

NOVEMBER NEWS

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors, Staff and Pupils

COVID Update

We have four more weeks to go and classes still continue to be off. This is inevitable under this current climate but we are assured that most cases remain isolated and the cleaning regime has helped.

We met with the Local Authority leaders on Tuesday for a discussion about the school and its procedures. This gave us perspective about where we stand as we look around the East Riding. It was concluded that the school is a low risk and the measures put in place are doing the job. We continue to monitor what we do and we welcome back classes this week.

It is important that we all follow the rules if we are required to isolate. We also need to keep children off if they have symptoms and get them tested.

Please be aware that the notification for a class isolating can come at any time and I know this is not always convenient. We do let you know as soon as we find out we have a positive case. Please have contingencies in place in case it happens. We will endeavour to follow this up with a letter as soon as possible stating the dates for isolation. This letter could get to you anytime that day as we are waiting for the local authority to agree the dates and they may be busy. We cannot release a letter until these dates have been agreed.

If you do have a positive test for your child, please let us know as soon as possible. This is by phoning within school hours or, as mentioned in a previous email, by using the number set up for parents to contact us out of normal school hours (evenings, weekends, and holidays). This number is only to be used to report positive results for a pupil. This is to ensure we follow procedures at the earliest possible time to ensure everyone's safety. Please save the number in your phone, 07399355450.

Suspected cases, and positive results for members of the household can still be notified by email to office@kirkella.eriding.net.

If your child is already in one of the isolating class bubbles and they develop symptoms or receive a positive test result please notify the school on the email address above, as we must report on all cases.

Doodle

As you may know the children are becoming more and more used to working with Doodle. We have four programmes. Doodle Maths, Doodle Tables, Doodle Spellings and Doodle English. It is so important that the children spend some time on this during the week as it is having a big impact on those that are using it regularly.

Staff are using it for homeworks and the children are being shown it at school. Please download the apps and get your children involved. We are introducing certificates to our top Doodler each week in each area. Some children have developed a streak of over 40 days by going on everyday.

We can track the progress of all the children, looking at their strengths and areas for development. This is rated by school age and we can see children accelerating in their progress who are using it often. The staff can also set work to target specific areas that are being worked on in school.

This is a program that is designed for you to leave with your child once set up as it will provide support for them.



When you go on it will assess your child's ability by asking some questions. Please do not help your child as this will make the programme create work which is too easy or too hard. If your child struggles they can click for a 'Hint' in the corner and it will also provide an explanation if you require one.

Reading

We are continuing with our DEAR time in classes and encouraging this at home. DEAR stands for Drop Everything And Read.

We want children to have a love for reading books and sharing books they are reading in school. The best way to get children engaged in books is to hear it from their class mates. So if your child is reading a book they want to share, let them bring it in. We are also encouraging children to create a cosy corner for reading at home. These can be photographed and shared on ClassDojo to give some ideas and we would like to put a display together of all the cosy corners going on around the school. So if that's you please feel free to show us what they have done.



Please read at home with your child. We know reading regularly with your child can make a massive difference to their progress. But it isn't always easy to fit it in day-to-day.

Here are some easy ways you can make reading a part of every day:

1. Don't worry about how long you read for. Every minute spent reading makes a bigger difference than you realise!
2. Don't worry about what your kids are reading: recipes, cereal packets, Argos catalogues... It's all useful! Keep books and other reading materials close by.
3. Reading to kids of all ages is helpful. If your little one isn't reading by themselves yet, read with them.
4. Ask lots of questions: Who, what, where, when and why and ask them to summarise when you've finished.

This is so important and will make such a big difference to all of their work all the way up to Year 6.

We have a booklet on our website which will provide extra guidance to help you question your child as well.

<https://kirkellprimaryschool.org.uk/helping-child-read/>

Foundation and Year 1 Christmas show

The children in Foundation and Year 1 are working very hard to produce their Christmas play this year. Each class have produced their own show and the DVD will be on sale for £5. This enables us to cover our costs.

We will broadcast this video early in December once they have been recorded. A link will be sent to the parents/carers of each class.



Children in Need

Thank you for all the donations we had last week for Children in Need. It is always fun to dress up and you and the children did the school proud. We managed to raise £552.62, that is including £56 that Mrs Holgate raised from the sale of her buns.

The children in Year 2 were also involved in with a singalong as part of Radio Humbersides 'The Big Bubble Sing'. They sang to McFly's song Happiness and a video was made.

Remembrance Day

This was observed in school as usual. It is a shame that we could not have poppies outside this year. We did send two children up to the church during the week to place a wreath from the school as usual as it was impossible for all the children to go.



Christmas Cards

Christmas cards will be allowed this year but we need to be careful on how they are spread around the school. Therefore we are only asking for cards to be sent to your child's class. There will be a box in each class for them to be placed where they will be quarantined and given out. Please can you ensure all cards are sent in the first week in December to cut down disruption.

Rotary Box Scheme

Thank you to all of you who have contributed already for the shoe box scheme. It is great to see so many boxes going to brighten up the lives of so many children.



School Diary Autumn

Autumn 2020	Activity	Autumn 2020	Activity
Tuesday 24 th November	Rotary Shoe Box return day	Thursday 17 th December	Year 3 Christmas Party am
Tuesday 1 st December	Flu Vaccines	Thursday 17 th December	Year 4 Christmas Party pm
Tuesday 15 th December	Year 5 Christmas Party am	Friday 18 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 15 th December	Year 2 Christmas Party pm	Saturday 19 th December – Sunday 3 rd January	Christmas Holidays
Wednesday 16 th December	Foundation and Year 1 Christmas Party am	Monday 4 th January	Training Day
Wednesday 16 th December	Year 6 Christmas Party pm	Tuesday 5 th January	School Starts