

# Kirkton Primary School

Kirkton Avenue,  
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**Website:** <http://www.kirkton-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk>

**Twitter** [@KirktonPrimary](https://twitter.com/KirktonPrimary)

**Email:** [gw14kirktonpsoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14kirktonpsoffice@glow.sch.uk)



Dear Parents,

Thank you for supporting our recent Open Hour, (Meet the Teacher) last month. This was the first time we had tried this for a few years and from the positive feedback, this will continue to be an important date in our calendar from now on. These sessions are always a good opportunity for you to visit your child in their classroom environment, see some of their work in jotters or on display and say a quick hello to your child's teacher.

Our next Open Hour will be **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October at 2.15pm**. The theme of this Open Hour will be **Skills for Learning, Life & Work**. This will be an opportunity for you to see your child in their classroom and to see some of the skills for learning, life and work they are learning.

We hope to see as many of you there as possible. Please note we are unable to accommodate buggies and prams in classrooms but these can be left in the cafeteria and we ask parents to ensure they are supervising younger children at all times. This is a great opportunity to see us at work but our children and staff are working and we want to keep disruption to a minimum.

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.

Please use this to show us what Home Learning Activities you are completing at home. Every entry will receive a 'Golden Ticket' for a chance to win a special prize each week in assembly.

Please use the email address [gw14kirktonpsoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14kirktonpsoffice@glow.sch.uk) rather than emailing me directly as this will allow your enquiry to be answered by the most appropriate person.

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**

## Vision, Values and Aims

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Values survey. The votes have been counted from Parents and Pupils and will be added to the results of the staff

survey, we hope to be able to announce our new Values soon. We will be asking you about our aims during October via a questionnaire, there will be an electronic and paper version available to Parent's Night.

## **Jam & Ham**

Our choir were fabulous at the recent Jam & Ham showcase, thank you to our children who performed beautifully, to Mrs Taylor and Mrs Thomas for giving up their lunchtimes to rehearse, to all they parents who accompanied us and to everyone who came to watch. It was a great day, although very hot!

Our P6 pupils took part in the 'Design a Pig' competition along with all P6 pupils from the local area. We were delighted when our pig Carton (Carluke & Kirkton) took first place, well done to P6 and Miss Telfer.

Well done – Go #TeamKirkton

## **Play**

In line with developments within the Scottish Government and Education Scotland we are exploring the implementation of play within the school. Current research suggests this has huge benefits for children of all ages. Don't worry, we are not abandoning the curriculum as it is but we are looking at ensuring it is fit for purpose and meets the needs of all our children. We are keen to hear your views on play and the wider school curriculum and will be asking for your opinions throughout the year.

## **Please help!!**

We are always looking for ways to make our school better and we are looking for the following items

- Cushions
- Natural materials (e.g. conkers, pine cones, shells etc.)
- Hessian (like sacks)

We are also looking for bark chippings, if you know of any bark chipping companies who would be willing to donate a few large bags, we would be very grateful.

We are also looking for someone to help us recycle pallets into writing areas and bookcases etc. If you or anyone you know has these skills, please let Mrs Brennan know.

## **Pupil Voice Groups**

Our pupils have all been allocated their pupil voice groups and held their first meeting last week.

This session we have 8 groups, Digital Directors, Eco & Outdoors Warriors, Global Citizenship Champions, Health & wellbeing Champions, Kindness Cultivators, Learning Leaders, Rights Respecting Representatives and STEM Master. We are very proud of our Pupil Voice Groups and the work they do to make our school better. We are always looking for parents to support these group, if you are interested, please contact Miss Burns.

Over the next few weeks, please look in your child's diary for details of their Pupil Voice Group.

## **Flu Vaccination Programme**

Flu immunisation permission slips were issued last month, if you have not already done so, please complete it and return to school as soon as possible, or contact the office if you need any assistance. These are scheduled for **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November**.

More information about the programme can be found at <https://www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/immunisation/vaccines/child-flu-vaccine#primary-school-children>

## **Annual Data Check**

If you have not done so already, please check, amend, sign and return the annual data forms and photograph permission slip to the school office as soon as possible.

## **Attendance**

Attendance at school is very important to everyone here at Kirkton. We know and understand that at times children (and adults) can be unwell and we ask that parents follow the advice from NHS Lanarkshire regarding exclusion times (<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>). Please note that with the exception of serving Police Officers and Members of the Armed Forces all holidays will be recorded as unauthorised absences.

As HT it is part of my responsibility to inform parents if their child's attendance falls below 85% on a monthly basis. Letters will be issued to all children's parents should this be the case, even if we know of the reason for the absence. I will monitor attendance during the first week of each month.

## **School Photographs**

You should have received your child's proof card with their school photograph. As a school we were unhappy with the quality of the photographs and as a result John Wilson Photography will be in school on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October to retake photographs. If you are unhappy with the quality of your child's photograph, please contact Mrs Wilson (either by email or telephone) who will arrange for them to be added to the 'retake' list. We will be evaluating if this is a company we should be using again in the future and are keen to have your thoughts and opinions.

## **Uniform**

Please remember we have our 'Pre-Loved' Rail situated in the main foyer of the school. This contains a variety of pre-loved uniform items. Please help yourself and if you would like to leave a donation, you can do so in the collection tin.

We also have a few new items which will be on sale for £3.00 each. These are allocated on a 'first come, first served basis'. Please pop into the office and see what we have.

## **Nut Free School**

We are a “nut free” school because we have children who have severe allergies to nuts. Please help by checking that any snack/packed lunch items you provide for your child do not include any kind of nuts;

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

As a result of this, we are unable to give out birthday cake provided by parents if it is your child's birthday. Please accept our apologies for this.

## **Breakfast Club**

Breakfast Club has started off really well and runs from 8:15am each morning. Please remember to drop off your child at the back door, as the children will make their own way in to the Cafeteria (please do not come into the school, this is for the safety and security of all). Last breakfast is served at 8.40am. Our Breakfast Club is free for all pupils.

If you would like more information, please contact the school office who will be happy to help.

## **ParentPay**

Can we ask all parents to ensure they always have sufficient funds in their child's account? If you are unsure of how to add money or check your balance, please come in and we can offer advice.

## **Non Uniform Day**

We have decided moving forward, we will not be collecting money for Non-Uniform Days and other fundraising events via ParentPay. We will instead use cash as ParentPay charge us 2% on all money raised which means last session we were charged £25 for Non-Uniform Days alone.

Our next Non-Uniform Day is **Friday 4th October** so please bring your £1 cash and give it to your class teacher. If you do not wish your child to participate, they should come to school wearing their uniform.

## **Head Lice**

As always, we would recommend that you check your child's hair regularly for head lice.

Please take the time to check your child's hair and, if necessary, treat them before they return to school. Further advice is available from our School Nurse (Ailsa Glassford) on 01698 723123 or speak to your local pharmacist.

## **Aldi's Kit for Schools**

Aldi's Kit for Schools promotion is giving 20 primary schools the chance to win £20,000 to kick-start a health legacy for their school. What's more, every school who enters by completing their Aldi's Kit for Schools poster will also receive an exclusive school sports kit!



We are collecting the sticker that you will receive with every £30 spent in store and hope to fill up our school's poster. Thank you for your continued support in all our endeavours.

## **SSPCA Workshops**

Last month, the SSPCA delivered workshops to all classes. P1 to 3 pupils became 'Rabbit Rescuers' and took part in play activities caring for rabbits.

P4 to 7 had to build their own robotic rabbit and make it move! They did a fabulous job, and learned lots about how to ensure animals are kept safe at the same time.

## **Book Fair**

Our Book Fair is arriving again from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October until Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October pupils will be able to purchase books in school on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.

Parents will be able to visit with their child each day from 3.00pm until 3.30pm. Information will be sent out soon detailing the Book Fair.

The Book Fair will also be available during Parents' Night for parents and carers to purchase books for their child.

## **Health Promotion, Playground Safety**

A polite reminder the car park is for staff and visitors only. It is not a drop off area. The safety of pupils is paramount and I thank you for your support in this matter. Please also note that pupils are supervised in the playground from 8.45am.

Apologies for this being included again but 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 as these areas are still being used as dog exercise areas.

## **Orchard Area**

It is with regret that we are having to close our orchard area to all children and parents. We had a beautiful crop of apples growing which were vandalised by our own pupils. Pupils were seen picking apples and throwing them on the ground. As a result they cannot be enjoyed by our whole community. Please show respect for our school and encourage your children to do the same.

## **Assemblies**

Each Wednesday we have a whole school assembly. We try to make these as informative and interesting as possible. We sing, learn about current affairs, share learning from classes as well as pupil voice groups and we also share our achievements outside school, please remember certificates and awards.

This session Rev Cunningham and Mrs Ewing (Youth Worker) both from Kirkton Parish Church are going to be joining us on a monthly basis, the dates until Christmas are as follows;

- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November

## **Health & Wellbeing – PE Days**

This information was included in our previous newsletter but we still have children coming to school on PE days wearing jewellery etc. The following information is from South Lanarkshire Council. 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 for session 2019/20 are as follows;

<b>Class</b>	<b>Session 1</b>	<b>Session 2</b>
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 (until November 2019).

## **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

In order to keep parents informed we have included all the dates we have finalised to this point. More dates will be given as they are agreed. As always, we are a busy school and dates can change. We hope you find this useful.

<u>Day &amp; Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Maths Week – Follow us on Twitter to see what we are up to!
<b>1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Lockerbie Manor for P7 pupils
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October</b>	<i>P5 Swimming – Carluke Leisure Centre</i>
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October</b>	New Home Learning Block (remember to Tweet)
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October</b>	P5 Swimming – Carluke Leisure Centre
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>P4 Class Assembly 9.30am – Parents &amp; Carers Welcome</b>
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Non Uniform Day</b>
<b>14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Holiday – October Week</b>
<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	<i>P5 Swimming – Carluke Leisure Centre</i>
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	Rev Cunningham in Assembly
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	Football Festival
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Open Hour – Skills for Learning Life & Work 2.15pm
<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Non Uniform Day</b>
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	Book Fair in school
<b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<i>P5 Swimming – Carluke Leisure Centre</i>
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Parents Night</b>
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November</b>	<b>P5M Class Assembly 9.30am – Parents &amp; Carers Welcome</b>
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Home Learning Tasks Due to Teacher
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Flu Vaccines
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<i>P5 Swimming – Carluke Leisure Centre</i>
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<i>P5 Swimming – Carluke Leisure Centre</i>
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Football Festival
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>In-Service Day</b>
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>In-Service Day</b>
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>	New Home Learning Block (remember to Tweet)
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Open Hour – Emotion Works 9.30am
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</b>	<b>P7 Class Assembly 9.30am – Parents &amp; Carers Welcome</b>
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Rag Bag Collection Day

<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Non Uniform Day</b>
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	Open Hour – Spelling & Phonics 11am
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Primary 5 & Primary 6 Christmas Party (pm)
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Primary 7 Christmas Celebrations (pm)
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Primary 3 & Primary 4 Christmas Party (pm)
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Home Learning Tasks Due to Teacher
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Primary 1 & Primary 2 Christmas Party (pm)
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Service – Kirkton Church 9.45am
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	2.30pm Close for Christmas Holidays
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	<b>Christmas Holidays</b>

<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Pupils Return
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January</b>	New Home Learning Block (remember to Tweet)
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>P5OT Class Assembly 9.30am – Parents &amp; Carers Welcome</b>
<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>Non Uniform Day</b>
<b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>In-Service Day</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> &amp; 11<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>February Holidays</b>
<b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>In-Service Day</b>
<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Home Learning Tasks Due to Teacher
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b>	<b>P3 Class Assembly 9.30am – Parents &amp; Carers Welcome</b>
<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	New Home Learning Block (remember to Tweet)
<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Non Uniform Day</b>
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>P6 Class Assembly 9.30am – Parents &amp; Carers Welcome</b>
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Open Hour – Expressive Arts 2.15pm
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Non Uniform Day</b>
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	2.30pm Close for Spring/Easter Holidays
<b>6<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Spring/Easter Holidays</b>

<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Pupils Return
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	New Home Learning Block (remember to Tweet)
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Non Uniform Day</b>
<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Open Hour – Applying Maths Skills 11am
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>P3 Class Assembly 9.30am – Parents &amp; Carers Welcome</b>
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>In-Service Day</b>
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Holiday</b>
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Home Learning Tasks Due to Teacher
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May</b>	New Home Learning Block (remember to Tweet)



Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Holiday
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Holiday
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Parent's Night
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	P1 Class Assembly 9.30am – Parents & Carers Welcome
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Home Learning Tasks Due to Teacher
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Non Uniform Day
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	1pm close for Summer Holidays

**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>		