Kirkburton Middle School - Parent Bulletin 12 October – 23 October 2020 Issue:



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Word from the Head

I hope you and your family are well and you have had a good week. I'm pleased to report that we've had a really positive last two weeks in school. The return to KMS has been a challenge for all; making the school 'Covid safe' has meant we've not been able to offer the full range of exciting activities that makes KMS such a special place. Our new routines and expectations are finally becoming embedded however and we have been extremely impressed with the behaviour of the vast majority of pupils since the return to school. At our staff meeting this week I set staff the challenge to see how we can bring back our extra-curricular and enrichment offer in a Covid safe way. This will take time but we are very aware that these are the things pupils remember the most about school.

Following our data management system upgrade in the summer, we have now got class charts back up and running. We hope to bring in a couple of new features this year which we hope will enable you to feel even closer to your child's schooling. More details to follow.

We are finalising arrangements for our Year 6 settling in parents evening which will take place during the second week after half-term. Unfortunately this will have to be held remotely and more details will follow next week. We are also finalising our virtual open evening which we hope will be on the website shortly after half-term.

Can I thank you for your support in ensuring your child gets to school on time each day. We've had less of an issue with pupils gathering at the skate park each morning however some pupils, particularly those on bikes, often meet up in the morning and sometimes arrive very close to the start of school.

If your child travels on a bus, please could you remind them that they must stay sat down for the entire journey and they must not leave their seat until the bus has stopped. We reinforced this message with the pupils this week and they have responded well. We've also reminded the pupils that if we have any reports of dangerous behaviour on the buses, we'll be forced to issue temporary or permanent bus ban.

We are obviously watching the national picture very closely in relation to the government's response to Covid-19. We will continue to follow all guidance we receive and, in the meantime, ask that pupils and families continue to do their bit to fight the ongoing spread of the virus.

As this is the last parent bulletin before half-term, I wish you all the best for the end of the month and look forward to writing again in November.

Mr Taylor

Year 9 Application for High School

The deadline for High School 2021/22 application is Saturday 31st October for all Year 8 pupils. The local authority have asked parents to complete their applications by Friday 23rd October in order to allow them time to sort out any issues prior to the deadline. Please contact school if you have any questions regarding this.

Go to - www.kirklees.gov.uk/admissions

School Gates and Face Coverings

A small number of pupils are arriving to school after the gates have been locked and forgetting a face covering, please note the gates are locked by 9:00am and the gate at the front of the school must be used after this time. Many thanks for your support with this matter.

Maths Department

For all families who are keen puzzle solvers, try:

https://www.treasuretrails.co.uk/hidden-treasure/freestuff

Scroll halfway down the page and join The Puzzle Academy.

Free puzzles to solve and a competition to enter. Good Luck!

Year 6 Parents – TT Rockstars

Well done 8C! KMS TT Rockstars winners! 7B are the best overall in Year 7 and 6C are the best overall in Year 6

A battle has now commenced between the Year 6 Maths Classes...who will be the highest scoring Year 6 Maths Class? You have until next Thursday Evening.

Good luck.



Technology Contribution

A gentle reminder that we still have a few outstanding contributions and return slips. Many thanks in advance.

Kind regards – Mrs Charlesworth / Mr Townend

School lunches

Please note after half-term we will be serving hot puddings.

All pupils should now be set up on ParentPay. A gentle reminder that these accounts need to have been credited in preparation for Monday and the following week; alternatively cash can be sent to school in a named envelope. Many thanks for your support.



Careers

I have found a super free online website that is really user friendly for our children. All they have to do is put in their email from school and use at home on phones or computers etc.

Panjango online.

Mrs Greenleaf



'Black History Month – STEM Careers'

Please see below which Science are showing for Careers this week:



<u>Charlotte Armah</u> <u>Sanjeev Gupta</u> Jassel Black Scientists: Past, Present and Future



PE Autumn Term 2

Please note the following information:

Year 6 Boys and Girls: Hockey and Gymnastics from October half term until Christmas. All will require shin pads for hockey and should bring these in their bags on PE days.

Year 7 Boys: Football and Table Tennis. They will require shin pads for Football and should bring these in their bags on PE days.

Year 7 Girls: Gymnastics and Netball.

Year 8 Boys: Hockey, Basketball and Taekwondo. They will require shin pads for Hockey and should bring these in their bags on PE days.

Year 8 Girls: Gymnastics and Netball.

Many thanks – The PE Department

Covid

We ask pupils and their families for their ongoing support in doing everything they possible can to keep any infection out of school. We will continue to work in line with our approved risk assessment in order to keep 'contacts' between pupils and staff to an absolute minimum. Please could parents continued to reinforce the following with their children -

- Maintain high levels of hand hygiene and avoid touching their face.
- Tell an adult if they feel unwell.
- Following social distancing rules where possible.
- Keep their hands to themselves particularly at social times.
- Face coverings must be worn at all times on the buses.
- We recommend all pupils wear face coverings when moving around the school building.
- Follow 'catch-it, bin-it, kill-it.'
- Remember 'Hands, Face, Space.'

Please see below for the latest government guidance. We have also sent out the latest 'Kirklees School child isolation guide for parents' with this bulletin and would ask all parents use this to guide them with any decision in relation to Covid-19. This will be the document we will use as a school when giving guidance.

- Hands, face, space video
- What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term
- <u>COVID-19: guidance for households with possible</u> <u>coronavirus infection</u>
- Testing and tracing for coronavirus
- How to wear a fabric mask safely

Please click <u>here</u> to view the Covid-19 page of our school website where we will post the latest information for parents.

