



Kirkburton Middle School - Parent Bulletin

12 – 25 February 2021

Issue: 9



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Word from the Head

Welcome to our fortnightly parent bulletin, I hope you and your family are well. It has been another strange and very challenging half-term however there is real hope that better times are on the way. I continue to be incredibly impressed by the determination and resilience shown by all our pupils and staff under very difficult circumstances. We recognise that many families are really starting to feel the strain of the lockdown and partial school closures. If there is a way we can provide any support, even if it is just the opportunity to have a chat with somebody, please get in touch.



We are trying very hard to add some fun and variety back in to school life wherever possible. We hope Year 6 and Year 7 pupils enjoyed their webinar with the children's

author Michael Morpogo on Thursday. Sadly none of our questions were read out but maybe next time. We are also very much looking forward to welcoming Commonwealth Games Gold medallist Aimee Willmott to our school, albeit it only virtually, after half-term where she will be hosting daily assemblies with each year group. This time it is guaranteed that the pupils' questions will be read out as we have Aimee all to ourselves.

It was great to see so many parents at our first parents' evening of the year this week. There was a slight nervousness in school launching both a new booking system and remote appointments at the same time. Thankfully the technology appeared to work very well and we've had lots of positive feedback from both parents and staff. We also sent out the first set of reports, to Year 7, using our new reporting system. We will be sending out interim reports to Year 6 and Year 8 parents shortly after half-term.

Finally, we hope pupils are looking forward to a week away from their laptops or tablets, we certainly are. Whilst we are still very limited with what we can and can't do in our free time, we'd still love to hear what the children are getting up to during half-term. Please feel free to share any photos, videos or information with us by emailing socialmedia@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk and we'll try and share as many as we can on our Twitter feed and Facebook page. I'm particularly looking forward to hearing how people are 'getting up, getting out and getting active', how pupils are rising to our KMS Challenges and who is 'reading in unusual places' and more importantly where!

We now all await the expected announcement about the governments' roadmap out of lockdown. We have been

assured that we will get two weeks notice of any return to school date. With 8th March still looking like a potential date for some form of reopening of schools, it shouldn't be long now until an announcement is made. Whether this is a full reopening remains to be seen. I am expecting, as has been the case throughout this pandemic, we will find out at exactly the same time as yourselves. If we hear anything sooner we'll definitely let you know.

I know that I am not alone in desperately wanting all our young people to return to school as soon as possible. One of the things that many parents/carers have spoken to me about is how much their child is missing school. The feeling is very much mutual, I know that all my colleagues can't wait to welcome all our pupils back to school.

I look forward to writing again after half-term and hopefully with some more positive news.

Mr Taylor

Safeguarding

The period of forced partial school closures is an unsettling time for many families and as a school, we aim to continue to support our pupils in every way possible. In addition to learning resources being provided, the Safeguarding team in school will also be monitoring the welfare of our most vulnerable children.

Should any of our families have concerns around the safety or wellbeing of children from our school community you can contact members of the Safeguarding team directly for advice or support on the following email addresses:

Mrs Senior – Safeguarding Lead
g.senior@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk

Mr MacIntyre – Deputy Safeguarding Lead
a.macintyre@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk

Year 6 – RE & PSE Lessons

After the half term break Year 6 will be switching subject from RE to PSE or vice versa. Please see the list below for the lesson your child will attend from WB 22nd Feb. Your child's new teacher will create a TEAMS class for their new subject and invite them to the lesson. The lesson will then appear in the pupil's TEAMS calendar as normal.

Any queries please email the teacher listed below in the first instance followed by Mr Parker (Teacher i/c RE) or Mrs Johnson (Teacher i/c PSE).

Classes for week beginning 22/02/21

6A/JO moving to PSE with Mrs Johnson
6B/SA moving to RE with Mr Parker
6C/EP moving to PSE with Mr Forman
6D/DJ moving to RE with Mr Parker
6E/SH moving to PSE with Mrs Johnson
6F/FS moving to RE with Mr Parker



Musica Virtual Assemblies – launch 11.12.21

This week sees the launch of a series of virtual assemblies from Musica. They are an introduction to the instrument families and have been put together by and feature Musica Kirklees Staff.

Each family of instruments is represented and is presented by a feature teacher of that instrument(s). These videos have been put together for both recruitment and as an educational resource.

The videos last about 10 minutes and will be included as a starter or plenary to the Music curriculum lesson in school to Year 6 pupils to begin with. There will be chance for the pupils to ask questions which will be forwarded to the relevant Musica teacher. The teacher will then record a short video answering the questions submitted. This video will then be shown to the classes as a follow up.

Get Up, Get Out, Get Active Challenge!

During the first lockdown, it was great to see lots of children, staff and their families out walking, running, cycling and completing home workouts. Now more than ever, these 'active breaks' are essential for our well-being to allow the need to de-stress and re-engage those brain cells.

To help with this, we have set up a weekly 'Get Up, Get Out, Get Active' challenge, which will commence from Monday 8th February 2021. **This is for all children, staff and parents** to get involved in.

The idea is:

- 1) To motivate more people to have active breaks and to get outside and move away from their screens (computer, phone, TV etc.);
- 2) To generate a sense of competition & achievement;
- 3) To help with physical, social and mental well-being;
- 3) In classes, the challenge is to build up as many weekly activity points as possible (please adhere to lockdown guidelines; e.g. only exercising with one other person outside your household/support bubble when on your own);
- 4) Prizes will be awarded for highest-performing class.

The scoring system is as follows:

- **Walking** - 1 point for every mile;
- **Cycling** - 2 points for every 2 miles;
- **Home workout** i.e. Joe Wicks - 2 points per session;
- **Jogging/ running** - 3 points for every 2 miles.

Your scores will be collected by your form tutor every Friday during class-time, so please make sure you have recorded them correctly throughout the week and that you have them to hand and ready to submit when asked. The results will be shared the following week through the school's social media platforms via Twitter and Facebook, as well as the Newsletter and Parent Bulletin, as and when they are published.

Mrs Joyce, Mr Martin and Mr Killock

Assembly with an Olympian

Aimee Willmott is an English competitive swimmer who has represented Great Britain at the Olympic Games and England in the Commonwealth Games. **She was the 2018 Commonwealth Games Champion in the 400 metres individual medley.**

Aimee will be delivering assemblies for KMS student's as follows after half term:

Monday 22nd Feb: Year 6: 1 – 2.15pm

Wednesday 24th Feb: Year 7: 1 - 2.15pm

Friday 26th Feb: Year 8: 1 – 2.15pm

This will mean that class time and period 4 will be cancelled for those year groups on those days.

Aimee will talk students through her career as a swimmer, including all of her ups and downs. There will be a huge focus on resilience and determination in the face of adversity. She will hopefully inspire students to keep going, even though times are hard and to stay positive and look forward to the better times to come.

If any students would like to ask a question to Aimee they should email it to

Mrs Joyce: v.joyce@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk no later than Wednesday 17th February 2021.



KMS Challenges – YOU!

To the 511 of you...our Heads of Year want to prove that their year group is the best and they want **you** to help them to prove it! Each week we will be running a challenge which you can enter into. Some weeks the challenge will be perfect for you and some weeks you may just want to enter it for fun. This is not compulsory (we know how hard you are all working during lockdown) but the year group with most entries each week will be celebrated and all entries will be rewarded through Classcharts. It will only be your Heads of Year and other staff that see the videos so don't worry! These won't be shown in lessons or assemblies or anything else. SO...along with the get up, get out get active competitions please check twitter and Facebook for our first challenge from which you can upload your entries to the relevant group below! Good luck all!

Resource Bus

Our trusty `mini-bus light` took us all over the KMS catchment over the last two weeks visiting Dalton, Waterloo, Shepley and Emley to name but a few of our stop offs. It really was great to see families and our students at the bus, some just wanting to say hello for a bit of normality and another face and some wanting to collect resources. Keep your eyes peeled next half-term as we try to extend our reach into the communities we serve.



Mr MacIntyre and The Pastoral Team

Accelerated Reader

The Launch OF Accelerated Reader and Get Epic.

Instructions on how to use AR and Get.Epic

"Research shows that reading for the joy of it has powerful, measurable real-life benefits that can transform lives."

It's fair to say that for children across the United Kingdom, 2020 was a year like no other. As well as the numerous benefits we all know reading brings, including language development, confidence and communication skills, reading can also be an important escape for many children. We at Kirkburton want our students to read at least 20 minutes a day – you can read your own book or you can use Get Epic.

Please get in touch with the school office should you need further information to log onto Get Epic.

Mrs Greenleaf – Careers Lead

Home learning this week



Well done Isabella A in 6D.


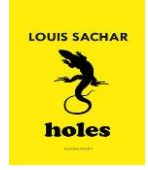
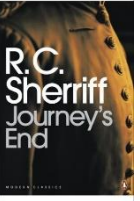
That must have taken a lot of patience!

Subject of the fortnight – English



What have we been studying?

Since January, we have been studying the following topics:

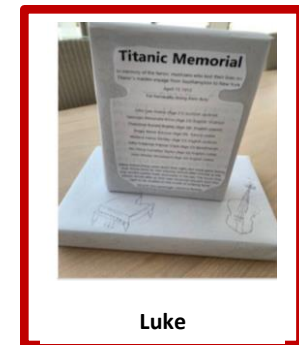
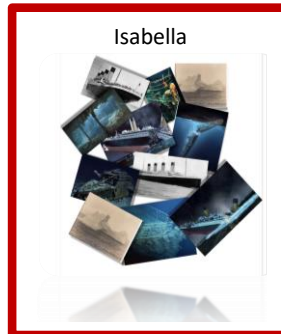
<p>Year 6</p> <p>The Titanic</p> 	<p>Students have been writing a letter from the point of view of a first class passenger, have written a newspaper report about the sinking of the 'Titanic' itself and have become investigators, leading an inquiry into who was most responsible for the ship's demise.</p>
<p>Year 7</p> <p>Holes</p> 	<p>Students have been reading this fantastic novel by Louis Sachar and have started to explore the themes that run throughout the story as well as explore the personalities and motives of many of the book's colourful characters.</p>
<p>Year 8</p> <p>Journey's End</p> 	<p>Students have been placed in the trenches of World War I in order to understand the reality of the conflict that took place at this time. Through reading R.C. Sheriff's moving and, at times, humorous play, students have been able to further develop their inferential skills and show empathy for the soldiers involved in trench warfare.</p>

A Celebration of Student Work

Over the last half-term, the topics we have been studying in English, have brought out the creative and artistic talents of many Kirkburton students.

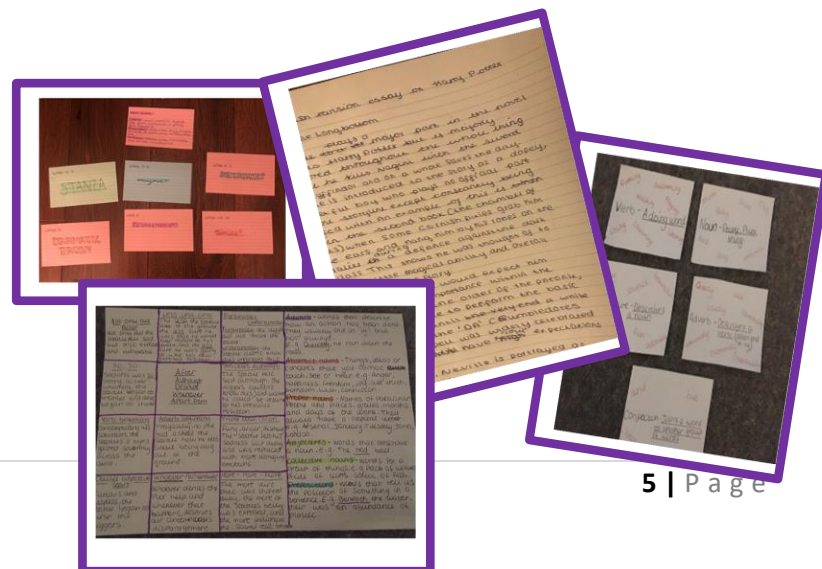
Year 6 – Titanic Collages, Drawings and Memorials

The work below, inspired by the current Titanic scheme of learning, has been produced by some of our year 6 students.



Key Stage Three – Going the Extra Mile

A huge well done to **Mollie C** and **Ava M** for working exceptionally hard on their weekly revision and for producing some excellent written work as a result.



Did you know?

Pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanokoniosis is the longest word in the English Dictionary. Can you find out what it means?

Useful Websites

Spelling Shed

All pupils in year 6 should now have access to this online resource. Every week a list of spellings (from the year 5 and 6 statutory word list) is given to the students to learn through engaging visual games and quizzes. We encourage students to spend between 45 minutes and an hour on Spelling Shed each week.

BBC Teach

The BBC Teach website is crammed full of useful resources such as interactive lessons, engaging revision videos and celebrities reading famous stories in order to help children develop their reading and writing skills.

Link for KS2 (year 6)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ks2-english/zbrwnrd>

Link for KS3 (years 7 and 8)

English Language

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/gcse-national-5-english-language/z69skmn>

English Literature

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ks3-english-literature/z47n92p>

Other Useful Apps

Grammaropolis

Grammar smash

Both Apps are designed to help students learn key grammar skills for writing through interactive games.

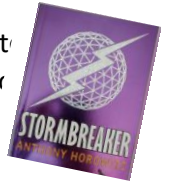


(Answers at the bottom of the page)

1. In the Harry Potter novels, what is Hermione's surname?



2. What is the name of the main character who appears in the 'Stormbreaker' series by Anthony Horowitz?



3. How many books make up 'The Chronicles of Narnia'? Can you name them all?



4. In the novel 'Holes' by Louis Sachar, what is special about the name of the central character Stanley Yelnats?



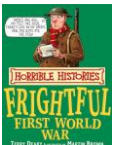
5. Complete the title of the famous Michael Morpurgo novel 'War _____'.



6. In which Roald Dahl story do the following characters appear? *Sophie, Bloodbottler and the Queen of England.*



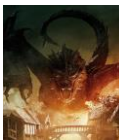
7. Complete the title of the following 'Horrible History' books by Terry Deary: 'The Vile _____', 'The Amazing _____' and 'Terrible _____'.



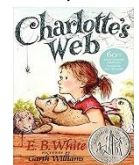
8. Which famous author wrote 'The Jungle Book'?



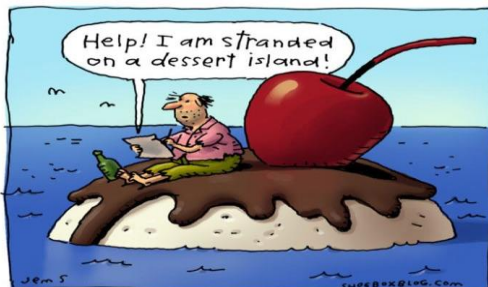
9. In 'The Hobbit' by J.R.R. Tolkien, what is the name of the dragon that guards the treasure in the mountain of Erebor?



10. In 'Charlotte's Web' by E.B. White, what is the name of the pig animal that is Wilbur's friend?



Answers: 1. Granger 2. Alex Rider 3. Seven books – *The Magician's Nephew, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, Prince Caspian, The Voyage of the Dawn Treader, The Horse and his Boy, The Silver Chair, The Last Battle* 4. It spells the same backwards as it does forwards 5. *War Horse* 6. *The BFG* 7. *Victorians, Aztecs and Tudors* 8. Rudyard Kipling 9. Smaug 10. A



English Teacher Humour

Kirklees Support Services

Thriving Kirklees

Health Care advice, Emotional Wellbeing and
Mental Health Support, Healthcare
Signposting

www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk

0300 304 5555

Northorpe Hall – Kirklees

Children’s mental and emotional health
service

www.northorpehall.co.uk

01924 492183

Kirklees Children’s services

Safeguarding Services

www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk

01484 456848

Services for young people

Thriving Kirklees

Chathealth – Text message services for young
people – direct link to School Nurse

07520618866

Childline

www.childline.org.uk

0800 1111

NSPCC

Support for Parents and Children

www.nspcc.org.uk

Parents/carers – 0808 800 5000

Children – Via Childline 0800 1111

Thriving Kirklees

If you're aged 11-19 (Year 7 and above) text your Thriving Kirklees nurse **07520 618866**

ChatHealth

www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk

Huddersfield Town Foundation Half-Term Camps

<https://www.htafcfoundation.com/2021/02/09/february-half-term-activities/>



FEBRUARY HALF TERM CAMP TIMETABLE 5-11 YEARS OLD

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH KIRKLEES COUNCIL

DAYS AND TIMES	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9.30 - 10.00	LIVE PE SESSION (THROWING)	LIVE PE SESSION (FITNESS)	LIVE PE SESSION (CATCHING)	LIVE PE SESSION (FITNESS)	LIVE PE SESSION (MULTI-SKILLS)
10.45 - 11.45		LIVE BAKE-ALONG Learn how to make chocolate crispy cakes		LIVE FRUIT FACES Who can make the best fruit face, items required: plate, variety of fruit	DOWNLOAD Take part in the social challenge can you be a local hero?
12.15 - 13.00	LIVE HEALTHY LUNCH CLUB What to include in your lunch		DOWNLOAD Take part in the scavenger hunt!		LIVE QUIZ AND GAMES
13.15 - 14.15		DOWNLOAD Football skills and challenge	DOWNLOAD Take part in the scavenger hunt!		DOWNLOAD Football skills and challenge
14.00 - 15.00	DOWNLOAD Terry The Terrier Activity Booklet			LIVE Dance Session	
15.15 - 16.00	DOWNLOAD Terry The Terrier Activity Booklet			LIVE ARTS AND CRAFTS 'One Club One Community'	

If you would like to register interest in our primary school (5-11 years old) camps please complete the following form: <https://form.jotform.com/210343040170032> or email: sofie.armitage@htafcfoundation.com
Once we have received your contact details specific session links will be emailed to you relevant for your child.

PRIZES:
TOP ATTENDER = HTAFC SIGNED SHIRT AND PLAYER MESSAGE BY PLAYER OF YOUR CHOICE!
TOP SCAVENGER = FOOTBALL AND GOODIE BAG
TERRIER TAKE'S ACTION = FOOTBALL AND GOODIE BAG

@htafcfoundation // htafcfoundation // www.htafcfoundation.com




FEBRUARY HALF TERM CAMP TIMETABLE 12-16 YEARS OLD

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH KIRKLEES COUNCIL

DAYS AND TIMES	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
11.00 - 12.00	LIVE SOCIAL ACTION PART ONE		LIVE LGBTQ+ ACTIVITY SESSIONS		LIVE NCS How to get involved!
12.00 - 13.00	DOWNLOAD Activity pack	LIVE BOXING WITH THE TRAINING CAVE		LIVE FOOTBALL / BALL MASTERY SESSION	
13.15 - 14.00					
14.00 - 15.00	LIVE YOUTH VOICE SESSION	LIVE FOOTBALL / BALL MASTERY SESSION	LIVE NETBALL FITNESS	LIVE DANCE SESSION	LIVE SOCIAL ACTION PART TWO
15.00 - 16.00					
16.00 - 17.00	MARTIAL ARTS WITH KANE ACADEMY		DOWNLOAD Mental health lockdown support pack		LIVE QUIZ

If you would like to register interest in our secondary school (12-16 years old) camps please complete the following form: <https://form.jotform.com/210343040170032> or email: sofie.armitage@htafcfoundation.com
Once we have received your contact details specific session links will be emailed to you relevant for you / your child.

PRIZES:
TOP ATTENDER = HTAFC SIGNED SHIRT AND PLAYER MESSAGE BY PLAYER OF YOUR CHOICE!
TERRIER TAKE'S ACTION = TO BE AWARDED £100 FOR THEIR TEAM TO IMPLEMENT THE SOCIAL ACTION PROJECT
MOST ACTIVITIES COMPLETED IN THE PACK = FOOTBALL AND GOODIE BAG

@htafcfoundation // htafcfoundation // www.htafcfoundation.com

