Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to everyone for the excellent turn out we had at our Meet the Teacher event last week which I hope you found very useful. I am sure you found our staff very welcoming and friendly as the positive relationships within our school is something we work hard at and pride ourselves on. Another big thank you is extended to you as your children continue to look extremely smart in their uniforms and nearly all of them were smiling in their recent photos!!

We are very proud of our new Primary 1 children who have settled into school life very easily and our magnificent Primary 7s who have risen to the challenge of being mentors to the younger children. Our Parent Council AGM will be tonight at 7pm and all parents who would like to become involved in our Parent Council are warmly invited. Today marks our first day of the long awaited Parent Pay, an online payment system. We encourage all parents to sign up and use this as we will become a ‘cashless’ school very soon. If you are still using cash, please send your child with the exact dinner money on a daily basis as this will help our system changeover. 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

Keeping our children safe!

The safety of our children is our number one priority however we often find it can be compromised due to parents’ parking behaviours. If you are a new parent to our school please share the follow information with any adult who collects your child. Our car park can be extremely busy and we would recommend that you find alternative means to dropping off and collecting your children.

CAR PARK RULES
1 Only blue badge holders are allowed to park in disabled spaces. Priority is given to our children who have blue badges.
2 Parents are not allowed to park at the bin shelters.
3 The car park area is for staff only. This must be kept clear in the mornings.

Captains & Vice Captains
I am delighted to announce our new Captains and Vice Captains for this year.

Culzean Bethan Fiona Beth Rachel
Dean Josh Holly Zoe Alanis
Edinburgh Isla Oscar Olivia Toby
Stirling Niadh Euan Abbie Finlay

This is a great opportunity for our children to learn about responsibility and leadership. Each child in our school is a member of one of these houses. Children with the surnames beginning with
A-E belong to Culzean    F-L belong to Dean
M-O belong to Edinburgh    P-Z belong to Stirling

Parent Events & sharing your child’s progress
Throughout the year you will be invited to different events which give you the opportunity to become more involved in your child’s learning and to learn about their progress. This year we have planned -

Aug Meet the Teacher
Nov Parents’ Night
March Parents’ Night
June Written report

Each class will host a parent event and will also be involved in an assembly showcasing an aspect of their learning. In addition to these events, we have our homework diary which incorporates homework tasks, aspects of your child’s learning journey as well as a weekly target you can support them with. We hope you find this an excellent tool in helping you be involved in your child’s learning.

Wet Weather Mornings
Reminder: In the event of heavy rain children may enter school at 8.45am. Rooms 1-6 should enter through the front dining room entrance and Rooms 7-14 should enter through our main entrance. Please be advised that parents are unable to wait with children inside the building. Usually on these mornings the volume of traffic is greatly increased so please leave extra time for your journey and drop off as the car park is particularly busy.
Getting Everyone Engaged @ Kirktonholme
Supporting our School

There are many ways you can support our school and its pupils. You can
- accompany classes on outings
- be a parent helper in the classroom
- support our paired reading programme
- assist or lead an after school / lunch club
- teach our children new skills eg host a ‘Masterclass’
- share information about your job
If you are able to volunteer some of your time, we would love to hear from you. Please contact our school office leaving your name and number.

Spotlight on Outdoor Learning
Engaging our learners

As part of our ongoing outdoor learning work, we have arranged for the very popular Wild Squirrel to return and provide every class with two outdoor experiences. Children will be participating in this regardless of the weather conditions! Due to the overwhelming demand from last term, Mrs McCaig has already rescheduled the family sessions.

Chaplaincy Team

The members of our chaplaincy team are
- Douglas Wallace  Stewartfield
- Mahboob Masih  West Mains Kirk
- David Graham  Baptist Church

Our chaplaincy team work together to support the work of the school by providing some opportunities for Religious Observance. We must provide pupils with at least 6 Religious Observance opportunities every year in addition to any traditional celebrations. These are also known as a Time to Reflect. When a minister leads Religious Observance in our school, it will be in the form of a 15 minute assembly. During these occasions pupils are invited to reflect and join in with a prayer, if they wish. If you do not wish your child to participate in this form of Religious Observance please advise the Head Teacher in writing on an annual basis.

We would like to wish Rev Jim McGillvray a long and happy retirement.

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.

Mon 2nd Sept  Parent Council AGM 7pm
Tues 3rd Sept  M&M productions
Fri 6th Sept  P1 photo (EK News)
Mon 9th – 14th Sept  P7s @ Lockerbie Manor
Maths week
Bikeability
Fri 20th Sept  Parent helper workshop 2pm
Fri 27th & Mon 30th Sept  Holiday
Thu 10th Oct  Flu Vaccines
Fri 11th Oct  Dress Down Day
Mon 14th – Fri 18th Oct  Holiday
Fri 1st Nov  Dress Down Day
Thurs 14th Nov  Parents’ Evening
Mon 18th & Tue 19th Nov  INSERVICE DAYS
3.30-5.30  6.30-8.30pm
Fri 29th Nov  Dress Down Day
Tue 3rd Dec  Nursery Outing to Low Waters am
Thu 5th Dec  Nursery Outing to Low Waters pm
Tues 10th Dec  Nursery Nativity
Wed 11th Dec  P5 & 6 Party
Thurs 12th Dec  P1 & 2 Nativity 10am & 2pm
Fri 13th Dec  Nursery Party (am)
P1 &2 Party (pm) Parents can attend at 2.30pm
Mon 16th Dec  Christmas Service
P7 Party
Tues 17th Dec  P3 & P4 Party
Wed 18th Dec  Carol concert 9.30 and 1.30pm
Fri 20th Dec  Dress Down Day
School closes 2.30pm
Mon 6th Jan  Pupils return

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

PLEASE NAME ALL CLOTHING AND CHECK YOUR CHILD COMES HOME WITH THEIR OWN CLOTHES. Thank you

Dogs are not allowed in the playground.