



Kirkoswald C of E School
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Newsletter

Friday 4th October 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are well into the first part of the autumn term and it is great to see the children settled in and engaged in lots of fantastic teaching and learning. There has already been lots of highlights, particularly our 'meet the team' afternoon last week. The children were delighted to show parents/carers/grandparents around and it was lovely to see our school community come together. I hope we can keep sharing that 'buzz'!

Harvest Festival – A reminder that on Tuesday 15th October, parents/carers are invited to join our Harvest Celebration at The Chapel (1:30pm). The celebration will be a mixture of whole-school singing, individual class performances/presentations and time of reflection/prayer. We continue to value and promote a love of reading across school and after the celebration, you are welcome to join us for 'Soup and a Story'. Class 3 children are excited to be preparing and making Harvest soup for everyone to enjoy. If you haven't already informed us that you would like to join your child/ren for soup, please place your booking on School Hub by **Thursday 10th October** (donation of £1.50 per guest). Finally, a big thank-you to Bells of Lazonby who are supporting this event by donating us some sweet treats!

Crew Day – Monday 21st October is our first Crew Day this year. The children will work with their crew for the whole day, taking part in a range of activities linking to our termly theme, Celebrations. Children from across the school are mixed and this gives responsibility to the older children to support their younger peers, an opportunity that I have seen them relish already. If any parents are free and willing to help for all or part of the day, please contact Mr Andrews or Danielle asap. Similarly, if we have any members of the community with hidden talents, interesting hobbies or expertise, who would like to run a session/activity, this would be most welcome. Get in touch!

Nursery and Reception Places – We are excited to keep promoting our school and are open to applications for Nursery and Reception places. Your child(ren) are most welcome and are eligible to join our wonderful Nursery class, the term after their third birthday. Please contact Mr Andrews who is happy to show you around and talk you through our Early Years provision. All 3 and 4 year olds are eligible for up to 15 hours a week of free nursery provision from the term after their 3rd birthday and some children may be entitled to an additional 15 hours of full nursery education. Please see the council website for further details or call in for a chat.

<https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-school-place-or-change-schools/apply-nursery-place>

If your child turns four this academic year (born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021) they will be due to start Reception in September 2025. Reception places must be applied for using the Westmorland and Furness website <https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-school-place-or-change-schools/apply-reception-place>

Social Media – We are very keen to continue to promote the 'buzz' of learning and experiences that is happening in and around school. Please continue to follow our school Facebook page for regular updates. We want to continue to share activities, experiences and examples of the children's learning with you all! **I will be posting on our page, promoting our Early Years (Nursery and Reception) classes and will be particularly grateful to parents who can share these posts on their pages, reaching the wider community.**

Clubs – Miss Reding has started craft club on Tuesday lunchtimes (currently for Key Stage 2 children) and music club on Monday morning break times for our school musicians. Mrs Henderson has started netball club on a Friday lunchtime for Y4-6. **I am going to start an 'activity club' on Tuesdays for after school club children.** This will consist of multi-skills, sports and games outside when the weather permits, and Lego challenges/computing/indoor games/crafts if the weather is bad. **If your after school club child would like to attend, please sign up as normal on the notice board outside the office.** If your child does not normally go to after school club and would like to attend, it will run from



3:30pm – 4:15pm, beginning Tuesday 5th November. Please call or email Danielle if you would like a place. It will be limited to 20 children.

Green Tree Award – We are excited to have enrolled in The Woodland Trust's – Green Tree Award. This will support our continued Adventure Learning activities as it inspires pupils about trees, woods and wildlife. Through the award, the children will take part in fun, practical projects while helping the environment. More information can be found at <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/support-us/act/your-school/green-tree-schools-award/> We have already completed some of the challenges; lots more to come!

Coins- A new, nature themed commemorative set of coins have begun their release into circulation to honour the life and new reign of King Charles III. We are hoping to have a focus on the coins in classes as part of this term's context for learning, 'Celebrations'. If you happen to come across any of the coins, it would be great if your child/ren could bring them in for a closer look! We promise to look after them! More information can be found at: <https://www.royalmint.com/annual-sets/2023/definitives/king-charles-iii-definitives-2023-brilliant-uncirculated-coin-set/>

Wheelchair Basketball – Unfortunately this had to be cancelled last week: the wheelchairs are designed for dry spaces only! I will rearrange this for the spring/summer term and have The Village Hall as a back-up plan.

Thank-you! – A huge thank-you to Andrew and Kirsty Fox, our neighbours Nigel, April and Bob and to our superstar pupils Seth and Freddie for a big team effort in clearing and tidying the overgrown areas around the perimeter of school. It looks great and is much appreciated by everyone. The areas will need more regular attention to keep them at bay. Any future help from the community with this would be much appreciated. Watch this space!

Groundskeeping – We would really like to set up a team of volunteers to help us regularly keep the school grounds and gardens tidy. If you would like to take part please get in touch.

Adventure Learning Volunteers – Class 1 require two volunteers on Fridays to assist with adventure learning. If you're able to support them with this please get in touch.

Dates for the diary:

Tuesday 15th October 2024 – Harvest Festival & afternoon 'Harvest Soup and a Story' (The Chapel 1:30pm)

Monday 21st October 2024 – Whole school 'Crew Day' (non-uniform – dress for outdoors)

Friday 25th October 2024 – School closes for half term holiday

Monday 4th November 2024 – School reopens

Monday 4th and Wednesday 6th November 2024 – Parents evening appointments (details to follow)

Tuesday 5th November 2024 – Hunter Hall Cross Country

Thursday 7th November 2024 – Outdoor Classroom Day started off with a 'Red Squirrel Assembly' by local wildlife expert, Rachel Smith (dress for outdoors)

Thursday 7th November 2024 – Book Bus Visit

Monday 11th November 2024 – Remembrance Day

Monday 11th November 2024 – Anti bullying week activities in school

Thursday 5th December 2024 – Theatre by the Lake (whole school trip)

Tuesday 17th December 2024 – Christmas Service (St Oswald's Church, KO. 6pm)

Friday 20th December 2024 – School closes for the Christmas holidays

Tuesday 7th January 2025 – School reopens for the Spring term

As always, I'm always happy to chat if you have any queries or comments. Don't hesitate to see me at the gate or to make an appointment through the office.

Yours sincerely,

Mr L. Andrews

Headteacher

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