



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

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In association with Went Valley Pre-School  
Tel: 01977 621521



**Headteacher: Mrs H Cuddy**

**Date: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**Queen Elizabeth II** - We are so sad to hear about the passing of our Queen. In Collective worship we said a prayer for her. Each class has shared some information (depending on age) about her life. Please see the information from the Diocese.

"Today the world has changed. The death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, who has served for over seven decades. We see the end of an era. This will have an impact not only in this country, but also in the Commonwealth and beyond, across the globe where she has been respected, indeed revered, for her commitment to duty and service over such a long time. Since she has been the sovereign, the world has changed considerably, and she has managed to be rooted, particularly in her Christian commitment throughout those years. A mark, a sign of stability, of solidity, of confidence in a rapidly changing world. But today we pray not only for the rest of her soul, but also for those she leaves behind, for her family who know her not just as the Queen, but as someone they loved deeply as a mother, grandmother, great grandmother. We pray for the nation at a time of real and symbolic change with all the fragilities of the world around us. We pray for the Commonwealth and the wider global community at a time of conflict and uncertainty. We pray that what we learn from the Queen's long life and long commitment may be something that we take into the future. So we pray for ourselves. We pray for the new sovereign. But, at this point, we thank God for Her Majesty the Queen and commend her to the God of mercy and love whom she has served for so long."  
The Right Reverend Nick Baines, Bishop of Leeds

**Staffing Update** - Miss Ghent will be leaving us at Christmas, we are very sad to see her go, but are pleased that she will be exploring new opportunities. Massive thank you to Miss Ghent for her hard work and dedication over the years at Kirk Smeaton CE Primary School and we wish her luck and best wishes in her future. We are looking to recruit a new teacher in KS2 and more information will be shared once we know more. Thank you to parents and carers for their patience.

**After School Clubs** – there has been a slight change to our after school clubs from next week – information below. Our in school after school club and breakfast club continue to run as normal and can be booked on Arbor.

Day	Club	Time	Booking
Monday	Dodgeball	3:10-4:30	Debbie Drake 07879 687 847
Monday	Arts & Crafts	3:15-4:15	<a href="https://portal.thecreationstation.franscape.io/class-overview/2773">https://portal.thecreationstation.franscape.io/class-overview/2773</a>
Tuesday	Campmount Sports – Eagles Only	3.10-4.10	Arbor
Wednesday	Rugby	3:10-5:00	Debbie Drake 07879 687 847
Friday	Football	3:10-4:30	Debbie Drake 07879 687 847

**Phonics** – we'd like to invite parents of our Reception and Year 1 children to join us in school on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 2:30 for an information session on phonics. We hope to see you all there.

**Parking / Speeding** – as a reminder, please can parents adhere to the speed limits through the village at all times, and remember to park safely and considerately. Please do not park on or opposite the zig zags (even if just dropping off), on bends, on the kerb, or across driveways.

**Earrings** – as previously communicated, children are not permitted to wear jewellery in school. For those with earrings, we ask that these are removed before attending school.

Let God's love shine as we care for each other and learn together.

**Childcare** – some of you may be unaware that you can pay for our after school and breakfast clubs with childcare vouchers, through a salary sacrifice scheme or via the governments tax free childcare scheme. For more information on any of these, please get in touch or visit <https://www.gov.uk/get-tax-free-childcare?step-by-step-nav=f237ec8e-e82c-4ffa-8fba-2a88a739783b>

**Dinner Special** – on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October, our kitchen team will be preparing an ‘All the Fun of the Fair’ special. This will consist of hot dog or veggie dog, chips, ketchup, corn on the cob, and dinky dipping doughnuts. If your children would normally have a school dinner on this day, they will automatically receive the special. Please let us know by 20<sup>th</sup> September if:

- They would like the veggie dog instead of the regular hot dog
- They will instead bring a packed lunch and would like their meal cancelled for this day
- They normally have a packed lunch but would like the special.

As a reminder, dinners are free for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Families in receipt of certain benefits may be entitled to a free meal (please get in touch to discuss if you are unsure). For all other, meals are charged at £2.78, payable in advance on Arbor.

**Parental Course** – please see attached to this email, details on an upcoming ‘Understanding Autism’ course, free to parents.



**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.

**Y5's** – if any of our Y5 children will now be leaving school without an adult, please make sure you pop into the office to sign a consent form. Without this we will be unable to let them leave unaccompanied.

**Robinwood Residential** – for our Eagles attending the residential, don't forget you can start making payments towards it on Arbor now. Transport is also available for payment. These must be paid in full by 16<sup>th</sup> September.

**School Photos** – on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September children will be having their individual and class photos. Siblings attending Went Valley preschool that morning will be invited for a photo together, but no individual nursery photos will be taken.

**Christmas Cards** - over the next few weeks, children will be working on their Christmas Cards, and they'll be coming home to parents by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. All instructions will be provided with the artwork on how to place your order online. Don't forget, all artwork then needs to be returned to school by Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September so we can get it to the printers.

**Swimming Lessons** – our Eagles will be attending Adwick Leisure centre each Friday from 16<sup>th</sup> September to 9<sup>th</sup> December for swimming lessons. Please ensure swimming kits are in school each week.

**Where attendance falls below 96%, parents will be issued with an attendance letter. Persistent absence may result in a fine from your local authority, or even prosecution.**

Children with attendance less than 90% are missing more than 4 weeks of school each year, and across their time with us this can reach 1 full school year of absence, making it almost impossible to keep up with the work.

Attendance	Days Absent	
100%	0	Excellent
99%	1.9	
98%	3.8	
97%	5.7	Average
96%	7.6	
95%	9.5	
94%	11.4	Below expected national standard
93%	13.3	
92%	15.2	
91%	17.1	
90%	19	

#### Important Diary Dates

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September  
 Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September  
 Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September  
 Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September  
 Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September  
 Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October  
 Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October  
 Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October  
 Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October  
 Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October  
 W/C Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October  
 Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October  
 Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October  
 Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October

Secondary school applications open  
 School Photos  
 Reception and Year 1 Parents Phonics session @ 14:30  
 Bags 2 School  
 Christmas card orders due back into school  
 Harvest Festival in church (EYFS & KS1 1pm, KS2 1:40pm)  
 Dolphins football competition  
 Dinner Special – All the Fun of the Fair  
 Harvest Hoedown (more information to follow)  
 Lions Football Competition  
 Forest Schools  
 Eagles Football Competition  
 School Closes  
 School Opens

#### 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](mailto:pandf@kirksmeaton.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Starfish: Helen Murphy 07512 867 160

Lions: Sarah Broomfield: 07709 344 606

Dolphins: Amy Maughan 07921 920 140

Eagles: Vicki Lowes 07933 7223 813

Debbie Drake: 07879 687 847

Went Valley: 01977 621 521