



Kirkbride Primary School

Kirkbride

Wigton

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Head Teacher: Mrs. K. L. Barley

Friday 7th January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,
Happy New Year!

It gives me great pleasure to be writing to you as the new Head Teacher at Kirkbride Primary School and I am delighted to be joining such a supportive and welcoming community. As you may know, I have visited the school for a few days before Christmas to get to know the team and children, and I have had the pleasure of meeting many of you already. If I haven't seen you, or met you yet, please say hello if you see me in the playground. I'd like to get to know you all.

Here is the first of many Newsletters to keep you updated with the events and happenings at school. You can also keep updated through our school Facebook page and our school website.

We have had a fantastic first week back. The whole team worked hard to ensure all children have been settled, having fun and had some lunch! I've really enjoyed teaching in Elm class and the children have been amazing at keeping me right, and I can now remember all their names!

Acorn Class

Our youngest children have settled back well into their routine, with a few new starters joining the gang! They have made a start on their Bears topic and also had their first Football session with Carlisle United Community Team this week. This happens on a Tuesday afternoon.

Ash Class

The children have begun their Fairy Tales topic, with an exciting role-play area starting to appear in the class area! They have also had their first Football session with Carlisle United Community Team this week on Tuesday afternoon.

Elm Class

It's all about the Egyptians in Elm class this term, with Mrs Howe and Mrs Barley planning lots of exciting events to get the children hooked on this Ancient Civilisation! We have a trip to Tullie House on Tuesday 18th January, which I'm sure you are all aware of. We're very excited. We will also be starting swimming at Wigton Pool on Thursday 13th January, so please ensure your child has the right kit with them on that day.

Oak Class

The Stone Age has begun in Oak Class, and they have worked hard together this week already to produce some amazing Cave Painting Art work. They have a trip to Tullie House on Monday 10th January which I know you are aware of. They are very excited about this topic!



PE Kit

I have spoken to the teaching team and we have made the decision that due to the temperamental Spring weather, we would like the children to have some warmer PE kit for this time. Therefore, your child can wear black leggings or joggers for PE, along with their white PE t-shirt and their school sweatshirt top. Please ensure they have black trainers for sports activities. They can also have warm gloves and a hat if desired.

In addition, starting next week, we would like your child to come into school in their PE kit on the day that they have it. Your child's class teacher will inform you of any changes to the usual days.

Residential

I know there have been enquiries about a residential experience for the upper junior children, especially the Year 6 group who have sadly missed out on this over recent years. I have managed to secure a 2 night/3 day residential experience for June for the Year 4, 5 and 6 children which will involve lots of geography learning, map work and also some Ghyll Scrambling. More information about this will be out very shortly.

Community Events

Over the next few weeks, as I find my feet here at school, I will be discussing with the team whether we are able to reintroduce some of the community events that have been postponed due to the pandemic. I will of course be mindful of safety for all concerned and we would only go ahead with any event after a full assessment of the risks. These events include school assemblies, bake sales, and other events where we can have plenty of ventilation and limited close contact.

COVID

I sent out the new guidance from Cumbria County Council and the National and Cumbria Guidance earlier this week. Please let us know if we can support you with any queries you may have. I appreciate it is a lot to take in and things have changed so much, it is difficult to keep up. As always, please get in touch if you are unsure how to proceed in any situation having read the COVID information. Unfortunately, Covid-19 cases are soaring locally and I think we will be very lucky to avoid significant disruption this term, but we will do everything we can to make things as normal as possible for the children and safe as possible for our staff.

Please be reassured that we are doing everything we can in school, including twice weekly lateral flow tests for all staff and wearing masks in all communal areas and moving around school. All our visitors, for example sports coaches, must have a negative lateral flow test on the day they attend. Any other visitors to school, are by appointment only and also must have a negative lateral flow test on the day of visiting.

Finally, please do not hesitate to get in touch about anything that concerns you and we will all do our best to help you out.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Karen Barley

Head Teacher

