



### Head Teacher's Welcome

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new year here at Kirkton Primary School. I hope everyone had a fantastic summer break.

The beginning of term is a time of change as the children and staff settled back into the routines of a new school year. To all new members of the school community, pupils, staff and parents/carers, welcome to Team Kirkton!

The children all looked very smart in their new uniforms. We have some new and pre-loved items of school uniform available from the school office if you still need items of uniform.

It is natural that some children might be anxious about change or might need some extra assistance. Please speak to a member of the team if you have any concerns about your child or there is something that we can do - we are here to help.

Our Primary 1 pupils are settling in well and beginning to become familiar with the routines of the school and their class. Our Primary 7 pupils are doing an excellent job of buddying by helping in the playground and cafeteria.

The rest of the school have settled well and everyone seems to be back ready to work hard and achieve lots.

Communication is very important to us. Please ensure you provide us with the most up to date address, telephone number and email address. We would also encourage you to download our app as well as follow us on Twitter **@KirktonPrimary** as it is full of information on what is happening in each class.

If you have any other ideas or comments about how we can make Kirkton an even better school than it already is, I would be delighted to hear them. Please do not hesitate to contact the school using the details below or complete the tear-off slip at the end of this newsletter and pop it in your child's homework diary.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

**Lynne Brennan, Head Teacher**

### Free School Meals

Can we remind all parents if you are eligible for Free School Meals applications need to be made annually. Please note you will be charged for your child's meal whilst you are awaiting your application to be processed. If we can be of any help with this process, please let us know.



## Open Hour/Come & See

This year we will be improving our opportunities for you to see your child's learning in class. The first of these will be a meet the teacher session which will be held from 3.15pm – 4.15pm one day in September (exact date TBC). This is an opportunity for parents to see their child's new classroom as well as meet their new teacher. More information will be issued in due course.

Details of our additional sessions will be posted in the next newsletter.

## Health & Wellbeing – PE Days

Each class will continue to have 2 PE sessions each week. One session may be outdoors depending on the weather. Please ensure children come to school with appropriate gym clothes – plain shorts, plain white t-shirt and suitable shoes or plimsols. All children will take part in a minimum two hours quality PE per week. If your child is unable to participate, please inform the class teacher in writing.

For health & safety reasons, all long hair must be tied up and jewellery, including earrings, should not be worn on PE days. If earrings cannot be removed they must be covered by a plaster. PE Days are as follows;

<u>Class</u>	<u>Session 1</u>	<u>Session 2</u>
Primary 1	Tuesday (am)	Thursday (pm)
Primary 2	Monday (pm)	Thursday (am)
Primary 3	Wednesday (pm)	Friday (pm)
Primary 4	Monday (pm)	Wednesday (am)
Primary 5M (Mrs. McAdam)	Monday (am)	Thursday (am)**
Primary 5 OT (Mrs. Owner & Mrs. Thomas)	Monday (am)**	Thursday (pm)
Primary 6	Tuesday (pm)	Friday (am)
Primary 7	Tuesday (pm)	Wednesday (pm)

\*\* These sessions will not take place whilst pupils are attending swimming lessons at Carluke Leisure Centre. Swimming lessons take place on Tuesday mornings for 12 weeks, starting Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August.

## School Improvement Plan 2019-2020

This session our Improvement Plan is based around the following priorities:

<b>Priority 1</b>	To Improve the Quality of Learning & Teaching across the School (Pedagogy)
<b>Priority 2</b>	To Improve Attainment in Spelling
<b>Priority 3</b>	To Improve Attainment in Numeracy & Maths with a focus on breadth, depth & application (Real Life Situations)



## **Sharing your Child's Progress and Learning Journey**

At Kirkton Primary School, we share and celebrate learning in lots of different ways including:

- Termly class newsletters detailing what your child(ren) will be learning so that you can identify ways to support at home.
- Weekly 'What's On' are posted on Twitter and the website so that you can discuss upcoming events with your child before they happen in school.
- Home learning activities will be issued by your child's class teacher. This will be changing in format this year – Watch this space for more information
- Starting in October, your child's jotters will be sent home on a termly basis. This is an opportunity for you and your child to discuss their learning and celebrate their achievements.
- All classes are encouraged to 'tweet' regularly, sharing their class' learning with our Twitter community. This term we have a competition running to see which classes can get a celebrity 'retweet'!
- Each class will lead an assembly this session, this is an opportunity for the children to present a theme they have been learning about and 'showcase' their best work to parents and friends.
- Weekly assemblies are used to share and celebrate skills and achievements out with the school.
- We have two formal parent/teacher consultations about pupil progress in October and May, with a formal written report issued in April 2020.
- Throughout the session, we will offer workshops/information events to learn more about ways to support your child at home. If there is anything specific you would like, please do let us know.

### **Child Protection Coordinator**

Every adult in Scotland has a role in ensuring all our children and young people are safe and protected from harm at all times. The Head Teacher is responsible for the schools actions in response to Child Protection concerns

If there are any Child Protection concerns the Head Teacher or the Child Protection Co-ordinator will follow South Lanarkshire Child Protection Procedures and Guidelines

**Child Protection Co-ordinator is: Mrs Brennan. Telephone Number: 01555 772466**



## Healthy Packed Lunch Choices

As a Health Promoting School we would like to remind you of making healthy choices in pupil packed lunch boxes. All pupils are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school and can access this during class time. A bottle with a sports cap is preferred.

Please note, bottles should be filled up with plain water only. **No fruit or flavoured water is permitted to be drunk in class.**

### **Fizzy Drinks**

Cans and bottles of carbonated drinks, including energy drinks, are not permitted in school.

## Important Allergy Information

Some members of our school community have severe allergies to some food items, therefore pupils, staff and visitors must not bring to school items which contain:

- peanuts or products which may contain peanuts
- tree nuts – such as walnuts, brazil nuts, almonds and hazelnuts etc.

**\* Please note that this includes many chocolate spreads, Nutella products and Kinder Bueno and any items which 'may contain nuts or nut-traces'.**

## Animals in School Grounds

To ensure the safety of all members of the school community, only guide/assistance dogs are allowed into the school grounds. Please note this includes the car park area and the grassy area outside the school office.

## Cycling to School

Children are encouraged to cycle or scoot to school. Children are recommended to wear a suitable helmet and reflective clothing and must dismount their bike in the school grounds and push it to the bike rack. The school cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage to bikes/scooters etc. while on school property. Electric scooters and 'hover boards' etc. are not permitted.

## Medical Information

Please inform the office staff of any medical conditions that may affect your child in school. If your child requires prescribed medication during the school day, please discuss this with a member of office or management staff. Children are not permitted to have any medication in school without the completion of a medical administration form. Medicines should not be sent to school in pupil bags.

## Sickness and diarrhoea

Children experiencing these symptoms should not return to school for 48 hours following the last period of sickness/diarrhea.



## Mobile Telephones

Pupils are discouraged from bringing their mobile devices to school, however, if they require them for after school, they must remain switched off and in school bags at all times in line with our Mobile Technologies policy, this includes the playground at the beginning and the end of the day. Children are not permitted to bring any other personal electronic devices to school.

## Annual Data Check

In the coming days, Annual Data Check forms will be sent home. Please check that the contact details and emergency contacts are correct and up-to-date. All forms must be signed and returned, with any changes noted on them. It is important that the school holds the most up-to-date information for the children in case of emergency.

Please also complete and return the photograph consent form which will allow us to start sharing photographs of children as they work and learn.

## Personal Items

We understand that pupils like to bring their toys and games into school to share with their friends at playtimes and lunchtimes. You may wish to consider if it is a good idea for children to bring in their new or favourite toys. Unfortunately we cannot accept responsibility for any lost or broken items. We would recommend that children do not bring their own toys and games into school. As always, personal electronic items and mobile devices are not permitted within school.

## Breakfast Club

Our new Breakfast Club service begins on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2019. This is available free of charge to all Primary 1-7 pupils. A separate letter with information will follow as soon as exact details have been confirmed by South Lanarkshire Council.

## Keeping in Touch

Our main method of communication continues to be the school Twitter account, which can be accessed on most web browsers at [www.twitter.com/KirktonPrimary](http://www.twitter.com/KirktonPrimary). **It is not necessary to have a Twitter account to view the page.** If you do have a Twitter account, follow @KirktonPrimary to keep up to date.

Text Messaging will continue to be used to inform parents/carers of important information and emergencies. Please inform the office if your mobile phone number has changed.

In our aim to keep parents/carers as fully informed as possible, the school will:

- publish a monthly newsletter
- send home letters via 'pupil post'
- share news and information on our website: [www.kirkton-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](http://www.kirkton-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk)

If you have any questions or comments, please get in touch. You can telephone the school on 01555 772466 or email [gw14kirktonoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14kirktonoffice@glow.sch.uk) or fill in the tear-off below and send it to school inside pupil diaries.

The teachers escort the pupils to the school doors at the end of the day, but this is not always the best time to speak with them as they are supervising the pupils. If you wish to



Speak in person to a member of staff, please contact the office to arrange a mutually suitable appointment.

## Dates for the diary

We are in the process of finalising our calendar for the year. More dates will be given in the next Newsletter. As always, we are a busy school and dates can change.

<u>Day &amp; Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> August	P5 Swimming starts – Carluke Leisure Centre
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	Non Uniform Day – Payment can be made via ParentPay
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Holiday – September Weekend
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Holiday – September Weekend
1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Lockerbie Manor – More information to follow
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Non Uniform Day
14 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Holiday – October Week

**Thank you for your continued support and co-operation.**



[Kirkton Primary School](#)

[Comments/Suggestions](#)

If you have any comments or feedback, please complete this slip and return it to the school office.

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Date:</b>
<b>Pupil:</b>		

