Dear Parents/Carers,

I trust you all had a relaxing and enjoying September weekend. Normal service has resumed at school with our Primary 7s having safely returned from their fantastic outdoor experience at Lockerbie Manor. They may have had to endure lots of ‘liquid sunshine’ but it did not dampen their enthusiasm or determination to enjoy their fun-filled week of activities. Mrs Miller and the staff team reported that our children’s behaviour was impeccable and a credit to our school. This type of experience is not possible without the dedicated staff who volunteer to accompany the children, and I know you appreciate their efforts too.

Last week we were delighted to ‘officially’ open our new outdoor space. In the aftermath of the winds, our youngest and oldest pupil cut the red ribbon whilst some of our children were singing. The children appeared to be more interested in the worms which had made an appearance on our golden pathway!!! We will now be timetabling classes to use this space in their everyday learning.

Finally, our very handsome Primary 1s are representing their new school in this week’s EK News!

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

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**Getting Everyone Engaged @ Kirktonholme**

**School Improvement Plan 2018/2019**

Every year, through our consultations, we identify priorities / projects for our school to keep improving and achieve our aims. We always have many new projects on the go, however, this year we have four teams working on the following specific projects:

- Increase the amount of outdoor learning
- Increase the use of assistive technology
- To improve our listening and talking skills
- To continue to improve the learning & teaching within the classroom.

As part of our outdoor work, our Parent Council and Pupil Council will be working together to improve our playtimes for our children.

Information about these projects, and others, are included in our School Improvement Plan which is accessible from our website. More information will also be made available during Parents’ Night.

**Sponsored Skip**

Please pass on our thanks to everyone who supported our sponsor event. Our current total is over £1200. We will use this money to help develop our outdoors.

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**Getting Everyone Engaged @ Kirktonholme**

**Parent Helpers / Volunteers**

We are delighted that we now have our new programme of parent helpers who are coming in to support the learning in our school. We are still looking for parents to help with paired reading. If you can volunteer 30mins twice a week, then we would love to hear from you.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered their support. If you are interested in helping, more information is available from Mrs McCaig.

We are also really interested to hear from you if your business or place of work has any connections which could help our children develop their understanding of the world of work.

**Getting Everyone Engaged @ Kirktonholme**

**Supporting our Community**

**Harvest donations**

Every year we make a substantial food donation to Loaves and Fishes. This year we would like to invite you to send in your food donations by Wednesday 10th October. Any donation will be very gratefully received.
**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.

- **Wed 3rd Oct**: Parent Council 7pm
- **Mon 8th Oct**: Rm 8&9 Assembly 9.30am
- **Thu 11th Oct**: Netball festival
- **Fri 12th Oct**: Flu Nasal Vaccinations
- **Mon 15th – Fri 19th Oct**: Holiday
- **Mon 22nd Oct**: P7 Parents Open Evening at Duncanrig
- **Fri 26th Oct**: Athletics festival
- **Mon 29th Oct – Fri 19th Nov**: Inservice (school closed to pupils)
- **Fri 23rd Nov**: Athletics festival
- **Mon 26th Nov**: P6 Assembly
- **Fri 30th Nov**: Dress Down Day
- **Fri 30th Nov**: Christmas Fayre
- **Tue 4th Dec**: Nursery Outing am
- **Wed 5th & 6th Dec**: P6 Bubblegum & Fluff outing
- **Thu 6th Dec**: Nursery Outing pm
- **Tues 11th Dec**: Nursery Nativity
- **Wed 12th Dec**: P5&6 Party
- **Thurs 14th Dec**: P1&2 Nativity 10am & 2pm
- **Fri 14th Dec**: Nursery 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.**