



Kirkburton Middle School – Parent Bulletin
26th June – 3rd July 2020

Headteacher Update

Welcome to our weekly bulletin on a week when the sunshine well and truly returned. I hope you've managed to find some time to enjoy the warm weather as a family. This week we welcomed back our second cohort of Year 6 pupils, it was great to see so many smiling faces on Monday morning and thankfully this continued throughout the week. Our Key worker provision has also proved extremely popular this week however this is now running at full capacity. Whilst it was also great to welcome back more staff into school, the majority of teaching staff remain working from home in order to facilitate the running of our remote learning operation. We have seen a big increase in the amount of work submitted via Google quizzes this week and staff are busy marking this ready to provide, in the main, whole class feedback and areas for improvement which we'll ask pupils to act upon. We shared our first set of termly rewards this week with the English department nominating their lockdown starts. I think it would be fair to say that the reaction to this video has been somewhat mixed. Some parents have commented very favourably on the video however it appears the content has also caused upset for some families and pupils. If this is the case we are naturally very sorry as this is never our intention in school. We appreciate that all pupils have been working hard through the lockdown period and we've been trying to recognise this in a variety of ways; posts on social media, emails and phone calls home, mentions in the parent bulletin, positive points on class charts. This video was just one further way of sharing our pupils' success. The school has a tradition of nominating pupil 'stars' at the end of each term and these are normally awarded in assembly and displayed in the school entrance. With the absence of assemblies at the end of this term, we felt this would be a nice way to keep this tradition going. Once again we'd like to state that we are very proud with the way all our pupils have approached this difficult period in time, not only in relation to their school work but also in the role they have played as a member of your family during lockdown. We may rethink how we reward our termly achievements in other subject areas.

We now know how many Year 6 pupils are due to join us for the final two weeks of term and based on the very limited spare capacity we have available in school, we hope to be able to offer those Year 7 pupils who would like to come into school before the end of term the opportunity to attend a pastoral review morning. We will write to parents with full details shortly and ask you state your attentions via a very short survey. The timescale for this will be quite tight and I thank you in advance for your support with this.

We are very much looking forward to saying goodbye to our Year 8 class of 2020 during our first socially distanced assemblies next week. Whilst not on the usual scale of events having had a sneak preview of the running order I'm sure it will provide pupils with an occasion to remember. If you haven't already seen it, Shelley College shared their virtual tour on their YouTube channel this week. A must for all pupils, please click [here](#) to view it.

As one year group leaves, another comes in to fill their space. Whilst the government regulations state we can't hold any transition activities on site for Year 5 pupils this year, we still have a very busy programme of transition activities underway. Year 5 pupils will receive a short transition activity to complete at home and return to school which will allow them to introduce themselves to their new form tutor. This will be accompanied by some short 'pen-portraits' which will introduce families to the Year 6 tutor team including our very own (friendly) Welsh Dragon – her words not mine! We are putting the final touches to our virtual tour of KMS which we'll share on our YouTube channel over the coming days. Finally I will be holding some question and answer sessions with our feeder First School pupils over the coming weeks which I am thoroughly looking forward to.

We hope you have been enjoying the photos on social media of our staff in their formative years – some very cute photos with the odd bruise as well. We continue to receive some excellent alternative KMS logos and it's clear to see pupils are continuing to engage in a wide variety of extra-curricular activities to supplement their school work.

I hope you have a good weekend and an enjoyable week ahead. It looks like the sun is leaving us for a short while. We hope it will return before the end of the school year and remind parents to send their child(ren) to school with a sun hat and sun cream when the weather is warm. Pupils should also bring a water bottle and, as always, we will provide plenty of opportunities for refilling bottles during the day.

Thank you for continued support of the work of the school.

Online safety

Further to the item in last week's bulletin about the use of social media, the Government has updated its guidance 'support for parents and carers to keep children safe online'. Further details can be found [here](#).

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 Y6. This week we find ourselves increasingly split between home and school yet still completing the same work but in very different circumstances. It was Fathers' day last Sunday and I got for my Dad (who happens to be the coolest person I know) Bob Dylan's new album. When I was younger, I didn't always appreciate Bob Dylan's unique style of singing but as I have got older, I appreciate his songs and lyrics so much more. He writes poetry to music and in fact won the Nobel Prize for literature because of this. If you aren't sure who I am talking about, have a listen to 'Blowin' in the wind' on Youtube or Spotify or 'Knocking on heaven's door'. The song my Dad always wrote in our birthday cards was a song called 'Forever Young'. If you get the chance, read the lyrics, they are lovely. Now as I have mentioned before, I am always proud to be a part of KMS however no more so when I see how you have all managed since March. The part of Forever Young that makes me think of how you and all the other young people have managed in the last 3 months is this-

May you grow up to be righteous
May you grow up to be true
May you always know the truth
And see the light surrounding you
May you always be courageous
Stand upright and be strong
May you stay forever young

Well said Bob!

This week take a moment for your parents/ carers, their support enables you to be the best you can be. Show them a little thanks and gratitude this week. I know they will be grateful in return.

Take care all, Miss Sharples.

PE

Olympic Torch Relay

The 23rd June was the birthday of the modern Olympic Games. To celebrate this every bubble completed the Olympic Torch Relay in one of their PE lessons. The best times for each bubble were taken to allow for a competition between all of the bubbles in school. The winning bubble was Mrs Taylor's Year 6 Key Worker Group! They completed the relay in 1 minute and 27 seconds exactly and have received a trophy for their classroom.

School Cross Country

Due to the hot weather, each group will now complete the cross country route in one of their PE lessons next week. We plan to walk the route just to familiarise the pupils with it in preparation for the event in the Autumn term. If your child had an injury that may be recovered for next week please inform the school office that they may now take part.

KMS Virtual Sports Day 2020

Hope you are all ok whether at home or in school. At this time of the year we should be enjoying the usual summer activities associated with the end of the school year such as trips away and various sporting events. In particular for Y8 this is very sad as you will not have experienced the great fun things we do such as the BBQ, Drayton Manor, The Maths Mile Challenge before leaving us for Upper School. Hopefully, Years 6 and 7 will be able to experience these in the future.

Therefore to bring a little bit of fun and competition into proceedings we are going to launch the following event next week.

Commencing Wednesday 1st July and Finishing Friday 10th July

Welcome everyone to the launch of Sports Day 2020 – 10 days – 10 Challenges!

This year our competition will all be done at home, with an online form which will collate results. As usual it will be a 'battle of the houses' with Reds, Greens, Blues and Yellows all competing to be the 2020 Sports Day Champions.

The competition has been launched in line with the YST National School Sports Week, which celebrates the important role of Physical Education and School Sport in enhancing young people's wellbeing.

What you need to do:

1. You have 10 days to complete 10 challenges – you can complete these at a time / day to suit you. You can do them all at once or you can do one a day for 10 days.
2. The activities and Google sheet record form will be sent as a link via Class Charts.
3. So you know what to do – each challenge has a demonstration card with an explanation.
4. You need to enter your rating on the gGogle sheet as "gold", "silver" , "bronze" for each of the challenges. You can only enter your data for any challenge once.
5. All scores will be collated for each house – and the house that gets the highest score at the end of the 10 days will be the Sports Day Champions.

The deadline for ALL scores to be inputted is Friday 10th July, 2020.

The winning house will be announced in the week beginning 13th July, 2020

Good Luck Everyone

The KMS PE Team (Mrs Joyce, Mr Martin, Mr Killock)

Bikeability

Bikeability will now take place on the week beginning the 6th July and not 29th June, if a child has been given a place they will receive confirmation of this telling them whether they are on the course on the Monday and Tuesday or the Wednesday and Thursday. If they do not receive confirmation they will not have been successful in gaining a place this time. This opportunity will arise again next year.

Music

Online music resources: Just a reminder that there are some very useful resources on the Musica website. There are instrument tutorials, resources for curriculum music and projects for children learning to play an instrument together with tailor-made activities so you can maintain your practice routine. Just follow the links below and continue to enjoy your music making.

<https://www.musicakirklees.org/resources-for-small-groupindividual-tuition#w>

Something for the family

1. How many Prime Ministers has England had?
2. What are the names of Henry VIII wives?
3. What food is traditionally eaten at Wimbledon?
4. How many stars on the Brazilian flag?
5. How many players in a rugby team?

Answers

1. 14
2. Catherine Parr, Catherine of Aragon, Catherine Howard, Anne of Cleves, Jane Seymour and Anne Boleyn
3. Strawberries and cream
4. 27
5. 15