Dear Parents/Carers,
Thank you to everyone who was able to donate, volunteer and attend our Christmas Fayre on Friday. I'm sure you will agree there was a lovely atmosphere and a nice way to spend an evening supporting your child's school. Thank you. We also had fun on Friday celebrating St Andrew's Day. This year we marked the occasion by having a giant ceilidh dance in the playground and to ensure a true Scottish experience it even started to rain in the middle of it!!

We are now moving swiftly into December and we have many festivities planned - please check the back of this newsletter for dates. Taking on feedback from last year's events, we have arranged that all children will be involved in one set of performances so please make sure you get your tickets in advance. P1 and P2 will be performing in their Nativity and P3-P7 will be performing in the Carol Concert. Separate letters have been issued for the performances so don't forget to check those school bags please! We look forward to seeing you at any of our events.

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
Book Week & Improving our Literacy

It was great to see so many parents involved in our Book Week events.
- P1 families came in for a Read with Me session
- P2&P3 families came in to collect their Read, Write and Count bag of goodies
- The whole school participated in a book swap
- Author Colin Drysdale visited room 12 and enthralled them by sharing his knowledge about writing information books

If you are looking for ways to encourage your child to read, or expand their knowledge of different types of books, Rhona the Children's Librarian at EK Central Library will always be happy to help.

Getting Everyone Engaged @ Kirktonholme
Spotlight on
Getting Winter Ready

The cold weather is now setting in. In the event of ice or snow, our janitor will prioritise safe pathways into the main school building from the school car park and the pedestrian gates. For your own safety, we would like to advise you to only use these pathways.

It is a rare occurrence for a school to not open due to bad weather. This would be communicated to you via the SLC Newsfeed, SLC Twitter Account and local radio stations. Please check these first instead of phoning the school.

On days like these your own judgement as a parent is crucial with respect to travelling safely in poor weather. Often just waiting half an hour later can make a big difference in getting your child to school safely.

It is essential you provide us with up to date contact details in the unusual event of the school having to close early. If we were to close early we would contact you via school app and/or text. Always make sure you have emergency arrangements in place.

If you haven't got it already please make sure you download our school app. Info is available at school on how to do this.

Please ensure all children's hats and gloves are named!

Christmas Jumper Day

Our Pupil Council have arranged a Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 14th December. If children are wearing their Christmas Jumper they should bring a £1 and all money raised will be donated to Save the Children.

We have noticed a few gym shoes are looking worn, so now is a good time to ask your child if they need their gym shoes replaced.
Spotlight on Growth Mindset
Links to...our school value of Positivity & Health & Wellbeing school aim

Our December monthly mantra is
We love a challenge!

Today at assembly your children learned about challenges. A pupil with a growth mindset is keen to take on new challenges and overcome any obstacle in their way, with a bit of hard work and determination! As a school, we encourage this mindset by having high expectations for all of our learners!

This often means we are teaching the students the difference between equity and equality. Pupils will learn that, in order to achieve and overcome challenges, some learners need more help and support than others.

As a parent, you can help and support your child by encouraging your child to
• Talk about their learning;
• Acting upon any feedback they get;
• Set themselves goals;
• Go for it - grow their brain!
• Try again if they make a mistake!

We know that
Nurturing Environment + Challenging Work + High Expectations = Growth

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 the 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.

Tue 4th Dec Nursery Outing am
Wed 5th & 6th Dec P6 Bubblegum & Fluff outing
Wed 5th Dec Moneysense visiting R6-R9
Thu 6th Dec Nursery Outing pm
NSPCC visiting
Mon 10th Dec Big Story Panto
Tues 11th Dec Nursery Nativity
Wed 12th Dec CHRISTMAS LUNCH
P5&6 Party
P7 choir @ Memory Cafe
P1 & P2 Nativity 10am & 2pm
Thurs 13th Dec
Fri 14th Dec CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY
Nursery Party for all (am)
P5&P6 Choir@Hairmyres
P1&2 Party (pm)

We hope to have a special visitor for the P1&P2 party & parents are welcome to come and watch at 2.30pm

Mon 17th Dec Christmas Service (pupils only)
P7 Party
Tues 18th Dec Choir @ Universal Connections
P3&4 party
Wed 19th Dec P3-P7 Carol Concert 9.30&1.30
Fri 21st Dec School closes 2.30pm
Dress Down Day
Mon 7th Jan 8.55 am Pupils return
Tue 15th Jan P6 Lockerbie Manor meeting 6pm

Dress Down Days are the last Friday of every month. All school holiday dates are available on SLC website.
*School holiday dates for 2019/2020 have been recently been agreed & published on the SLC website!

Christmas Parties
Most of our Christmas parties are in the afternoon. Children can come dressed to school in their party clothes, or they can change at lunchtime, or they can go home for lunch. Home lunches can be collected from the office at 12.30 and returned by 1.20pm. You will be very pleased to hear that there is no cost for the parties!

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch will be Wednesday 12th December