



Kirkburton Middle School – Parent Bulletin

15th May – 22nd May 2020

Headteacher Update

As we near the end of another very busy virtual week for Kirkburton Middle School, and before I come on to the topic of reopening schools, I'd like to celebrate some of the wonderful things our pupils have achieved whilst being at home. Anybody who has been following our Twitter feed or visited our Facebook page will no doubt be well aware of the following. During the school closure period our pupils have baked, danced, run, built, swum, designed, crafted, cycled, sung, painted, taken photographs, coded, cooked, quizzed, celebrated, commemorated and much, much more. Just this week, Rhea has given us some top tips on how to eat insects, Georgia has released her new single 'Go Away Covid' and Joseph has climbed the height of Ben Nevis via his stairs – I hope the view was worth it at the top! Many pupils have also found time to raise money for charities including Freya and Mya who have been running 5km a day ([find out more](#)), Caiden who has been producing key rings ([find out more](#)) and Thomas who cycled more than 100 miles to local villages and raised over £2000 ([find out more](#)). I recognise that by mentioning the names of a handful of pupils, there are many others who are just as deserving of a mention, unfortunately we just don't have space in the bulletin. What I would ask from all parents is that if you haven't looked through our Twitter feed or Facebook page recently, please make a special effort to do so over the weekend. You'll be amazed at what our 10 – 13 year olds can achieve. Well done to all our pupils from everybody at Kirkburton Middle School. We are very proud of each and every one of you. As if this wasn't enough, auditions are now underway for our first ever virtual 'Burton's Got Talent'. We've had some great submissions already so far and hopefully lots more to come before the closing date on Friday 22nd May.

As you will be fully aware, as part of his address to the nation last Sunday night, the Prime Minister announced that 'from the week commencing 1 June 2020 at the earliest, we will be asking primary schools to welcome back children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, alongside priority groups.' The rationale behind inviting Year 6 back first is that, in most schools across the country, they are a key transition year. This is obviously very different in the three-tier system where for us Year 8 are the transition year along with Year 5 in our partner First schools. The government guidance also states 'we encourage middle schools to do the same and welcome back children in Year 6, to ensure national parity for children in this year group.' We have spent the week consulting with various people and professional bodies and the message is very clear – the expectation is for Year 6 pupils in Middle Schools to return first. As such we are now putting together the comprehensive plans needed in order to ensure we can open our school site safely to Year 6 pupils together with those children in priority groups (vulnerable children and the children of critical workers). Unfortunately this will not be a quick job, especially as the latest government guidance to schools was only released last night, and I therefore ask for your patience during this time. As soon as we are in a position to tell you more, we will do. There has been a lot written in the press this week in relation to the reopening of schools; please be under no illusion, we are desperate to welcome pupils back into school and start working on site once again. This can only happen however if we are sure it is safe to do so. To give you one example of some of the challenges we are facing, before we can open all the schools in our Trust, we need to employ and train additional cleaners who will need to be on site all day throughout the week (please see below for further details). We are therefore working against a very tight timescale but we are committed to getting the school back open as soon as possible. My first 10 weeks at Kirkburton Middle School were some of the best times of my career to date and to have that come to an end so abruptly with the school closure was devastating.

For those pupils in Year 7 and 8, we will continue to set work remotely and await further announcements from the government. I attended a virtual meeting of the Shelley Pyramid Headteacher group earlier in the week and this was attended by all our First School Headteachers along with Mr Wadsworth from Shelley College. The main agenda item was to discuss our approaches to Year 5 and Year 8 transition. We are working very closely with Shelley College in terms of transition arrangements for our Year 8s and we are confident pupils will receive the best possible transition experience given the circumstances. If you have any questions or concerns about Year 8 transition, please contact the school office. The same message goes to those families with children in Year 5, we are in constant contact with our feeder First Schools in terms of transition.

Can I thank you as always for all your ongoing support, we recognise we've not always got everything right first time during the closure period however we are trying our best under very challenging circumstances. The message remains the same, if there is any further support the school can offer or if you have any questions or concerns whatsoever, please make contact with us. We also hope you will agree there is also a lot to celebrate in terms of the school's work at this current time. I wish you well for the week ahead and I will write formally as soon as we have finalised the arrangements for some of our pupils to return to school.

Well-being

Although schools are closed to the majority of students, we remain here to help. **Please be sure to make contact with school if you need support.** Please see the end of this bulletin for a list of further support services available to you at this difficult time. We've added an extra section this week, Kirklees Support for families in need, which has been shared with us by Kirklees Council.

School safeguarding support

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

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

Year 6

Hello. I hope you are all making the most of your home learning and finding out interesting facts for yourselves. Learning from home means being more of an independent learner. This is a fantastic skill to have throughout your lives. Although it might feel hard at times, the skills you gain will really help you once you are back at school. This week I would like you to have an attitude of gratitude- what are you most grateful for whilst we stay at home? I am grateful for my friends and family who I speak to most days. My Mum has now mastered face-time so I get a call from her in her backyard on a daily basis and have even waved to her cat! I am also grateful for the positive messages I have received from you and your families. We appreciate you all.

Think of three things you are grateful for and either make a piece of art about it, discuss it with family or friends or just spend a quiet five minutes thinking about it.

If you can, each day when you wake up, think of at least one thing to be grateful for to start your day. It might just help make that day be a little bit brighter.

Keep on being your best Year 6 and hopefully I will see you all very soon.

Miss Sharples

Vacancies for cleaners

In response to the current Covid-19 pandemic we are looking for highly motivated cleaners to join our experienced site teams across our 4 schools within our academy trust on a fixed term basis. Please see the advert at the end of the bulletin for further details. A good opportunity for university or 6th form students looking for some work.

Headteacher Vacancy

An exciting opportunity has become available for somebody to lead one of our Trust First Schools – Birdsedge. Please click [here](#) for further details.

'We are looking for a new headteacher to lead our very special school. Birdsedge is a small school with a big heart. It has enormous potential due to its committed staff and parents and fantastic children who are capable of achieving enormous things both academically and socially. We want someone who will continue to put the school at the centre of the community; drive standards and make a difference.'

Year 8 Transition

As a school we are conscious of the move to Shelley in September and of anxieties being felt around this. Please rest assured that in light of the government's latest information we are working hard alongside our partners at Scissett and Shelley High to ensure that we give more clarity on transition and the move to Shelley alongside relevant activities for children to be engaging in. We will update as soon as possible. Mr MacIntyre.

Well done KMS

Congratulations to all our pupils who are doing so much at home as well as keeping up to all the school work. Pupils are involved in baking, photography, running, swimming, origami, DT, decorating, singing, painting, cycling and Tom did a charity cycle around the local villages raising a fantastic £2000 for the NHS. You are all amazing and thank you so much for sharing your news. Please see our Kirkburton Middle School twitter page to see all the things the pupils are doing, there are some fantastic 'positive quotes' too.

Please keep sending all your news to Kirkburton Edit. Mr Tyson.

Chess

Calling KMS...

If you have always wanted to learn how to play Chess then there is really no better time than the present!! You might also be a novice player and want to improve or learnt to play a long time ago and want something to stimulate the mind.

A very useful website is Chess.com (there are plenty of others to explore). This site has a step by step guide to learning how to play from the basics to advanced strategy. There are lots of useful videos and puzzles to support new players.

It is ideal if you need something which you can pick up and then drop at any time. Once you feel ready you can play the computer on the website which has a range of settings to match your level/ability.

There is also the opportunity to create an account and play others on-line. IF YOU ARE A PUPIL PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ASK PARENTS PERMISSION FOR THIS.

If you are a pupil and you do start to learn Chess on-line when we re-open the Chess club will be back and you are always welcome to come and join us in B2.

Best wishes to you and your family at this time – Mr Parker

Garden Club

I hope you are well. I took home your seedlings just before lockdown and they have been growing strongly, potted on and ready to go out in your garden so let's hope we can get back soon! There are several photos of plants with the name of the sower. Stay safe from Mrs Seed.



Josh – Ammi Majus



Oliver K – Broad beans



Mrs Josey – Sugar snap peas



Ava M – sweet peas



Maddy M – Long slim chilli



Ruby - Ruby dwarf marigold, Rudbeckia, Zinnia and Lobelia



Hope and Cadence - Basil



Sophie H and Maisie P – Spanish Brocade Marigolds

Burton's Got Talent

Our first virtual talent contest!

Think of a talent you have, prepare your entry, video it and post it here! To enter, just reply to the threads on either

Twitter or <https://twitter.com/KMSchool/status/1260478369721987073>

Facebook <https://t.co/sxC24XCXWi?amp=1>

(using parents account & permission) with your video and a comment.

Closing date end of Friday 22 May.

Good luck!

If your parents don't have an account for either, then you can email your effort to

website@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk

ONLY send by email though if this is the only way possible as videos post a lot more easily directly to Facebook or Twitter and sometimes videos on emails are limited by file size, and therefore the quality is compromised too. If you are sending by email for me to post, please add this statement; **I give permission for the video of my son/daughter to be posted on the school's Facebook social media account and to be used in a video compilation produced by the school.**



Some ideas if you need them:

Dancing

Acting

Magic

Singing

Instrument

Keepy ups

Sports

Gymnastics

Yo-yo

Pogostick

Painting/Drawing

Skiping

Cheerleading

Anything weird and whacky..... good luck KMS!

Staying Positive

Although it is important to keep up with your work whilst being at home, it is also just as important to look after your mind. Each week set yourself a time that you can complete the wellbeing/mindfulness task below.

Miss Wigglesworth would love to see your finished tasks – ask parents/carers to take a picture and send it in to our Kirkburton Middle School Facebook page.

WEEK FOUR Yoga - <https://imoves.com/the-imovement> - <https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga> - Have a go at some yoga from this YouTube channel. - Get siblings and parents involved! Miss Wigglesworth.



Shout – crisis text line

Shout is the UK's first 24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere. It's a place to go if you're struggling to cope and you need immediate help. Full details can be found [here](#) on their website.

For help – text shout to 85258

Notice on behalf of Kirklees Council – Kirklees support for families in need

We know that schools are absolutely critical in supporting local families.

You respond to our families when they ask for your help and, of course, there are many times when your expertise and experience means you can identify a concern within the school community.

During the Covid-19 crisis, schools across Kirklees have worked incredibly hard to implement and run a brand-new, and often extremely challenging, Free School Meals system. We know many of you have gone way beyond the call of duty in making sure children don't go hungry. For this, we again want to say thank you.

As you know, accessing Free School Meals is just one of the ways that local families can find help. The current pandemic is leading to an increased number of people who are experiencing – or are at risk of – financial hardship and food poverty. We therefore wanted to send you a summary of the help that is available for Kirklees families, from the benefits system through to support within our communities, so that you are able to signpost people to the right place.

Please see below the links and information – and thank you again for everything you do.

To see which benefits you may be entitled to, and for help with applying,
<https://www.betteroffkirklees.org.uk/#/home>

To find out whether you qualify for free school meals
<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/schools/free-school-meals.aspx>

Our Local Welfare Provision scheme helps vulnerable people in short-term crisis with food and essential items.
<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/benefits/local-welfare-provision.aspx>

Our coronavirus help and advice page shows the range of local organisations who can help
<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/health-and-well-being/coronavirus-help-in-your-community.aspx>

We also have a page all about financial support
<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/council-tax/covid19-financial-hardship.aspx>

You can find community response information in other languages
<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/health-and-well-being/coronavirus-languages.aspx>

The local number for our Covid-19 Community Response helpline is 0800 4561114 (8am to 6pm weekdays, 10am to 4pm weekends and bank holidays). This continues to be available, and we will happily call you back.

Please contact school if you need help with any of the above.

Something for the pupils

Know Your Young – name the young of the species below

Alligator.....

Dragon Fly.....

Hare.....

Kangaroo.....

Cat.....

Bison.....

Llama.....

Goose.....

Swan.....

Cheetah.....

Sea lion.....

Fly.....

Chinchilla.....

Eagle.....

Frog.....

Answers

hatchling, nymph, leverets, joey, kitten, calves, cria, gosling, cygnets, cubs, pup, larvae or maggot, kits, eaglet, polliwog, tadpole or froglet (depending on the stage of the life cycle

Something for the Huddersfield Town Fans

HISTORY OF HUDDERSFIELD TOWN CHALLENGE

Terry asks “How well do you know Huddersfield Town FC? Can you do some research about my favourite football club?”

- 1) Why does the Huddersfield Town badge have three stars on it? What makes the three stars on the Huddersfield Town badge extra special?
- 2) 14 players have been included in the PFA Team of the year since 1975, while playing for Huddersfield Town. Who are they? And, what year(s) were they included?
- 3) Which two players have won the Huddersfield Towns Player of the Year (Hargreaves Memorial Trophy) two years in a row since 2000?
- 4) Who are the top two all-time goal scorers for Huddersfield Town? How many goals have they scored?
- 5) What is special about the number 66,738 for Huddersfield Town fans?
- 6) What year was Huddersfield Town Founded?
- 7) In what year did the John Smith Stadium open?
- 9) What was the stadium called that the John Smith's Stadium replaced?
- 8) What is the capacity of the John Smith's Stadium?
- 9) The stadium used to be called the 'Alfred McAlpine'. Who is Alfred McAlpine?
- 10) Which team does Mr Taylor support?

HISTORY OF HUDDERSFIELD TOWN CHALLENGE 1) Huddersfield Town became the first English club to win three successive League titles in 1923/4, 1924/5 and 1925/6. This has only been matched by three other clubs – Arsenal, Manchester United and Liverpool. 2) Geoff Hutt (1975-76) Terry Poole (1976-77) Malcolm Brown (1979-80, 1980-81, 1981-82, 1982-83,) Ian Robins (1979-80) Simon Charlton (1991-92, 1992-93) Chris Marsden (1991-92) Iwan Roberts (1991-92) Tom Cowan (1994-95) Andy Booth (1994-95) Efe Sodje (2003-04) Anthony Pilkington (2010-11) Jack Hunt (2011-2012) Jordan Rhodes (2011-2012) Aaron Mooy (2016-17)

3) Peter Clarke (2010 and 2011) and Christopher Schindler (2018 and 2019).

4) George Brown and Jimmy Glazzard – 142, Andy Booth – 133 and Billy Smith 114.

5) The Class 66 train run by GB Railfreight, which carries the number 66738 is named 'Huddersfield Town'. It was named in a special ceremony at Huddersfield Railway Station almost three years ago by lifelong fan and Academy president Sir Patrick Stewart. The engine was built in 2005, is the second Huddersfield Town to grace the railway network. The club still have the nameplate from the original 'Huddersfield Town', the steam locomotive which was built in 1936 and was operational until 1960. That engine was Class B17/4, carrying the number 61653.

6) 1908. 7) 1994. 8) Leeds Road. 9) Alfred McAlpine had been the main construction contractor and its name was part of the payment contract for ten years.

10/ Stoke City

Cleaner

The Mast Academy Trust:

Birdsedge First School / Kirkburton Middle School / Scissett Middle School / Shelley First School

(Various hours and shift patterns, Fixed Term)

Salary: Grade 1, SCP 6 equivalent to £9.00 per hour

In response to the current Covid-19 pandemic we are looking for highly motivated cleaners to join our experienced site teams across our 4 schools within our academy trust on a fixed term basis.

We are looking for people who are hard working and able to uphold high standards of work even when under pressure. Roles will be assigned to individual schools however you may be required to work at any of the four Trust Schools with prior notice.

In return we can offer you:

- The opportunity to work with a fantastic team who enjoy working together.
- Support from experienced Site Managers.
- A commitment to health and safety and staff wellbeing at all times.

For further information about the post, please contact Sarah Walters, School Business Manager at: sarah.walters@shelleyfirstschool.co.uk

During lockdown, we propose to run remote interviews held via online video conferencing.

Applications must be received by noon on Friday 28th May 2020 and should be emailed to sarah.walters@shelleyfirstschool.co.uk