



Kirkoswald C of E School
Kirkoswald
Penrith
Cumbria
CA10 1EN



Telephone: 01768 898461

Email: admin@kirkoswald.cumbria.sch.uk
www.kirkoswald.cumbria.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr. Leigh Andrews

Newsletter

Friday 18th October 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

I can't believe we only have one week left until half-term – the weeks are flying by! We were thrilled to see so many of you at our Harvest service this week and we hope you enjoyed the 'sweaty-sock soup' that Class Three worked hard to prepare on Monday. The children were brilliant in The Chapel and it was great to see so many smiling faces. Some information follows about events in the coming days and weeks:

Crew Day – A reminder that **this coming Monday, 21st October** is our first Crew Day this year. We have chosen to celebrate 'animals' as a focus and the children will work with their crew for the whole morning, taking part in a range of activities. A huge thank you to all of the parents for offers of help. We had so many that I have had to start a 'waiting list' for our next crew day! The afternoon will see the crew with the most beads this half term choose a 'treat' activity for the whole school. Please can children come dressed in their PE kits.

Kettle Calling – It has been great to make a link with the village coffee morning which takes place each Friday. I will be taking groups of children along regularly (for 20-30 minutes) for juice and a biscuit, giving them opportunity to share some of their learning with local residents. Contributing to the community is important for our children and I know that Kettle Calling will help with their personal development.

Link with The Gambia – We were lucky to have ex Kirkoswald School teacher, Mrs Starr join us this week. She delivered an assembly on our links with a school in The Gambia. The children found her presentation engaging and they were able to contribute with fantastic questions, observations and information, showing knowledge and empathy. Mrs Starr will be visiting The Gambia at the end of November. To re-establish our link **I would like to reach out to you all and ask for help with our idea**. School have bought 100 pencil cases, and I am hoping that as a whole community, we can all contribute something(s) to go in a pencil case, which will help children in The Gambia with their learning. Suggested items are pencils, rubbers, rulers, coloured pencils, crayons and sharpeners, but not felt pens as they will quickly dry up in the heat. Each child in school will also be producing a letter/picture to go inside a pencil case. I am sure you will agree that this is a great link to develop and maintain, and is one which our children, and children in The Gambia will benefit from. **If you are able to contribute items to go in a pencil case, please bring them in before Friday 8th November 2024.**

Clubs – Music practice, craft club, netball club and after-school football club are all underway. If you would like to join my after school 'activity club' on Tuesdays after school from 3:30 – 4:15pm (starting Tuesday 5th November, please contact Danielle in the office as soon as possible.

Parent Appointments – You should have received a day and time for your parent appointment. This is an opportunity to discuss how your child(ren) has/have settled in to their new year group, and to think about how we can work together to help the children progress further. Please contact us if your day or time-slot won't work and we can make alternative arrangements.



Local Biodiversity Project – As part of our continued outdoor learning, we are thrilled to have found a project which aims to increase local biodiversity levels, by developing an area and planting hedges and trees to encourage wildlife. We will be visiting the site with groups of children soon to make plans and I anticipate that all children will be involved over the school year. This is something that we are very excited about and will support and enhance our adventure learning.

Non-uniform Day – The first KOSSG fundraiser of the year is a non-uniform day which will take place on Tuesday 12th November. Children are welcome to come in their own clothes for a voluntary donation of £1.00. Our fantastic support group would like to fund the transport for each class to plan an educational visit and funds raised will contribute towards this.

Packed Lunches – Children on packed lunches are monitored and encouraged to do their best with their packed lunches. Please consider what is being included in their lunches – we are seeing a lot of unhealthy choices.

Attendance – I have had our first visit from the Local Authority Attendance Officer this week and I have been asked to remind everyone that attendance is being closely monitored. Absences can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and children with persistent absence will be monitored closely. Ten unauthorised sessions (five days) will result in a fine and I have also been reminded that children who are significantly late for school will be marked as unauthorised. Illness is inevitable, especially this time of year. The following website is useful for deciding when/when not to send your child to school <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> More information is available in our attendance policy on the school website. **Can I also please remind you that if your child is ill, you must call the office to notify us, preferably by 9:00am.**

Social Media – We continue to share our learning and other experiences on our school Facebook page. If you are a Facebook user, please follow our school page and feel free to **like and share** any posts showing the amazing activities and work our children do.

As always, don't hesitate to see me at the gate or make an appointment if you would like a chat.

Yours sincerely,
Mr L. Andrews
Headteacher

Friendship

Forgiveness

