



Kirkburton Middle School - Parent Bulletin

18 – 31 December 2020

Issue: 6



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Word from the Head

Welcome to our final parent bulletin of the calendar year and my first year as Headteacher at KMS. I cannot believe how quickly time has gone and it only seem five minutes ago since I stepped through the door in January.

Thankfully, it has been particularly a quiet first year in post..... None of us could have predicted what 2020 would have held and whilst it has been an extremely difficult year for us all, it has provided opportunities for us to reflect on the things that are most important in life. For me, life is all about people: family, friends, colleagues, neighbours. Throughout the country, we have seen some fantastic examples of communities pulling together to support each and high profile figures stepping standing up for those in need. This has also been the case within our school and wider community and, as I have said before, this is something we must not lose when things finally improve.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and the wider community for their fantastic support throughout the year. It has without doubt been the most difficult year of my teaching career to date but also, despite all the challenges, one of the most enjoyable. I cannot wait to see where the next twelve months will take us. With such a hardworking and dedicated staff group, fantastic pupils and wonderful parental support, I

know it will be an extremely positive year for KMS regardless of the ongoing challenges.

From everybody at KMS, I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year.

Mr Taylor

Stop Press - Return to school in January

The government announced yesterday evening that there is to be a staggered start to the return to school in January. We are awaiting further guidance from the Department for Education and we will write to all parents when we know what this will look like for our school.

Parent forum

Last week we held our first parent forum where, amongst other things, we discussed school reports, homework and wellbeing. Thank you to all parents who gave up their time to attend; we received some excellent feedback on the work of the school to date and plenty of things to think about moving forward. **Please click [here](#) for more details about our parent forum.**

Christmas week

At the start of December, I set colleagues the challenge of bringing Christmas to KMS – they certainly achieved this. We’ve decorated the school (thank you to those parents who donated trees and decorations), held a whole school Christmas celebration assembly, taken Year 6 to a virtual pantomime (oh yes we did), served the most fantastic Christmas lunch, put on a virtual carol service, held a Santa run and celebrated the end of term with form group parties. Thank you to all staff for their support with this, in particular; Ms Clark our very own Mrs Christmas, Miss Kaye for the carol service, the kitchen team for an amazing lunch, the PE department for the Santa run and Mr Parker for organising the pantomime.

Annual parent survey

Today we are launching our annual parent survey. This will give you the opportunity to feedback on the work of the school and it will help us shape our priorities moving forward. For those parents with two children in the school, you can either complete one survey for both children or you may wish to complete the survey twice but with a different child in mind each time. Thank you in advance for your support with this, your views are important and they really do matter to us. **Please click [here](#) to access the survey.**

Admissions

A reminder that January 15th is the deadline for applying for a place for our 2021 Year 6 cohort. **Full details about admission to KMS can be found [here](#).** Please feel free to share this information with friends and neighbours.

Contact tracing

A reminder that schools are still responsible for contact tracing over the coming days as follows:

- You should continue to contact us if your child develops Covid 19 symptoms on or before Sunday 20th December and subsequently tests positive for coronavirus. **The contact address is: covid@kirkburtonmiddleschool.co.uk**
- School leaders will check emails once per day up until Thursday 24th December. After this date, you do not need to notify us unless your child will not be back in January – in which case you should report absence in the normal way.
- Should school receive a report of a positive result on or before Thursday 24th December, we will continue to contact trace so may advise families of the need to self-isolate should your child be a close contact.

We really hope there will be no need to contact families before Christmas.

Dropping off and picking up

A polite reminder that wherever possible we ask that parents drop pupils off well away from school in order to reduce the amount of traffic around the school site. When parked, please be considerate towards residents.

Virtual Carol Service

We are very lucky in 'normal circumstances' to have All Hallow's Church in Kirkburton as our venue for our Carol Service which is a perfect setting to celebrate this time of year. Sadly, this was not to be, but we did not want to let this season pass us by without marking the occasion.

Our Carol Service marks the start of Christmas for us as a school and for those of you who were at the 'premiere' on Wednesday 16th at 7pm, we hope that it did for you too. We had a selection of readings, singing and instrumental items, which filled us with the joy and the spirit of Christmas and allowed us time for reflection and hope. I want to take this opportunity to offer my sincere thanks to **everyone** who made our Virtual Carol Service possible and for making it such a memorable occasion. Thank you to all our pupils who gave freely of their time and rose to the challenge in putting their performance together. I have been overwhelmed and touched by your commitment, confidence and professionalism. You were all absolutely brilliant and a credit to yourselves. I am so very proud of you all. This memory will stay with me for a long time. Thank you also to parents for allowing your children to take part.

Merry Christmas Everyone and a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year to you all - Miss Kaye



[Please click here to view the virtual carol service](#)

Careers

It can be hard knowing where to start in supporting your child make career decisions. Our resources have been designed to provide you with the vital information needed to begin having those important conversations. Help is one click away <https://futuregoals.co.uk/parent-carer-resource/>

Maths

Apps to try on new phones or Tablets over the Christmas period:

Sumaze! Is a series of educational puzzle apps developed by Mathematics Education Innovation. (MEI)

There are four versions for pupils to try:

Sumaze! Primary – for those pupils who struggle and to give them the idea of what is needed to succeed in these apps.

Sumaze! 2 – a challenge for pupils in years 6, 7 & 8

Sumaze! – the original aimed at pupils 14+ - a challenge for year 8 pupils.

Sumaze! Adventure – new this year – again a challenge for all in years 6, 7 & 8.

Last year's [2019 Royal Institution Christmas lectures](#) are still available, and heavily maths-flavoured. Presented by mathematician Hannah Fry, the three lectures cover luck, algorithms and the limits of maths, in an accessible and entertaining way. Perfect for Key Stages 2 upwards. (Search in Google for 2019 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures)

There is always time for a Maths Film.....

Shakuntala Devi (PG)

The extraordinary story of Shakuntala Devi, the world-renowned mathematician who lived her life on her own terms. While the film pays tribute to her genius as a mathematician, it also humanizes her as a woman and mother, in trying to capture her indomitable spirit. Told through the lens of her relationship with her daughter Anu, the film highlights their very different struggles and aspirations.

Hidden Figures (PG)

As the United States raced against Russia to put a man in space, NASA found untapped talent in a group of African-American female mathematicians that served as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in U.S. history. Based on the unbelievably true-life stories of three of these women, known as "human computers", we follow these women as they quickly rose the ranks of NASA alongside many of history's greatest minds specifically tasked with calculating the momentous launch

of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, and guaranteeing his safe return.

The Imitation Game (12A)

Based on the real life story of legendary cryptanalyst Alan Turing, the film portrays the nail-biting race against time by Turing and his brilliant team of code-breakers at Britain's top-secret Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park, during the darkest days of World War II.

PE

The following classes will need **football boots for PE** on the given day for the first half term in 2021:

Monday Period 2 8C

Tuesday Period 2 6D

Wednesday Period 2 7D

Thursday Period 2 6B

Friday Period 2 8B

If there are any problems please contact school and we will do our best to help. Many thanks - PE department

Catering Team

Thank you to all the parents who have supported us throughout this extraordinary year.

Merry Christmas and stay safe - The Kitchen Team.

Warm Jumper Day/ Welcome Centre

Thank you so much, we raised a huge sum of £565.00 for Save the Children and had lots and lots of donations of tins and packets for the Welcome Centre who were most grateful

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cjd200018087>

Vacancies

We have currently have the following vacancies within The Mast Academy Trust. Please see the links below for further information.

[Part-time Site Operative](#)

[Part-time Grounds Operative](#)

[Cleaning Supervisor](#)



ALL HALLOWS' CHURCH, KIRKBURTON

COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE -

New Format!

*Come and join us for
Carols in the open air*

accompanied by members of the



Hade Edge Band



Date: **SUNDAY 20th DECEMBER 2020**

Place: **All Hallows' Churchyard -**

NB: **Please note new venue.
Bring torches or lanterns**

Time: **6.00pm**

Covid-19 Guidelines and Social Distancing will be observed



**Our Shop Will Be Closing For Christmas
3pm, Saturday 19th December**

**We Re-Open again
9am, Saturday 2nd January**

**Resuming our usual business hours.
See website for details.**



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM TERM TIME WEAR

www.termtimewear.com

