

Dear Parents

We have welcomed more new pupils to KGS this week, each of whom have made a wonderful start to their journey with us; thank you - as always - to our current pupils for making them feel so welcome. They always act with such kindness and consideration towards any new pupils or visitors, and continue to demonstrate how special the Kirkham Grammar School family is.

Our Pre-School pupils – our Kirkhamigos - are also flourishing. They seem to have developed some delightful friendships with each other, and it is lovely to watch the special bond that they have developed with their teachers. It is always wonderful to see them in and around School; their energy, enthusiasm and caring natures are uplifting to be around. They have created some charming Diwali work with their teachers this week too. It was fascinating to observe their growing understanding about how this event is celebrated and to see their artistic interpretations of this festival of lights – the CD candles were the highly-prized artwork of this week!

On Thursday, during our Remembrance Assembly, we marked 100 years since the nation's collective Remembrance traditions were first brought together. We reflected on what the next 100 years of Remembrance could look like by examining how, who and why we remember. Our pupils, from Pre-School to J4, listened carefully to the readings, poems and assembly content, demonstrating an appropriate reverence to the morning's event. Our J4 Head Girl, Boy and Senior Prefects spoke with eloquence and dignity during this service; well done to them all for ably carrying out their first role to a large audience.

I look forward to seeing the U9 girls tomorrow for their hockey match in the morning; a reminder for them to arrive at School at 9.15 am tomorrow morning. In relation to PE and sport, I would like to inform you that Mr Oddie will be leaving us at February half term in order to pursue new challenges. Mr Oddie has been involved with sport at Kirkham Grammar School for over a decade, and has been at the forefront of the many and varied sporting experiences for our pupils. When the time comes we will wish Mr Oddie a fond farewell; for now, however, we will begin the process of seeking a replacement in order to further enhance sport at Kirkham Grammar School.

Next Friday, we will be supporting Children in Need 2021, and Mrs Wilson will send out further details shortly. I am certain that our pupils will support this charitable event with their usual gusto. This will prove a memorable and enjoyable experience for them, whilst further enhancing their ability to empathise, and show care and compassion to those less fortunate than themselves.

In relation to our commitment to your child receiving the best education whilst in our care, we will be holding a Mock Inspection next week across Pre-School to Sixth Form, whereby our teaching and learning, policies and procedures will be scrutinised and evaluated. This will further contribute to our Self-Evaluation and School Development Plan across the foundation.

On Monday and Tuesday, should your child have a certificate, trophy or any special news that they would like to share with us, then please do remind them to bring such documentation to our assemblies on these days. Any parent or close relation is more than welcome to attend these assemblies; please simply sign in as a Visitor at our School Office where you will subsequently be shown to your seat. We also look forward to welcoming those of you who have been invited to attend due to your son/daughter receiving a Star of the Week or the Headmistress's Above and Beyond Award. Our J4 positions of responsibility will also be formally awarded on Tuesday, so we look forward to welcoming any parents or family members that are able to attend in order to watch these badges be handed over.

With best wishes for a super weekend.

Mrs O'Donoghue
Headmistress