



Kirk Smeaton Church of England Primary School  
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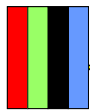
In association with Went Valley Pre-School and Breakfast Club

Tel: 01977 621521



Headteacher: Mrs H Cuddy

Date: Friday, 2nd December 2016



### Christmas

Starfish explorers and Starfish nativity play- 8<sup>th</sup> December at 1.45pm

Dolphins nativity play- 8<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm

Lions and Eagles carol service and mince pies- 13<sup>th</sup> December at 2-3pm

Starfish and Dolphins Church service- 14<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm.

Lions and Eagles Christingle service- 14<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm.

\*We have separated the Church services to accommodate the number of people attending, we hope that this will allow you to see your child fully and also ensure we stay within a safe number of people allowed in the church at one time.\*

Helpers Needed - we are looking for any helpers to come in before the Starfish play on the 8<sup>th</sup> December, to serve teas and coffees from 1:30pm, and on the 13<sup>th</sup> following Lions and Eagles carols. If you can lend a hand at either of these please let us know. We're also asking for any donations of buns and mince pies for everyone to enjoy on these days.

Christmas Parties - all classes will be having their Christmas parties on the 16<sup>th</sup> December in the afternoon, and would appreciate any offers of party food to add to the festivities. We only ask that the food is nut free !

Presents - Christmas presents will be on sale from the school office from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December - if your child would like to purchase one please make sure they bring £3 in.

Starfish Explorers Stay and Play - our next stay and play session will be on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 2 - 3pm for children whose birthdays are between 01/09/2013 - 31/12/2013 and will be starting nursery from 4<sup>th</sup> January. If you would like a slot reserving please contact the school office.

Staffing - Ms Wolff has returned to working 3 days a week after covering Mrs Morton full time in recent weeks. Mrs Morton is recovering well from a recent operation and we hope that she will be fit for work soon. Miss Freeman will be covering the other days in Starfish. Mrs Hursthouse, Ms Wolff and Miss Freeman have been extremely flexible in changing their working days to make this transition very smooth. Thank you to all staff and parents for the patience and understanding during this time.

Christmas Fair - the school fair will take place on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December from 11am. Do you own or work for a local business? Would you be willing to sponsor or donate a raffle prize to our school Christmas raffle which will be drawn at the Christmas Fair? Perhaps a pair of

cinema tickets, or an M&S voucher? It's a great marketing opportunity as all of our sponsors are clearly displayed! All raffle proceeds are used to provide school resources and in the past have contributed to climbing walls, iPads, scooter tracks, maths resources and building refurbishment to name a few. If you are able to help, please contact Rachel Suaznabar on [smeatonraffle@gmail.com](mailto:smeatonraffle@gmail.com) with details of your donation and company logo. Thank you.

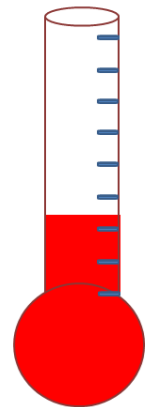
Raffle prizes this year include;

- \* Next voucher - £25 Voucher (kindly donated by Greenwood & Brown Vets)
- \* Snozone voucher, Xscape - £25 Voucher
- \* MOT - kindly donated by Clark Vehicle Services
- \* Gravity Vouchers, Xscape - Two tickets
- \* Pirate Golf, Xscape - Family of four ticket
- \* Flexible Exercise - Voucher for 4 Pilates classes
- \* M&S voucher - £25 Voucher
- \* 4D Golf, Xscape - Two Tickets
- \* Laserzone, Xscape - Two tickets
- \* Xplore Softplay, Xscape - Two tickets

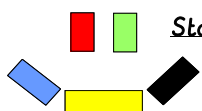
\* More prizes to be confirmed...!

\*£1 a ticket or £5 a strip\*

**Applying for a Primary School place for your child for September 2017** - If you have a child born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013 you will need to apply for a Primary School place for them. For those who will be attending our Nursery, hopefully you will have been given a letter. If not, you can request one from the school office. The deadline for applying for a school place is 15th January 2017. Further information is within the letter however should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.



**School Lottery** - our school lottery is now online, and we really need your support! You can sign up at <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/kirk-smeaton-ce-primary-school/supporter>. The more people that sign up for it, the more funding our school receives. Just 50 people will give us £1000 towards resources such as playground lines, new laptops, watercoolers, a new canopy stand for Dolphins, and new reading books to engage the girls and the boys further. Each person that signs up is automatically entered into a £25000 draw each week, along with £20 guaranteed to someone at our school. As you can see we are quite a way from our goal number of people signing up so please sign up as soon as you can.

 **Starfish Recycling** - thank you to everyone who has donated their recyclables to Starfish for their junk models. Please be reminded however that we only need clean yoghurt pots, any milk or drink screw lids, and cardboard boxes. Donations can be taken to the trolley in Starfish or handed into the school office.

**Be Happy**

**Starfish Explorers - Childcare Vouchers** - We are pleased to advise that we can now accept Childcare vouchers for payment of Starfish Explorers invoices. Most employers who provide Childcare Vouchers do so through a salary sacrifice scheme. This means you agree to reduce your salary by a certain value, and receive Childcare Vouchers to the same value but pay no tax or National Insurance on these vouchers.

We are currently registered with the following companies:  
Computershare - [www.computersharevoucherservices.com](http://www.computersharevoucherservices.com)  
Fideliti - [childcare@fideliti.co.uk](mailto:childcare@fideliti.co.uk)

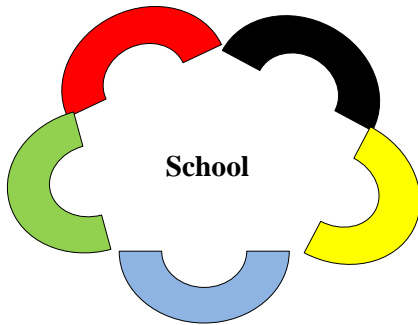
Edenred - [www.edenred.co.uk](http://www.edenred.co.uk)

If you receive childcare vouchers from any other companies and would like to use them, please let us know and we'll happily register with other companies.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Marnier should you have any queries regarding this.

**Donations** - if anyone has any unwanted, complete packs of playing cards or dominoes please consider donating them to us. We have found they are great for intervention work with the children and make a great resource

**Bags 2 School** - we will be having another collection on January 19<sup>th</sup>. If you are thinking of having a clear out ready for Christmas please consider saving any clothes to donate for us.



1. Assessment: Be consistent with an assessment procedure so that it is fully understood and supports teaching and learning.

2. Leadership: All leaders proactively assess their area of the curriculum providing all the necessary monitoring and reporting arrangements.

3. Curriculum: raise achievement in all areas with special focus on spelling and maths arithmetic

**Photographs** - Local professional photographer Johanna Hilton will be in the Community Rooms on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December between 11am and 1pm and is offering photographic sessions for families or individuals. Johanna does not charge for taking the pictures, you only pay for the prints you order afterwards. Each slot will last fifteen minutes. If you would like to see the types of pictures Johanna takes, Lorna Thornley has had family photographs taken by Johanna for the last four years and is happy to show you some. To book a slot please email Johanna directly on [info@johannahilton.co.uk](mailto:info@johannahilton.co.uk)

**Governor Newsletter** - our fantastic school Governors have released the latest newsletter, and a copy can be found attached. In this edition, they look at school budgets and how just 1 child can affect us so much, and take a first hand look at a day as an 'Eagle'!

**Reading Resources** - NYCC and Ziptales have teamed together to provide a free interactive reading resource for all children, filled with stories, puzzles, lessons and games. Just head over to <http://ziptales.co.uk/subs/northyorkshire/> and enter your library number (if you don't have one, there are instructions for setting this up).

#### **Starfish and Starfish Explorers - Message from Ms Wolff**

Christmas Fair - Saturday 3rd December 11.00am. I will be running a Starfish stall so if any of the children would like to get involved and come and help me for half an hour I would be happy to see them. I will be setting up around 10.15am and selling reindeer food that the children have made. Any baking donations would be gratefully received. I am raising money for Starfish Class resources.

Reading books and reading diaries - Now we are in the swing of coming into school could I ask everyone to start putting reading diaries with reading books inside in the boxes provided.



**Parking** - please remember to be mindful when parking your cars for drop off and pick up. Residents need access to their properties, and enough room must be left on the road for emergency vehicles to get by



**School Meals** - next terms school menu has now been released and can be found on our website. Should you wish to make any changes to your child's meal plan please contact us to discuss.

**Race to Santa** - this terms running target will be to Lapland to see Santa before he sets off on his magical journey. We've got 2917km to cover, and have so far covered 2146km, which puts in Örnköldsvik, Sweden, the 'testbed' for Ethanol powered cars! Brilliant effort so far by all our pupils and staff - we're three quarters of the way there!



**Attendance** - Whole School Attendance for the year to date - 96.03%

| w/c 21/11/2016 | Attendance |               |                             | Punctuality  |             |
|----------------|------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------|
|                | Attendance | Pupils Absent | Sessions Absent (AM and PM) | Minutes Late | Pupils Late |
| Whole school   | 95.69%     | 17            | 42                          | 66           | 7           |
| Starfish       | 80.00%     | 6             | 22                          | 9            | 1           |
| Dolphins       | 98.00%     | 3             | 5                           | 26           | 3           |
| Lions          | 97.65%     | 4             | 8                           | 6            | 1           |
| Eagles         | 97.20%     | 4             | 7                           | 25           | 2           |

We have 27 children who are below 95% attendance this term so far. It is important that your child attends school each and every day in order to access all learning and reach their full potential.

On a positive note we have 33 children who have 100% attendance at present, let's hope they keep it up all year - Well done! All children who get 100% for the half term are mentioned in assembly and are given a prize. If your child gets 100% for the whole year, they get a certificate and put into a draw to win a £20 Argos voucher.

Kind Regards,  
Mrs J Maltby

#### **Important dates for your diary**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2016 @11:00 – 14:00 | Christmas Fair  |
| Monday, 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2016                  | Christmas Present on sale until we break up                 |
| Thursday, 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 @ 13:45        | Starfish Christmas Play                                     |
| Thursday, 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 @ 14:30        | Dolphins Christmas Play                                     |
| Friday, 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2016                  | Christmas theatre for all children                          |
| Tuesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 : 14:00-15:00  | Starfish Explorers Stay and Play                            |
| Tuesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 @ 14:00-15:00  | Christmas Carols in the Hall with Lions and Eagles          |
| Wednesday, 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 @ 13:30      | Christmas Service (Christingle for Starfish and Dolphins)   |
| Wednesday, 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 @ 14:30      | Christmas Service (Christingle for all KS2- Year 5 to lead) |
| Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2016                 | Christmas jumper day  |
| Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2016                 | School closes   |
| Wednesday, 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2017                | School opens  |
| Friday, 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2017 @ 9:00            | Parent Information Session on Internet Safety               |
| Thursday, 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2017                | Bags 2 School Collection                                    |

#### **Church Dates**

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Sunday, 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 @ 9:15    | Family Service with Christingle |
| Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 @ 18:00   | Village Carol Service           |
| Saturday, 24 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 @ 21:15 | Christmas Communion Service     |
| Sunday, 25 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 @ 9:15    | Christmas Communion Service     |