



Kirkburton Middle School - Parent Bulletin

17 - 30 September 2021

Issue: 18



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Word from the Head

Welcome to our first fortnightly parent bulletin of the year and a particular welcome to those families who are new to the school and reading this for the first time.

We've got a very busy bulletin so (for once) I'll keep my section brief, something I'll try and stick to over the coming weeks.

I'd just like to take this opportunity to say how delighted I am with the way the first two weeks have gone. The start of a new school year is always an exciting time however this year feels particularly special. There is a real sense of optimism around school; our very special school feels even more special at the moment in time. It has been great seeing the pupils moving around the building to specialist rooms once more, friendships which had been split by bubbles have been reformed and our legendary extra-curricular offer is starting to take shape once again.

All this doesn't happen by accident and so I'd like to thank all the staff for their efforts to make the start of term run so smoothly, parents for your ongoing support of the work of the school and finally our (your) wonderful pupils who have been so fantastic on their return to school. Their attitudes, work ethic and behaviour have been exemplary.

I can't wait to see what this year will bring. I'm sure it will be an extremely positive year for all.

Mr Taylor

Covid-19 Vaccine

As you are aware, 'the UK's chief medical officers have recommended a single vaccine dose for 12 to 15-year-olds - who are deemed at very low risk from the disease - saying factors such as disruption to education tipped the balance.'

We have been chosen as the first school in Kirklees to receive the vaccine and all year 8 parents should receive a letter and consent form today with further details. We ask all consent forms are returned on Monday 20th September.

The local authority has taken the decision to only offer the vaccine in schools to year 8 and above. They will shortly be publicising how those pupils who are in year 7 and have turned 12 can access the vaccine. As soon as we have this information we will share it with you.

Open Evening

We are pleased to announce that our annual open evening for prospective parents returns on Thursday 30th September. Please share this news with members of your community. [Further details can be found by clicking here.](#)

School Uniform

It has been great to see the vast majority of pupils arriving in perfect school uniform each day. Thank you for your support with this. Can we remind parents that black trainers, or any type of trainer, must not be worn in school. We also ask that pupils bring a coat to school as, wherever possible, we will send the pupils outside to play during social times.

[Please see here for further details about our school uniform expectations.](#)

School Buses

We are aware of issues with the timings of some of the school buses this week. We are working with the companies involved to address this. [Please see here for full details about the school buses which serve KMS.](#)

We remind parents that the government guidance for school buses states 'The government has removed the requirement to wear face coverings in law but expects and recommends that they are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where you may come into contact with people you don't normally meet. This includes public transport and dedicated transport to school or college.'
We thank you for your support with this.

School Catering

Parents are reminded that our school meals are now provided by Academy Catering. We have always been extremely happy with the quality of the meals served in school however academy are looking to take this to the next level. They pride themselves on ensuring meals are cooked from scratch using the freshest ingredients. To date we have been extremely impressed with the service. Feedback from pupils has also been very positive. Please see the attached documents for further details about our catering offer.

Please note-

- From Monday we will be offering a break time service. Some of you may remember this as the Burton Bistro. Each year group will be allocated a day when they can attend the Bistro.
- Pupil must have credit on their ParentPay account to purchase food at break time.
- Pupils in receipt of free school meals will only be able to purchase food at break time if they have additional credit on their ParentPay account.
- To qualify for the meal deal, pupils must chose still water only as their drink option.
- You can view your child's meal choices through ParentPay.
- We do not serve hot drinks in school.

Lost property

Please note we have several coats and other items in lost property, if your child has lost anything please ask them to come to the school office.

Year 6

Just a brief message to thank you to all the parents/carers of Year 6 pupils for their support with the start of the year for our new pupils. The pupils have excelled themselves with their mature, willing and positive attitude to the start of their school career at KMS. Although we are still having a small number of teething issues with lost equipment and the navigation of the one-way system around school, on the whole it has been an excellent start to the year.

Can I take this opportunity to thank your child's form tutor for the support that they have given to the children in their class. Their time, effort and nurture has provided the platform for the successful start we have had in Year 6.

If I could just ask parents for their support with the following issues:

Please could pupils' names and form groups be written/attached to their belongings. If they lose something in school, it allows us to return the item(s) much more quickly.

Please could you check with your child that they have their planner/ correct equipment for the day. Again, this helps us in school when pupils arrive with what they need to successfully participate in lessons.

As autumn starts to arrive in full, could you please ensure your child has an appropriate coat for school. This does allow them to enjoy playing outside with their friends in greater comfort.

Once again thank you for your support with the start of the year. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact your child's form tutor or myself. We are always here to help and support your child during their time in year 6.

Mr Parker - Head of Year 6

GL Assessments – Year 6

From Friday 17th September we will be conducting GL progress tests in English and Mathematics. These will take place in Maths and English Lessons and there will be no disruption to the timetable. Each test is standardised against national benchmarks and the tests will provide key information to support your child's progress in preparation for the academic year including:

- To show where your child is at now and identify any additional support;
- To identify gaps in knowledge;
- To allow adjustments to learning, teaching, assessment and planning
- To indicate potential performance in Key Stage 2 Assessments

Your son/daughter will not be required to revise or study for the GL tests.

Science

We are looking forward to the year ahead in the Science department at Kirkburton Middle School. This year our homework is going to consist of two parts: keywords and online quizzes. The quizzes will be set on SENECA learning, this is a website that is free for all students to use and contains short, self-assessed quizzes that will be set by your child's science teacher.

The first science homework for this year is going to be for our students to sign up to SENECA, here are some instructions for getting signed up:

1. Type this website into your search engine: <https://app.senecalearning.com/sign-up>
2. Follow the instructions to sign up using first name and surname.
3. It will ask for a parent email address to allow account recovery.
4. In lessons teachers will share a class code that students can enter individually to access their homework.

Good luck the Science Department

Music Exam success

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been successful in their instrument and singing exams.

Iggy K (Yr8) Grade 1 Bassoon passed his with DISTINCTION

Jessica E (Yr8) passed her Grade 3 singing with MERIT

Evelyn M (Yr7) passed her Grade 3 Piano with MERIT and also passed her Grade 2 Musical Theatre exam.

Frankie P (Yr9) passed his Grade 3 Electric Guitar exam.

Music Enrichment

We are pleased to announce that ALL Music enrichment clubs are up and running. Please encourage and remind of when they are. All clubs start at 12.15 and are held in the Music room and are led by Musica staff and Miss Kaye.

Monday – African Drumming – anyone to attend. Boys and girls in ALL years

Tuesday – String Group – for ALL Violin, Viola and Cello players.

Thursday – Windband – for ALL Brass and Woodwind players.

Friday – Pop Choir – anyone to attend. Boys and girls in ALL years

Miss Kaye

PE

Please see below for our extra-curricular PE offer this half-term. It has been great to see so many pupils attending lunchtime sessions this week. All pupils must return a permission slip for after school sessions. Letters available from the school office.

The PE Department



DAY	LUNCHTIME (12.15 to 12.45)	AFTER SCHOOL (3:45 – 4:45 PM)
MONDAY	Year 6 Boys Football (SK +DM) Year 7 Boys Football (AL) Year 6 and 7 Girls Football (VJ)	All Years Hockey Boys and Girls (VJ) Year 6 Boys Football (KM)
TUESDAY	Y6 High 5 Netball Boys and Girls (VJ)	
WEDNESDAY	Y7 and 8 Netball Boys and Girls (VJ)	All Years Dance Club Boys and Girls (Coaches) Year 7 Boys Football (SE)
THURSDAY	Year 6 Boys Football (SK +DM) Year 7 Boys Football (AL) Year 6 and 7 Girls Football (VJ)	Year 6 High 5 Netball Boys and Girls (EN)
FRIDAY	Year 8 Boys Football (SK+DM) Year 8 Girls Football (VJ)	

Parent Contact Information

Please notify us of absences daily on 01484 222737 before 9:30am

Parents* are encouraged to seek advice and support from the school should they have any problems or concerns relating to their child. Parents can contact the school; in writing, via email, in person (by appointment) or by telephone. Staff will endeavour to respond to any communications from parents as soon as they can. Their contact with you will be professional and courteous. We respectfully ask that parents show that same courtesy in their communications with our staff.

Your first point of contact should be with your child's **Form Tutor** as they will get to know your child on a daily basis. You can contact the school on **01484 222737**. Please leave a message and allow **48hrs** for a response.

When contacting school if your query is subject specific then please contact your child's subject teacher in the first instance or the Head of Department. For any pastoral concerns please contact your child's **Form Tutor** or the Head of Key Stage.

For general email enquiries please use the school email address:
office@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk

If you wish to contact a member of staff directly via email you will need to know their first initial and the correct spelling of their surname. Example: j.smith@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk

Parent Bulletin
Available via the website in the *Parents* section and is also emailed to parents via the school app.

Parents' Evening Appointments

Appointments are now made electronically via our parental engagement app Edulink One

For more information regarding Parents' Evening Appointments please visit the school website:
www.kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk/parents

*The term 'parent' includes any person or body with parental responsibility such as a foster parent, carer, guardian or local authority.

**Bee Netball & Under 12's
Thursday night netball sessions**

If you're interested in playing for a netball outside of school and getting some extra practice. Come and join us at Huddersfield Giants Netball Club.

Thursday netball sessions (for all abilities)
 Years 3-5 5-6pm
 Years 6-7 6-7.30pm
 Huddersfield New College New Hey Road HD3 4JL

*school year as of September 2021

Please contact: gracewagg04@gmail.com for further information

School Safeguarding Contacts

Mrs Senior – Safeguarding Lead

g.senior@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk

Mr MacIntyre – Deputy Safeguarding Lead

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

0300 304 5555

Northorpe Hall – Kirklees

Children’s mental and emotional health
service

www.northorpehall.co.uk

01924 492183

Kirklees Children’s Services

Safeguarding Services

www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk

01484 456848

Thriving Kirklees

Chathealth – Text message services for young
people – direct link to School Nurse

07520618866

Childline

www.childline.org.uk

0800 1111

NSPCC

Support for Parents and Children

www.nspcc.org.uk

Parents/carers – 0808 800 5000

Children – Via Childline 0800 1111

