



Kirk Smeaton Church of England Primary School
Main Street, Kirk Smeaton, Pontefract
West Yorkshire, WF8 3JY

Tel: 01977 620497 Email: admin@kirksmeaton.n-yorks.sch.uk
In association with Went Valley Pre-School
Tel: 01977 621521



Headteacher: Mrs H Cuddy

Date: Friday, 3rd December 2021

CHRISTMAS DATES AND INFORMATION ARE ON OUR CHRISTMAS CALENDAR

Sport Trips – we will be reducing team numbers going forward for our sports trips in line with Campsmounts Activity Rules, but we will try and keep things fair so that children can attend different events. Parents of those attending each event will be sent a letter prior to the event. We do ask however that all children in the class bring their PE kits in case of absences, so we can substitute. A list of our upcoming trips are below.

| Date | Class | Event | Location |
|------------------------------------|----------|--------------|------------|
| Wednesday 8 th December | Dolphins | Multi-Skills | Campsmount |

COVID – please can we remind all parents that if your child is showing one of the main symptoms of Covid (cough, high temp, loss / change of taste and/or smell) that you please take your child for a PCR test, and isolate them until you receive the results. We know that at this time of year a lot of bugs are going round, but it's so important we continue to test so we can stop the spread.



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>. This term, all ticket holders will also be entered into a nationwide draw to win a family ticket to the Harry Potter Studio tour. We are quite a way from our goal number of people signing up so please sign up as soon as you can.

Christmas Fair - Thank you to all the staff and volunteers who helped to make the event happen. We're still counting our proceeds, but we're blown away by your generosity and input this year.

School Workshop - We've been very lucky to secure a school visit from Yesmien Bagh Ali to run an Amaali workshop with all our children. She'll be in school on Wednesday 12th January, and working with each class throughout the day. Her workshops give the children the chance to practice Arabic writing, make chapattis, and learn about the faith and culture.

Start of the school day - Gates close at 8.50 and lessons start fully, we open school from 8.40am, please ensure you allow plenty of time for the drive/walk to school especially with the cold weather.

Travel Delays – as most of you may know, the A1 is currently having repairs carried out, which will last up to the end of January. This is causing major disruption to the local area, so we ask that you plan your journeys accordingly for collecting and dropping of your children, if you're travelling from that way.

IT upgrade - over the course of the year we have been upgrading IT equipment in school. We purchased a set of 30 tablets in February. In June, the teacher laptops were upgraded. This term, we have used parents and friends money to purchase 4 new touch screens for the classrooms, they are very posh, and the children can access the work in class so much more easier. We are now looking to update the laptops (7 years old). We have £4599 left in the parents and friends kitty and we are hoping to use this money to update the laptops. We need to raise

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additional funds in order to do this, all money raised on school events will be added to this cause. We would be interested to hear from any parents/ companies who could potentially help us with funding.

Parents and friends - We are looking for someone take a leadership role to run the parents and friends group again, if you are interested in rallying parents together, planning and organising events, please let us know.

Breakfast club - Miss Sheen has stepped forward and expressed interest in running the breakfast club. She will be starting the club from 7.45am each morning. The club will start in January and parents will need to book places in advanced. Booking forms can be requested from the school office. The cost of the provision is £5 per morning and cereals will be provided. If we have staff absence, we may need to cancel the club last minute, we will of course let parents know as soon as possible.

Thank you to those parents who have helped other parents out during this period. Also, thanks to the parents who offered to run the club. We were unable to take you up on this very kind offer as insurances, DBS and liability are stumbling blocks.

School Systems - We are looking to upgrade our data system and try and make things streamline. This will hopefully mean that dinners, educational visits and after school and breakfast clubs will be booked and paid for online. We will update you in the new year.

Child Safety - Information for parents and carers relating to keeping children safe.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/sex-relationships/healthy-relationships/>

Parking – parking around the school / village is become an issue again sadly. Please park respectfully and safely, being mindful of other road users.

Speeding – a member of our community has contacted us regarding parents speeding through the village. She is currently helping her ponies recover from illness, and on their morning walks round the village, she is often met with parents and other road users driving too fast around the village. Please travel safely round our village – be considerate of all road users, vehicles and animals, and be mindful that round each bend you may meet something unexpected.

Reminders

We are a nut free school. Please do not send in packed lunches or snacks.

We are a healthy school. Packed lunches should not contain chocolate or sweets.

Please send in your old batteries and printer cartridges for us to recycle.

Useful Contacts

School Office: 01977 620 497
admin@kirksmeaton.n-yorks.sch.uk

After School Club: 07521 952 373

Parents and Friends: pandf@kirksmeaton.n-yorks.sch.uk

Debbie Drake: 07879 687 847
Went Valley: 01977 621 521

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Important Diary Dates

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| Wednesday 8 th December | Bags 2 School |
| Wednesday 8 th December @ 9.00-10.00 | Lions and Eagles Cupcake Decorating Morning |
| Wednesday 8 th December @ 10.00-11.00 | Starfish and Dolphins Cupcake Decorating Morning |
| Wednesday 8 th December | Dolphins Multi-Skills @ Campsmount |
| Thursday 9 th December @ 12:50 | Zoom Christmas Service with Father Adrian |
| Thursday 9 th December | Went Valley Bake Sale After School |
| Friday 10 th December | Christmas Jumper Day - £1 Save The Children |
| Monday 13 th December @ 13:45 | Starfish Nativity |
| Tuesday 14 th December @ 13:45 | Dolphins Nativity |
| Wednesday 15 th December | Christmas Dinner Day |
| Thursday 16 th December @ 13:30 | KS2 Christmas Sing Along |
| Friday 17 th December | School Closes |
| Wednesday 5 th January | School Opens |

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KIDZONE

