amazing Treehouse provision. The money this year will help us to purchase a new reading scheme to support our young readers. Our Pupil Council consulted with our school community and it was agreed to spend our Participatory Budget on ICT equipment. We have spent £10000 and purchased 4 C Touch screens for the classrooms and more Chromebooks. Our fantastic Parent Council have also purchased more Chromebooks and in total we have 70 devices for our children to use. Go KPS! 😊 Assistive technology helps many of our children.

### Links to **Excellence**

#### Pupil Leadership



I don't need to tell you how amazing our children are. This year we asked our P7s to apply for a variety of leadership roles and I am delighted to share with you that they excelled in their applications for these posts and every one of our Primary 7s have a special leadership role to play in our school.

- ✚ Captains
- ✚ Learning Buddies
- ✚ Junior Road Safety Officers
- ✚ Tech Team
- ✚ Show Team
- ✚ Playground Leaders (who organise lunchtime clubs)

Please look out for the special badges which they were presented with. They are wearing them with great pride. Well done P7, we are very proud of you and the wonderful leadership you have already shown. Our P4-P7 children also have the opportunity of leadership and being part of our **HEART** groups. This happens monthly and allows them to work together to make our school even better.



Links to **Teamwork**

### Lateness



Thank you to everyone who gets their child to school by 8.55am. We understand that life happens and on occasion children can be late. I have noticed, however, that we have persistent latecomers. When a child arrives late, it unsettles them and their classmates. If you are needing help with getting your child to school on time, please contact us for some assistance. We record and monitor all late comings and you can expect me to contact and discuss this with you and see how we can be of help.

Links to **Teamwork**

### School Improvement Plan



We asked for your views in 22/23 about our school and this formed our 3 year strategic plan for our school. We are in year 2 of this 3 year School Improvement Plan. This year we will be working on

- ♥ Launching & implementing our new **relationships policy**
- ♥ Making our curriculum more **diverse** (including celebrating different cultures)
- ♥ Developing an **inquiry based approach** to learning (developing children's curiosity & leadership within their own learning)
- ♥ **P7-S1 Literacy Transition Project**
- ♥ **Target setting** in the nursery

Want to learn more about this? Please see our website for more details or ask us. To find out more about last year's improvements, please see our Standards & Qualities report for 23/24 which is available on our website, or you can ask at the office for a paper copy.

Links to **Respect and Happiness**

### Relationships Policy



As part of our Relationships work, we have agreed new praise systems. All children will have a turn of being a VIP for the day. In addition, your child can earn a teacher praise postcard, and over and above wristband or a vary special HEART badge, which are awarded and presented at assemblies each month.

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!*

- Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct ELC Coffee Morning 9-10am
  - Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Oct P1 Literacy Workshop 2-2.45pm  
**Enter via main entrance please**
  - Mon 14 - Fri 18<sup>th</sup> October holiday
  - Tues 29<sup>th</sup> Oct ELC PEEP sessions  
every Tuesday for 4 weeks 3-4pm
  - Wed 30<sup>th</sup> Oct Halloween Discos P1-P7
  - Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Nov **PARENTS' NIGHT 3.30-8.30pm**  
ELC Stay & Plays 9-9.35am
  - Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Nov Green Group 9-9.35am
  - Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Nov Orange Group 9-9.35am
  - Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Nov Blue Group 9-9.35am
  - Thur 21<sup>st</sup> Nov Yellow Group 9-9.35am
  - Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov Red Group 9-9.35am
  - Week begin 18<sup>th</sup> Nov Scottish Book Week - come and read with me (times tbc)
  - Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Dec pm ELC Nativity
  - Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 9.30am P1&2 Nativity
  - Thur 19<sup>th</sup> Dec P3-P7 Carol Concert 9.30am & 1.30pm
- The last Friday of the month is Dress Down Day.  
The next one is Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October.

Links to **Achievement**

### P1 photo

Our Primary 1s had their photo taken for the Evening Times last week. We will notify you when we can expect it to be published.

Links to **Achievement**

### Sports



Congratulations to our boys and girls football teams who played in their first festival at Duncanrig. They played very well, winning almost all of their games. Next up will be our athletics team who complete on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October at John Wright Sports Centre. Go KPS!

We are a **NUT FREE** school **NO Nutella or Snickers**

PLEASE NAME ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING AND ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEM. THANK YOU 😊