Dear Parents/Carers,

Whilst the October holiday is a distant memory, I trust you all had an enjoyable break with your families. Some of your children shared their holiday learning with us during our assembly highlighting to them that their learning does not just take place in school. (This can be a difficult concept for children to grasp!)

It was terrific to see all of our children enjoying the delights of the Halloween Disco on Tuesday evening and as always I would like to thank the Parent Council for organising a great community event for us. The children just loved showing off their costumes and playing the games. Thank you.

We have held two parent workshops recently and used the opportunity to show you how your child learns and how you can help them. We hope to be hosting more opportunities like these for each class but we are also ever mindful that parents have work commitments and we do try to ensure we have a variety of morning, afternoon and evening events to allow maximum opportunity for all parents to be involved. If you have any more ideas of how we can get you involved please catch me in the playground, pop into see me or even drop me an email.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself or the Kirktonholme Team if you have any questions, queries or suggestions.

Kind regards, Linda Wright

Getting Everyone Engaged @ Kirktonholme Parents’ Night
Thursday 15th November

We are looking forward to seeing you on our first Parents’ Night where you can expect to learn about your child's progress. Your allocated time has been issued this week so please check your child's school bag. These meetings will take place in our gym hall.

Also available on the night will be
• Information about our Growth Mindset work
• Information about the Nursery-P7 Reading Spine
• Books will be available to purchase from our Scholastic Book Fayre.
• Creche facility will be available during the evening session only

Disabled Bay Parking
You are only allowed to park in disabled bays if you display a blue badge.

Getting Everyone Engaged @ Kirktonholme
Improving our Literacy

Our attainment in literacy continues to increase and we are always looking for ways to keep improving our teaching. Here are some of our new developments in the area of literacy.

• P1 parents have had two workshops learning how we teach phonics and sounds
• P2 and P3 are using an Active Literacy approach.
• Nursery to P7 are using Pie Corbett's Reading Spine, which is an agreed set of books all children should read (more info available at Parents’ Night)
• We have started a Parent Helper Paired Reading Programme
• Our P5-P7s will be continuing with our successful reading for pleasure homework.
• We will be organising a Book Swap during Book Week (19th – 23rd November)

Great ways for parents to help with literacy learning at home include:

➢ Reading to your child (even if they are P7)
➢ Playing games
➢ Making up stories together
➢ P1 will receive Book Bug Bags during Book Week
➢ P2 & P3 will receive Read, Write & Count bags

Attendance & Lateness

We regularly check our children's attendance and lateness. Please be advised if your child's attendance drops below 90% you will be notified. School starts at 8.55am
Dates for your diary
An annual list of dates will be issued and is available on the school website.

Listed below are some of the key dates for this term. Please be advised that these dates can be prone to change. We will keep you updated with events in each newsletter and will give you as much notice as we can if dates do change.

- Tues 6th & 8th Nov: Nursery cooking masterclasses
- Mon 12th Nov: Parent Council 7pm
- Thurs 15th Nov: Parents’ Evening
- Mon 19th Nov: Inservice (school closed to pupils) Scottish Book Week
- Thurs 22nd Nov: P1 Come & Read with me
- Fri 23rd Nov: Athletics festival
- Mon 26th Nov: P6 Assembly
- Fri 30th Nov: Dress Down Day
- Fri 30th Nov: Christmas Fayre
- Wed 5th & 6th Dec: P6 Bubblegum & Fluff outing
- Thu 6th Dec: Nursery Outing pm NSPCC visit
- Mon 10th Dec: Big Story Panto
- Tues 11th Dec: Nursery Nativity
- Wed 12th Dec: P5&6 Party
- Thurs 14th Dec: P1&2 Nativity 10am & 2pm
- Fri 14th Dec: Nursery Party (am) P1&2 Party (pm)
- Mon 17th Dec: Christmas Service P7 Party
- Tues 18th Dec: P3&4 party
- Wed 19th Dec: Nursery-P7 Carol Concert 9.30&1.30
- Thur 20th Dec: Nursery- P7 Carol Concert 9.30
- Fri 21st Dec: School closes 2.30pm
- Mon 7th Jan: Pupils return

Dress Down Days are the last Friday of every month. All school holiday dates are available on SLC website.

Poppies will be on sale next week.

Our Christmas Fayre will be Friday 30th November. The Parent Council are looking for any donations, raffle prizes and volunteers. All home baking will be gratefully received closer to the time.

Spotlight on Growth Mindset
Links to…our school value of Positivity & Health & Wellbeing school aim

Our November monthly mantra is
I am a valued member of this learning community!

So how can you as parents help with this? Easy!
- Talk to your child about what they learned in class each day - the successes and the mistakes!
- If your child is having difficulty, contact us: your child’s learning journey will only be positive if we work together!
- Remind your child that their teacher is there to help them!
- Get involved in your child’s school experience - check their homework diary, help them with homework, attend school events, look at our website, join our Parent Council...however many of these you choose to do, it is vital that your child knows you respect their education and the work of the school.

Children are what they see and hear - if you are involved and interested, so will they be!

Getting Everyone Engaged @ Kirktonholme

Representatives from our Pupil Council attended the last Parent Council meeting and have agreed to work together to develop our playground. Our children would like to introduce more games and activities to the playground and are hoping to purchase more resources with the support of the Parent Council. The children also impressed one of our local councillors with their presentation of ideas! Well done to our future activists!