



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

Tel: 01977 621521



Headteacher: Mrs H Cuddy

Date: Friday, 25th November 2016



Being Happy

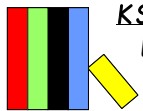
Benjamin
Abigail
Lucas
Rose

**Star
Mathematician**

Mickey
Elaina
Billy

Star Writer

Isabella



KSI Trip - Starfish and Dolphins will be visiting Wakefield Theatre on the 30th November to watch this years Pantomime of Sleeping Beauty. We will be leaving school after lunch, and returning for approximately 16:45, but a text will be sent out closer to the time with an update. We will be providing children with a drink and snack for the interval - if you would like your child to have one, please pass £1.00 to the school office.

Remember, no sweets are allowed so please do not send any on the day. If you have any queries please contact the school office.

Christmas

Starfish explorers and Starfish nativity play- 8th December at 1.45pm

Dolphins nativity play- 8th December 2.30pm

Lions and Eagles carol service and mince pies- 13th December at 2-3pm

Starfish and Dolphins Church service- 14th December at 1.30pm.

Lions and Eagles Christingle service- 14th 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.

Parents Evening - sign up sheets have now been released for each class and are available in the classrooms. If you do not drop off / pick up your child but 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.

Miss Shearman has left us today; we wish her luck in her new school and thank her for her work at Kirk Smeaton C of E School.

Christmas Fair - the school fair will take place on Saturday 3rd December from 11am. Thank you to everyone who donated a tombola / raffle prize today - we have some fantastic items up for grabs!

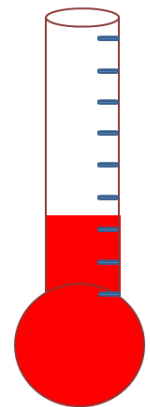
Do you own or work for a local business? Would you be willing to sponsor or donate a raffle prize to our school Christmas raffle which will be drawn at the Christmas Fair? Perhaps a pair of cinema tickets, or an M&S voucher? It's a great marketing opportunity as all of our sponsors are clearly displayed! 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 with details of your donation and company logo. Thankyou.

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.

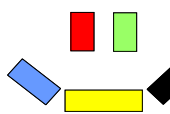
Campsmount - please be advised that if you are wanting to secure a place at Campsmount High for your child in September, they have suggested this is done as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. If you have any queries with your application please contact the council you applied through.

Children In Need - thank you to everyone who donated for this. We raised a grand total of £77.95, and got to see some fantastic outfits on Fridays non-uniform.

Shoe box appeal- Kirk Smeaton school is supporting the Rainbow Foundation this year, but if parents would still like to take part in this St Giles Church in Pontefract is taking donations. Please see Mrs Cessford for more information.



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

Posada in Kirk Smeaton 2016.

What is it? - Posada is Mexican for "inn or shelter". Spanish families use Advent to think about the journey Mary and Joseph took to Bethlehem, and how they had difficulty finding anywhere to stay. Ladies from the Knit and Natter group have knitted enough sets of figures for each class at school to celebrate Posada.

What happens? - After an introductory Assembly on Friday December 2nd, children will be encouraged to sign up for one night during December to host Mary and Joseph. They will be passing on a bag containing the figures, information sheet, a story book, a Carol Sheet and game to play. The Marys and Josephs will then join us at the Village Carol Service where they will be welcomed to share the story of Christmas with us all.

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

Fideliti - childcare@fideliti.co.uk

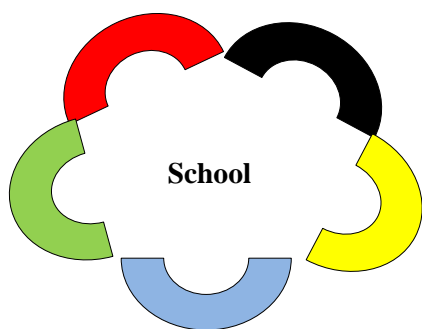
Edenred - www.edenred.co.uk

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.

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

Poppy Appeal - Thank you to everyone who donated towards this years appeal from the Royal British Legion. We raised a total of £20.00.



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 4th 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

Starfish and Starfish Explorers

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.

Christmas Play - Please could you bring your child's named costume in a named bag into school by Friday 2nd December. We are looking for anyone who could lend us a hobby horse for the play. We need 3 for the kings to ride on.

Sleeping Beauty - Please bring £1 in ASAP (handed into the office please) if you wish your child to have a snack during the interval. The snack is a chocolate chip cereal bar and an orange fruit shoot.

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.

Seasonal Clothing - The weather is turning cold, so please ensure your children wear tights or trousers and ensure they come in a warm and waterproof coat.



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 1880km, which puts us just south of Söderhamn, Sweden. From there we have our final stretch up the east coast before we get to see the bright lights and festive glow of Sant's village. Brilliant effort so far by all our pupils and staff - we're two thirds of the way there!



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



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.

Attendance - Whole School Attendance for the year to date - 95.96%

w/c 14/11/2016	Attendance			Punctuality	
	Attendance	Pupils Absent	Sessions Absent (AM and PM)	Minutes Late	Pupils Late
Whole school	95.71%	9	29	55	6
Starfish	91.82%	2	8	7	1
Dolphins	94.40%	3	13	8	2
Lions	97.94%	3	6	6	1
Eagles	99.20%	1	2	34	2

We have 26 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 39 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

Monday, 28 th November 2016	Dolphins, Lions and Eagles Parents Evening
Tuesday, 29 th November 2016	Starfish, Dolphins and Lions Parents Evening
Wednesday, 30 th November 2016	Lions and Eagles Parents Evening
Wednesday, 30 th November 2106	Starfish and Dolphins Pantomime Trip
Friday, 2 nd December 2016	Posada Assembly
Saturday, 3 rd December 2016	Christmas Fair
Thursday, 8 th December 2016 @ 13:45	Starfish Christmas Play
Thursday, 8 th December 2016 @ 14:30	Dolphins Christmas Play
Friday, 9 th December 2016	Christmas theatre for all children
Tuesday, 13 th December 2016 @ 14:00-15:00	Christmas Carols in the Hall with Lions and Eagles
Wednesday, 14 th December 2016 @ 13:30	Christmas Service (Christingle for Starfish and Dolphins)
Wednesday, 14 th December 2016 @ 14:30	Christmas Service (Christingle for all KS2- Year 5 to lead)
Friday, 16 th December 2016	Christmas jumper day
Friday, 16 th December 2016	School closes
Wednesday, 4 th January 2017	School opens
Friday, 6 th January 2017 @ 9:00	Parent Information Session on Internet Safety
Thursday, 19 th January 2017	Bags 2 School Collection

Church Dates

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