



# Kirkburton Middle School - Parent Bulletin

## 14 May – 28 May 2021

### Issue: 14

#### In this issue

Message from Mr Taylor

SENDCO

RHSE

Gardening Club

Art Competition

Support Services

Subject of the fortnight

#### Word from the Head

Welcome to our fortnightly parent bulletin, I hope you and your family are well.

It has been another very busy couple of weeks in school and it is hard to believe we are almost halfway through May – possibly due in part to the recent weather.

#### Face Coverings to remain

As you may be aware, as part of the ongoing easing of restrictions, the government has announced that pupils will not need to wear face coverings in classrooms across the country from Monday. There is the option for local authorities to enforce face coverings where they have concerns. We have received the following from Kirklees.

**After taking advice from colleagues in Public Health and given the situation in Kirklees we are recommending locally that our Head Teachers retain face coverings for students and staff in the classroom until rates are lower locally and the vaccination programme has progressed further. We will continue to provide regular updates on rates and any other local factors (such as new variants), and will let you know if this recommendation changes.**

Whilst we are all desperate to get to a point where face coverings are no longer needed in lessons, we fully support this decision and feel many parents will feel a sense of relief at this approach. Pupils have been brilliant in the way they have responded to this issue and we ask them to keep this up for just a short while longer. Parents are reminded that all pupils must bring their own face covering each day. Where pupils regularly fail to bring a face covering, detentions will be issued.

#### INSET Day

We have had a very productive day in school for our penultimate INSET day of the year (the final one is Monday 26 July). Teachers have been updating their curriculum plans in light of the recent lockdown and partial closure in order to ensure key topics are covered before the end of the academic year. We have also been looking at different strategies to support pupils to know more and remember more.

#### Expectations

We will be running a series of assemblies next week reminding pupils of our core expectations as a school. Whilst, as always, the overwhelming majority of pupils meet and often exceed our expectations on a daily basis, we are becoming increasingly concerned that there are some bad habits creeping in with some pupils as we near the end of the school year. We would ask for your help in reinforcing the following-

- Ensuring pupils arrive in time and fully equipped to school. See [here](#) for more details.
- Reminding pupils that they must try their hardest in every lesson, particularly with their written work.
- Reminding pupils to be polite and courteous at all times, both in and out of school.

## Year 5 Transition

We held our first transition visit on Thursday this week. Mrs Senior, Mr Parker and Miss Sharples spent the morning at Thurstonland First School getting to know the Year 5 pupils and talking to them about what they can expect when they join us in September. I believe the highlight was Miss Sharples' rockets on the school playground. We look forward to visiting all our other feeder first schools over the coming weeks.

## Chair of Trustees visit

It was a pleasure to host Mr Phil Marshall, who is the new Chair of the Mast Academy Trust, this week. During his time with us Phil had a tour of the school, visited lessons, observed and spoke to the gardening club, met with senior leaders and had lunch with members of the school council. He was also treated to a musical performance by three of our very talented Year 7 pupils. Phil asked I pass on his thanks to everybody who made him feel so welcome and we look forward to working with Phil in his new role.

## OFSTED update

At the time of writing this, the report from our recent monitoring visit has still not been published on the OFSTED website. It can however be found [here](#) on the school website. We now look forward to inviting inspectors on site later this term for our next section 8 monitoring visit.

Thank you for your ongoing support and I hope you have a good weekend.

Mr Taylor

## Morning Punctuality

**Please can we remind parents that school starts at 8.55am, this is the latest time we expect pupils to be arriving at their classroom door not entering the school grounds.** We continue to have pupils late each day and detentions will be issued for repeated lateness.

Mr MacIntyre

## SENDCO

Please note that Mrs Senior is currently covering the SENDCO role within school and can be contacted via the school office. Many thanks.

Mrs Senior

## RHSE

### Relationships, Sex and Health Education

As part of our PSHCE lessons, students in all year groups will be moving onto our RSHE units of learning over the next few weeks. Our Relationship, Sex and Health Education policy can be viewed on our school website, along with examples of lesson resources used. Please contact school if you would like any further information.

Mrs Johnson

## Gardening Club

### How Does Your Garden Grow?

Gardening Club is up and running and it's great to welcome the pupils back.

After buying seed potatoes back in February the pupils have finally planted one each in a large pot as part the Potato Competition – who can grow the most by weight and who can grow the biggest.

During lockdown I have been busy sowing a variety of seeds so the pupils can plant them straight into their beds, again for the end of term competition, 'Design a garden to attract wildlife .....' but they have also made a start by sowing a selection of seeds.

All we need now is good growing weather!

**We are always looking for people to help support with our gardening club. We meet once a week and would welcome new volunteers to come and work with the children. If you yourself cannot help, please feel free to spread the message to those who can.**

Happy gardening,

Mrs. Seed

## Careers

This is a great Careers quiz to do on the icould.com website. It is called the Buzz Quiz and it takes minutes!!!! When the students have completed the quiz it matches their personalities and skills to Career preferences. It is fun and very informative. Give it a go Kirkburton.

Mrs Greenleaf



## Planner Competition

Please see below for details about our exciting planner competition.



# Planner Competition Year 6 and 7



Design the front cover of next year's planner 2021/2022

## **What do you have to do?**

Produce a design suitable to be printed on the front of next year's school planner.

It can be A4 or A5.

Use **bright colours** as it has to be printed.

Do not use metallic, glitter or highlighter pens.

It can be on any theme you like.

Inspiration could come from the local area, school or a particular subject you enjoy.

I am looking for a **creative design** that is well – composed.

Art work can be hand drawn or digitally produced and emailed to [j.aaron@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk](mailto:j.aaron@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk)

You do not need to include any wording if you don't want to.

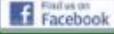
All entries need to be handed in to the school office or Mrs Aaron by **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021**.

Lots of prizes to win!

Please note the information below issued from one of our uniform providers.






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**Thursday:** 10:00am - 7:00pm  
**Friday:** 10:00am - 5:00pm  
**Saturday:** 9:00am - 5:00pm

 **In August we open at  
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For your convenience we open **MONDAYS**  
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## **School Safeguarding Contacts**

Mrs Senior – Safeguarding Lead

[g.senior@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk](mailto:g.senior@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk)

Mr MacIntyre – Deputy Safeguarding Lead

[a.macintyre@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk](mailto:a.macintyre@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk)

## **Kirklees Support Services**

### **Thriving Kirklees**

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

[www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk](http://www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk)

0300 304 5555

### **Northorpe Hall – Kirklees**

Children’s mental and emotional health service

[www.northorpehall.co.uk](http://www.northorpehall.co.uk)

01924 492183

### **Kirklees Children’s Services**

Safeguarding Services

[www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk](http://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](http://www.childline.org.uk)

0800 1111

### **NSPCC**

Support for Parents and Children

[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

Parents/carers – 0808 800 5000

Children – Via Childline 0800 1111

