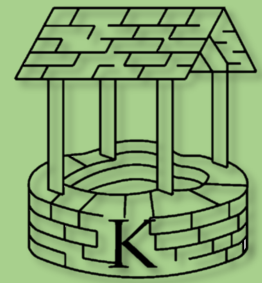


Kirkton

Primary School



December 2018

Head Teacher's Welcome

Welcome to the December issue of our Newsletter. We are issuing this a wee bit earlier than usual as it is getting even busier than usual and we don't want to miss anything out. Over the past few weeks I have been looking at Pupil Maths and Daily Writing Jotters and have been impressed with the quality of work produced by many pupils within the school. After Christmas we will be having a focus on presentation, layout and handwriting and would ask for your support with this during homework tasks. Attached to the end of this newsletter is a copy of our handwriting format. Please encourage your child to form their letters correctly and from P4 use joins.

In December, I will be continuing with my Attendance Monitoring. I am required by South Lanarkshire Council to write to all parents whose child's attendance falls below 85%, even if there is a legitimate reason (including illness) for this, please do not be offended if you receive a letter.

I hope to see you all at our Christmas activities and events during December.

As always, if you have any concerns or queries regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact me so that we can work in partnership to ensure your child achieves their full potential.

Weekly Updates & Monthly Calendar

We hope you are finding these useful. They are on twitter every Sunday and on the app. Hopefully the confidential email list will be up and running soon as we can also issue this to parents electronically.

Staffing Update

Mrs Susan Taylor is being redeployed within South Lanarkshire Council due to a change in pupil numbers within the school. She will begin her new role on Monday 3rd December. Mrs Taylor has been a valued member of the Kirkton team for 5 years and I am sure all the children who have worked with Mrs Taylor have fond memories of her. I am sure you will join me in thanking her for her contribution to Kirkton Primary School and the local community and wish her well with her future endeavours. Thank you!

Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch will be on 13th December 2018, please ensure you have ordered your lunch by Friday 30th November. To get us all in the festive spirit, pupils can wear their Christmas Jumper/T-shirt on this day.

Website

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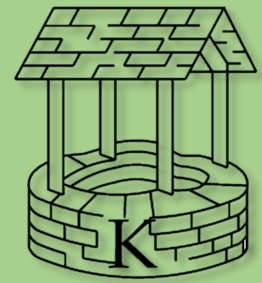
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Christmas Parties

All Christmas Parties will take place in the school on the following dates. They will all start at 1.20pm and finish by 3pm. There will be no early lunches on this day. Children who are going home, should be collected from the main door at **12.15pm**. For supervision reasons, pupils who have gone home at lunchtime cannot return into the school building until the bell rings at 1.00pm and should be back for 1.15pm. Children who are getting changed at school will have their lunch as normal and staff will be on hand to help children get changed at 1.00pm at the end of lunch. Parents will be unable to help children get ready for the party. Children will attend their year group party. **Monday 17th** – P5 & P6, **Tuesday 18th** – P3 & P4, **Wednesday 19th** P 7 treat and **Thursday 20th** – P1 & P2. P1 & P2 might get a visit from a special visitor and parents are welcome to attend (1 per pupil, due to space). We will confirm times for this as soon as possible .

Christmas Show

Information regarding this has been distributed separately. Please contact the office for more information if required.

Glee Club

Our amazing Glee Club have been asked to sing in the community. Information and permission forms will be sent out separately.

Wednesday 5th December – Tesco

Friday 7th December – Woodhurst Care Home

Tuesday 11th December – Kirkton Church

We appreciate this is a busy time of year, but if anyone can accompany us, we would really appreciate it.

Christmas Service

Our annual Christmas Service will be held in Kirkton Church on Monday 17th December at 9.30am. We are still working out the timings. Permission forms etc will be given out soon. Again, we need 20 adults to support us walking down to the church to ensure pupil safety and would appreciate your support with this.

If there is any reason your child will not be joining us for this service or any other Christmas focus activity, please inform me in writing.

Scottish Sun Books for Schools

Thank you to everyone who supported us. We managed to smash the 3500 total and look forward to receiving our new books.

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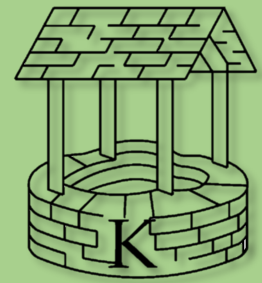
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Book Week Scotland

Thank you very much to everyone who supported our P1, P2 and P3 pupils during our Read, Write Count launch on Friday. The feedback was very positive. We had a very enjoyable week with all pupils in each class completing Literacy focused activities within their class.

Uniform, Gym Shoes & PE Kit

As a school we have very high standards and expect all pupils to come to school prepared for the day ahead.

Recently we have become increasingly concerned with the number of children who are not wearing their school uniform. Our uniform consists of; grey trousers/skirt, white polo shirt/shirt & tie and grey or green jumper. School joggers can also be worn but this should only be on PE days. Tracksuits/leggings/jeans/coloured t-shirts are not part of our uniform and are not acceptable to be worn.

There are also a large number of children who do not have gym shoes (or are not wearing them in class). **ALL** children must have a pair of gym shoes to wear in school. This is to stop the spread of mud and dirt through the school, to wear for gym/drama sessions but also in case your child's feet get wet, there is nothing worse than sitting all day with wet feet. As a school we are unable to have spare shoes for pupils.

Please ensure your child has a **full** PE kit on gym days, it is also beginning to get cold and **ALL** classes have an outdoor PE Block each week, therefore all children should have suitable outdoor PE kit. Please remember all long hair **MUST** be tied back and all jewellery removed. Appropriate PE kit is a South Lanarkshire and a Health & Safety requirement. Not having kit is not an excuse for not participating in PE, pupils should have a note from their parents, or in extreme cases of non-participation, their doctor.

If you are unable to provide your child with a uniform, gym shoes or PE kit, please contact the school and we can support you as best we can.

Internet Safety Advice for Parents

As you consider which IT gadgets to purchase for your child this Christmas, please follow the link below to keep you up to date with all that is current in online safety. Help your child enjoy the good bits of the Internet without letting the bad bits spoil their fun! <http://parentinfo.org/>

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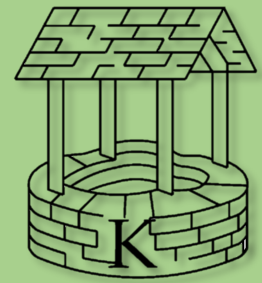
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Norovirus (Winter Vomiting Bug)

As part of this year's NHS norovirus seasonal awareness campaign, NHS Health Scotland has developed a matt laminated poster and supporting public information leaflet. The key message of this campaign is to advise the public to stay at home for **48 hours** after their symptoms have stopped. The leaflet contains general information on:

- What is norovirus
- How to avoid catching norovirus
- What to do if you catch norovirus

If you would like one of these leaflets, please inform our school office or access the information on <http://www.healthscotland.com/norovirus>.

Please note to avoid spreading this virus amongst our school community, all pupils with sickness and diarrhoea should stay home for 48 hours after symptoms end. If children return to school before the 48 hours have passed, we will contact you to come and collect your child again.

When children complain of being unwell in school, we will use our professional opinion when deciding on the best course of action, however we are not health care professionals and if we are in any doubt will call parents/carers or emergency contacts for children to be collected and apologise if this causes any inconvenience. We will always act in what we believe is your child's best interest.

Thank you for your support with this matter

Adverse Weather Plan

In the event of heavy snow fall, the Adverse Weather Plan will be implemented. This has been developed by SLC Facility Services to take account of safe systems of work for Janitorial staff working in extreme weathers.

- The HT will make the decision that the Adverse Weather plan is to be implemented and inform parents/carers via Twitter and text message (if possible).
 - The janitor will unlock the gates at the car park entrance only.
 - The janitor will create a safe pathway from the gate to the main entrance and ensure all fire doors are clear.
 - All pupils and staff will enter via the Main Entrance.
 - No other gates will be opened and there will be no access paths created in the playground.
 - Local weather conditions will be monitored and parents/carers will be kept informed via Twitter and text message.
 - In the event of the school being closed or your child being unable to attend school we will provide winter weather work. This will be posted on the school website as well as Twitter.
- We thank you for your co-operation and understanding in the event of any weather-related disruption. All decisions taken will be in the best interest of pupils and staff.

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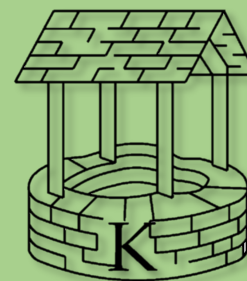
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Dates for the diary

As always, we are a busy school and dates can change.

<u>November</u>			
30 th	P7 Class Assembly	30 th	Non-Uniform Day

<u>December</u>			
5 th	Glee Club singing at Tesco	6 th	P5 Trip to Dynamic Earth
7 th	Glee Club singing at Woodhurst Care Home	11 th	Glee Club singing at Kirkton Church
12 th	School Show – Grandparents	13 th	School Show (pm)
14 th	School Show (am)	17 th	Christmas Service at Kirkton Church (details TBC)
17 th	P5/6 Party	18 th	P3/4 Party
19 th	P7 Treat	20 th	P1/2 Party
21 st	Non-Uniform Day	21 st	2.30pm finish

<u>January</u>			
18 th	P6 Class Assembly	25 th	Non-Uniform Day

<u>February</u>			
11 th & 12 th	HOLIDAY	13 th	In-Service Day 4
15 th	P4 Class Assembly	22 nd	Non-Uniform Day

<u>March</u>			
1 st	P5 Class Assembly	26 th – 28 th	School Panto - TBC
29 th	Non-Uniform Day	29 th	2.30pm Close

<u>April</u>			
19 th	Good Friday	22 nd	Easter Monday
26 th	Non-Uniform Day		

<u>May</u>			
3 rd	P3 Class Assembly	6 th	HOLIDAY
7 th	In-Service Day 5	16 th	Parental Consultations
24 th & 27 th	HOLIDAY	31 st	P1 Class Assembly
31 st	Non-Uniform Day		

<u>June</u>			
28 th	Non-Uniform Day	28 th	1pm Close

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