



# KIRKBURTON MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER CHRISTMAS 2019

**Wish everyone a wonderful Christmas!!**

## Upcoming dates:

**Monday 13th January—**  
Outdoor Clothing sale

**Tuesday 14th January -**  
Meet the new Headteacher evening

**23rd /28th January—Year 8**  
Parents evening (s)

**6th/11th February—Year 6**  
Parents evening (s)

As we come to the end of another very busy half term here at Kirkburton Middle School, I would like to take this opportunity to bring you up-to-date with events in school. It has been a privilege for me to work alongside the amazing young people who come here and the committed and dedicated staff for the last few months. The pupils at Kirkburton are polite, responsible and kind young people. It has been fantastic to see how those who step forward to take on responsibility, are proud to represent their school in the many events which happen here. Mr Taylor has also written a letter introducing himself, and I would encourage all parents to read it as it will allow you to get a glimpse of our new Headteacher and his immense enthusiasm and pride in joining the school in January.

**Natasha Greenough.**

## **Successes and celebrations:**

Swimming – huge congratulations to Molly, who competed, in September, at the Yorkshire championship and won a Bronze medal in the 50m Breaststroke in a time of 38.8. She has been trying for nearly a year to break the 40 second mark and she smashed it! This is an amazing achievement.

Tyke Cyclo—huge congratulations to Oliver who was 3rd overall in his class at the Trial Club Championships 2019. It is a 7 round event and the final round took place in November. This is his first full year of competition. This is a fantastic achievement!

A big well done to everyone who performed at the Christmas Carol Service and at Kirkburton's first Positive Awards Assembly. The Carol service was a wonderful event and the talent of the pupils who performed was clear to see alongside the confidence to perform. It certainly got everyone who attended into the Christmas spirit.

Well done too to William who competed in the West Yorkshire Cross Country Competition in Keighley in the U13s despite being 2 years younger!

Well done to everyone who has tried something new this term and succeeded or failed. This is how we learn and grow and we are proud of each and everyone of you!

## **Message from a Pupil: Sarah Year 8:**

*I am asking for families to support me in raising money for the Bone Cancer Research Trust (BCRT) so they can carry on funding vital research to help save lives and support those living with any type of bone cancer. By just sending any small, large, fancy, foreign or franked stamps into school who have agreed to send them directly to the BCRT, you will be helping this charity as the stamps they receive can be turned into cash! I know first hand how important this research and money is. Many thanks and have a happy Christmas!*

**Sarah (Year 8)**

## Staffing Update

As you will be aware, we say farewell to a few staff this term. Mr Johnson, who has been headteacher at Kirkburton for many years, and Mrs Jackson who has also been at the school for a considerable time, both retire. Thank you to parents and carers who have sent in well wishes and cards which have all been passed on to them both. We also say goodbye to Mrs Proctor who leaves us to move on to a new position. We wish all 3 every happiness for the future. Mrs Lord has been with us as interim headteacher. She will move back to Honley High School when Mr Taylor takes up full time position in January. We are very grateful for everything Mrs Lord has done for the school over the last half term.. As well as Mr Taylor, we also welcome Miss Coburn, who joins our Teaching Assistant Team as an Intern. We also have 2 new appointments, with Miss Sharples taking up post as Head of Year 6 and Mrs Schofield will become full time Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator

**Languages Club:** Our Languages club has been meeting on a Friday lunchtime. We have been learning Spanish, Russian and Mandarin! We hope to see some more pupils in the new year!

**Craft Club:** We set up a new craft club this term machining 'Pom Poms' and Christmas decorations. This will continue after Christmas where the focus will be Mothers' Day and we will also be looking to Holmfirth Art Week in the Summer.

**Careers:** All year groups have been introduced to careers this half term through assemblies. We have also had visitors in school to talk about apprenticeships to KS3 pupils. We have a new careers corner in the Library with lots of information for choices at 16 years old which pupils can access. Next term, we see visits to both further education and higher education institutions along with a Year 7 visit to a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) fair at Magna

### Classcharts—from Mr MacIntyre

As you are aware we are currently reviewing our behaviour policy and in the near future we will be involving parents in that process and wider school developments. As we work to update class charts we are considering the mental health of some of our students. Some students struggle with the negatives, especially where a comment is attached so we will be disabling the negative information on student accounts, only leaving it showing on the parental account. This update is to keep you informed but also to remind you of your parent account information so that you can access all the relevant information and be informed when speaking with your child about their day at school.

If you need a login for classcharts, please contact the office and we can sort this out for you.

### Carol Service 2019 - from Miss Kaye

What can I say? Another great, successful event in our school calendar. An event that I look forward to every year and it only gets better. All of you who took part were absolutely fantastic and a credit to yourself and the school. You should be extremely proud of yourselves and each other. Every one of you contributed to making the evening special, magical and festive and as I said in the rehearsal in the morning a time for making memories. You did just that. I am so proud of all of you and it has been a pleasure to work with you all in preparation for this event. Thank you all for your hard work and commitment to making music and presenting readings of such high quality. Thanks as always to Musica staff who have worked with most of you each week and our staff for your continued support. Sincere thanks also to parents of Logan, Joseph, Hettie, Hope and Iggy for their help in walking the pupils to and from the church for the morning rehearsal and support in the evening. Mr Taylor emailed the school to pass on his congratulations to you all - 'The pupils showed maturity beyond their years and were a credit to themselves, their families'.

### OUTDOOR (SKI) CLOTHING SALE Mon 13 Jan 3:35-5pm

Eden's Forest, a social enterprise from Honley, who work to improve the mental and physical health of children, young people and adults, have offered to hold a clothing sale at school. One of their partners, TOG24, support them with donations of their entire range of jackets & other items. All are regarded as 'good quality seconds'. They have their agreement to sell the best of these returns, with up to 85% off RRP. School also benefits with a share of income. This clothing is ideal for the school ski trip, outdoor activities and also for these cold winter months. For more information, see our Twitter and Facebook pages

### Sporting news!! From Mr Martin

Year 6 Boys Football: The Year 6 Boys have had a fantastic start to the season with great performances in the Y6 Mini League and Floodlit Football Competitions. They remain unbeaten and now look forward to representing Huddersfield Schools in the 7 a side Floodlit Competition after winning the Kirklees Round in December. The boys have displayed superb teamwork and camaraderie and are getting better with every game.

Year 6 Interhouse Football: A hugely successful and popular event with over 30 boys and girls representing their respective Houses during lunchtime games. Some great entertaining football and very tightly contested. Congratulations to GREEN House who were crowned this Year's Champions. Awards ceremony to follow after the Xmas Break.

Year 7 Football: The weather has played havoc with the fixtures this season but we did play a very entertaining game against our good friends Scissett, drawing the game 4-4. The highlight of the season so far is winning the U12 5 A-Side Indoor Competition held recently at Holmfirth High. A tremendous, competitive competition with KMS defeating Holmfirth 3-1 in the final. We now look forward to the West Yorkshire Finals in January. Again a great bunch of lads to work with and very talented players.

Y6 Sports Hall Athletics: We had our first competition held at Newsome High in December competing against Rowley Lane, Hillside and Lepton. Gallant efforts and commitment from all athletes resulted in KMS winning the event and progressing through to the Newsome Partnership Finals in January. A big well done to all!

A huge thankyou to all parents who have come along and supported our various events this year. It really is appreciated by the pupils and staff in school

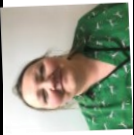
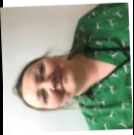
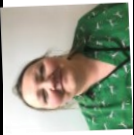
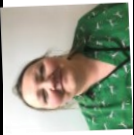
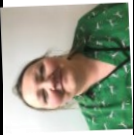
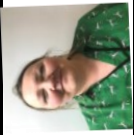
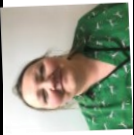
**Post Ofsted updates:** We sent out a full list of the actions taken since our Inspection at the beginning of October. We continue to drive forward standards in school. The information relating to Careers is reported separately in the newsletter. Since the last update, we have also:

- ◆ Had our full action plan approved by Ofsted as appropriate in addressing the 'Next Steps'.
- ◆ Held a drop down morning for pupils about different issues relating to safety where they were excited to discuss and debate topics such as on line safety and healthy relationships.
- ◆ Had PC Baines, Safe Schools Officer, in to run workshops for pupils on 'county lines'. This is an issue which parents may have read about in the press. It relates to young people being drawn into 'gangs' to move drugs particularly in rural areas.
- ◆ Had 15 pupils apply to be Well Being Ambassadors. All have been accepted and we are excited to get the programme up and running in the new year.
- ◆ Welcomed two new colleagues to the Governing Body. Mrs Godman, who is a Trustee with an educational background and Mrs R Potter who is chair of Governors at Scissett Middle School

**Absence reporting:** Please can we remind parents to telephone school to report an absence if your child is unable to attend due to ill health. You must do this for each day of absence. We will contact home where children are not reported absent but are not in school to ensure they are safe and well. This can take a long time, so we would be grateful if parents could adhere to this process. New guidance stipulates that if we cannot contact a parent/carer, we may need to do a home visit or report to Police for a welfare check. This is for safeguarding reasons and follows a national case where children were left vulnerable due to a bereavement of a lone parent in the household. We are very grateful for parents support on this matter.

## Communication

Some of the feedback from parents has been around communication and who to contact in school. Please find a table below to guide you. We will send this out again in the new year with some more specific information about who to contact in different circumstances

	Name	Role	Contact when...	Email
	Miss Sharples	Head of Year 6	You need to talk to someone about a concern for a child in Year 6 which cannot be dealt with by the class teacher.	j.shelburn@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk
	Mr Martin	Head of Martin House	You need to talk to someone about a concern for a child in Martin House (Classes: CT; DS; CD; CM; TW; CA) which cannot be dealt with by the classteacher.	d.martin@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk
	Mr James	Head of James House	You need to talk to someone about a concern for a child in James House (Classes: SK; JS; BT; JW; IP; SC) which cannot be dealt with by the classteacher.	j.james@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk
	Mr MacIntyre	Assistant Headteacher Pastoral	Designated Safeguarding adult. You have a serious concern about a child's welfare or you wish to escalate a concern relating to a pastoral matter.	a.macintyre@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk
	Mrs Schofield	SENDCO	Designated Safeguarding adult If you have a concern which relates to a learning need for your child. This can be children with EHCPs or IEPs (Individual Education Plans) or if you feel your child may need support with an additional learning need.	R.schofield@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk
	Mrs Senior	Acting Deputy Headteacher	Designated Senior lead for safeguarding	g.senior@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk
	Mr Taylor	Headteacher	Overall strategic lead for the school community.	c.taylor@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk