



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had a relaxing September weekend, and I know the children (and teachers) are looking forward to their next break in October. It was lovely to see you all at Meet the Teacher at the beginning of September. It was lovely to see our P1 parents who had a special Stay and Play opportunity, giving them some insight into our classroom environments.

We are really missing our school app and the quick and direct method of communication with you. We are working with our Parent Council to explore other options of how to keep you in the loop of all the goings on at Kirktonholme. Last week I issued a weekly update and I will continue to do this for a trial period. As I am issuing our newsletter this week, you can expect my next 'What's On' next week.

Last week I was honoured to attend Duncanrig Senior Prizegiving. You will be delighted, and unsurprised, to know that many of the recipients were former Kirktonholme pupils. Last year's Head Girl was Bethan, a former Kirktonholmie and this year she has passed the mantle to yet another one of our former pupils, Mhairi McKenzie. Both Bethan and Mhairi presented with such skill and professionalism at this event and I felt my own heart bursting with pride to see the impressive young people they have become. I was also extremely impressed by the opportunities provided by Duncanrig. We really are part of a very special Learning Community.

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

Keeping Kirktonholme Community Connected



Learning is the **HEART** of Kirktonholme

Happiness Excellence Achievement Respect Teamwork

Links to **Respect**

Mrs Souter

Our beloved and very talented Mrs Souter is retiring on Friday 9th October. She has been a valued member of the Kirktonholme Team for twenty five years. She has been a class teacher, a Principal Teacher as well as our Depute Head Teacher. She has been our ASN coordinator, Health and Wellbeing Lead with responsibility for our attachment informed practice as well as our school show director. As if she isn't talented enough, she is also an outstanding baker!! I am sure you will join me in thanking her for her service and wishing her a very long, relaxing, well deserved and happy retirement. Good luck Mrs Souter!



Links to **Excellence and Teamwork**

Sharing our practice nationally

As a result of our very successful assessment visit for our attachment work, we have been invited to share our practice on emotion coaching nationally. Miss Little and our Health and Wellbeing Ambassadors will be filmed on Monday by Education Scotland. The film will then be shared nationally. Well done team, what a credit you are to our school!

Links to **Happiness and Teamwork**

Parent Council News

Halloween Discos will be on Wednesday 28th October. Tickets will be on sale soon.

Tickets are now on sale for our Parent Council's newest event - Winter Flower Making Workshop. Please send any ticket money to our office in a sealed envelope.



Links to *Happiness, Respect and Teamwork*

BREAKFAST CLUB



Our Breakfast Club continues to be very popular with over 70 children attending every day. Children who attend **MUST** eat a breakfast - this is the sole purpose for Breakfast Club and is not a quick fix childcare solution. Children are welcome from 8.05 to 8.40am. Breakfast is not available after this time. If your child refuses a breakfast, we will be in touch.

Congratulations to Miss McKenrick who has been appointed as our Early Years Team Leader on Mondays and Tuesdays.

MUGA pitch

We have after school clubs using our MUGA pitch on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The MUGA pitch is therefore not available for families to use.

Links to *Respect and Happiness*

Cost of the School Day

The Cost of the School Day is something we are fully committed to at Kirktonholme. For our new families, this means we do not charge for school trips, and everyone has access to our Swap Don't Shop Uniforms. We will also make Halloween costumes available to everyone and we will be participating in the Winter jacket appeal. You can help our community by donating any unwanted Halloween costumes or winter jackets.

As part of Cost of the School Day and Healthy Eating we encourage our children to have one healthy snack at playtimes. The cheapest snack is actually a piece of fruit. We have noticed many children bring two and more snacks and often do not have enough time to eat them. Please save yourselves some pennies whilst helping your child with healthy eating.

Only plain water is allowed in drinks bottles in the classrooms

Links to *Excellence and Teamwork*

Pupil Leadership

Congratulations to our P7 leaders. All children in P7 had to apply for their preferred leadership role. Every child in P7 has a leadership responsibility.

Our enthusiastic Captains for 2026/27 are

Haider Andrew Ava Lois Grace

Aisla Matteo Carly Jackson A Lewis

Our P7 learning buddies are now supporting the learning of many of our children across the school. They are very impressive!

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!

Mon 5th Oct ELC Stay and Play all week

See nursery newsletter for group days & times

Mon 12th - Fri 16th Oct HOLIDAY

Tues 20th Oct Cross Country festival

Tues 27th Oct Nursery PEEP sessions begin 4 weeks

Wed 28th Oct Halloween Discos

Thur 5th Nov Flu Vaccines

Mon 9th Nov INSERVICE DAY

Week begin 9th Nov Scottish Book Week

Thurs 12th Nov PARENTS' NIGHT 3.30-8.30pm

Sat 21st Nov Parent Council Winter flower workshop

Sat 28th Nov Christmas Fayre

Tues 8th Dec 2pm ELC Nativity

Wed 9th Dec 9.30am P1&2 Nativity

Fri 18th Dec P3-P7 Carol Concert 9.30am & 1.30pm

Tue 22nd Dec School closes at 2.30pm

The last Friday of the month is Dress Down Day. The next one is Friday 30th October & costumes can be worn.

Links to *Achievement*

P7 Millport Trip

The next Millport instalment of £50 is now due. Payments can continue to be made in instalments with the full amount due before the Christmas holidays. If you have any problems making payments, please get in touch.