



**Kirkbride Primary School**

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Head Teacher: Mrs. K. L. Barley

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a very busy few weeks with World Book Week, Library Visits, Forest Schools and Archery and a multitude of trips and visitors. It has been wonderful to welcome people back into our school, and see the community back together. Whilst we are still being somewhat cautious, we hope to continue in this way.

### Class Dojo

We have been delighted with the response to our re-launch of Class Dojo, and we feel you agree with how quick, easy and helpful it is in getting information, communications and celebrating class work out to you. We have almost 100% sign up from all our parents and carers. We are not rolling it out to other family members not in your household as yet. As mentioned on Dojo last week, you can give points at home and these do not affect the points given in school.

Please also be aware that this is the best way of communicating with your child's class teacher, there is a private message function, and we would prefer this rather than by email. We have set quiet hours so that our teachers can have a restful weekend, I hope you understand. However, if there is an urgent or emergency situation, please do not hesitate to contact the Head@ email and we will respond appropriately. Again, please understand that our staff in the office are not at work on weekends, although we will always support with urgent or emergency matters.

Please check our Dojo daily, for class and school updates. If you have the app on your phone the updates will 'ping' automatically.

### Whole School Assemblies

Our whole school assemblies are working well and the children are responding to the focus on our whole school values **Respect, Friendship, Honesty, Ambition, Trust and Kindness**. The theme for this half term is friendship. Mrs Barley reads a story or explains an activity that demonstrates the value and the qualities being looked for that week, to be celebrated in Friday's assembly. The Friday recipient are chosen by their class or teachers, and receive a Gold Head Teachers sticker, and a round of applause!

### Class news:

**Acorn Class** – they loved visiting the Life Boat Station and The Fire Station at Silloth last week and have developed a role-play area in school to act out their learning at the Life Boat Station.

**Ash Class** – They have built a selection of Castles as part of their DT project and there are some wonderful creations. They have written about the features of their castles, including moats, draw bridges and the turrets. They are very impressive.

**Elm Class** – Elm class have continued with their learning about Ancient Egypt by setting up a class artefacts museum. We had a brilliant afternoon with Ahmed our Egyptian visitor who explained all things about modern Egypt, his favourite places and how he became a surgeon through medical school.

**Oak Class** – What a fantastic few weeks oak class have had and they are demonstrating excellent attitudes, behaviours and role-modelling across the school. They have been continuing to learn about Charles Darwin and I'm sure you were all impressed with their portrait sketches of him.



## World Book Day/Week

We were overwhelmed by your amazing creative contributions to our World Book day 'booky bakes', book and a brew morning. The donations raised over £40 towards the PTA funds. Mrs Howe is in the process of getting the prizes arranged for the winners of this and the decorated book character potatoes, that the children completed in school. I'm sure you will agree they were fantastic.

Also, we have had a wonderful response from the Village community to our 'look for a book' initiative and we are very grateful to Mrs Howe and Kip McGrath for organising the donated books. Our staff have been amazing at supporting each other to ensure the children had a fun-filled, book focussed week where we could celebrate 'Being a reader.'

Finally, thank you to everyone who supported our very busy book fayre from Marie at Usborne Books. We made a whopping, £327 in commission to spend on books for our school. We have a sponsored read event as part of the Cumbria Big Read, planned for the Summer term; more details later after Easter.

## Letters

As we return to normal communications about trips, events and visits, we will always ensure that a paper copy of any letter that needs to be signed, is available to have a hard copy from the office. If you would like a hard copy given to your child to bring home, please contact the office *on each occasion*, so that we can get that sorted for you. We will also be sharing our letters on Dojo and by email, so please check these to get the information.

## Covid -19 update

I sent out a letter earlier today, with the latest information I have regarding the procedures for COVID reporting and what to do if your child is symptomatic or tests positive.

As always, thank you for your continued support and please do get in touch if there is anything we can help with.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Karen Barley

Head Teacher

