



BELIEVE ACHIEVE SUCCEED

September 2017 – NEWSLETTER

Please remember to check book bags for letters and let us know if you change your contact details.

The new school term is well underway and children have settled really well into their new classes. We have lots of things happening between now and Christmas, so keep a look out for things on the school website and on our Facebook page.

As we are now experiencing cooler weather, please can you ensure that your child has a warm waterproof coat with them every day. Please make sure you name all your child's belongings, as it makes it so much easier when children misplace things.

Attendance Champions

The 'Best Attenders' from the last academic year (5th September 2016-21st July 2017)

1st Place- Tigers – 97.58%

2nd Place- Pandas – 97.44%

3rd Place – Manatees – 97.35%

We monitor and promote good attendance and punctuality as this is one of the most important factors in helping your child to achieve their potential. Each week the class with the best attendance will be celebrated in Friday's 'Golden Assembly' and all pupils with 100% attendance receive a certificate at the end of each term. Please support us in ensuring your child has excellent attendance and punctuality.

Parents' Evening

Parents/carers' Evening will be on Wednesday 11th October. Letters have gone home offering appointment times. Please return to school by Friday 29th September. Confirmation of your appointment time will be returned to you on Thursday 5th October. If you need another letter, please call in at the main office, or drop-in session.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We are holding a coffee morning on Friday 29th September in the Castle Community Hub in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Admission is £1 which includes a drink and piece of cake.

We will also have cakes for sale and a tombola. Please come along and help us support this worthwhile cause.

We would welcome any donations of cakes, biscuits etc or donations for the tombola. These can be handed in at our morning drop-in sessions. We are having a one-off baking session on the Thursday afternoon (28th Sept), 1:15-3:15, to bake buns and cakes to sell. This will be in the community room. Everyone is welcome to attend, but we are not able to accommodate pre-school children, as we do not have any crèche facilities.

Individual Photograph Day

All children will be having their individual photograph taken on Monday 9th October. Please look out for the letter, which is coming home about siblings having their photographs taken together. If you have children who are not in school yet and would like a photo taking with their older sibling, please come to the main reception at 8:30am on the Monday morning.

Pantomime

Years 1 and 2 are going to the pantomime to see Jack and the Beanstalk on Thursday 14th December, at the Lawrence Batley Theatre. The performance will be in the morning, so children will back at school in time for normal pick up.

The cost of the trip is £8 which is a reduced price to schools. This can be paid using your ParentPay account, or at a Paypoint shop using the letter with the barcode on. Payments must be made by the 31st October. School trips are already subsidised by school and school funding is extremely stretched given recent budget cuts. We are not in a position to bear the costs if parents/carers do not pay. Please be aware if insufficient funds are collected this trip may be cancelled.

Parking

Please be aware that both the front and side car parks are private property and for staff only. We keep traffic in this area to an absolute minimum to ensure the safety of pupils and parents/carers. Parents/carers should **NOT** drive onto the school grounds, unless they have a disabled permit issued by the Headteacher. Many of you come to and from school by taxi and again, these should not be coming into the car parks or up the school drive. There are limited spaces on Headfield Road so we recommend that you park on the roads away from school and walk the last bit to school. Please do not block driveways on Headfield Road, or White Hart Drive, as we have received several complaints from local residents. There have been several near misses on the roads recently and we all need to work together to keep our children safe.

Castle Community Hub

We have several courses running at the moment with new ones starting throughout the year. If you are interested in attending any of them or require further information, please contact: Mrs Scally, Mrs Mellor or Mrs Heywood the email address is:

castlecommunityhub@kirkleeseducation.uk or call in at the morning drop-in session.

Courses run in the community room of the Castle Community Hub. You are welcome to call in for support, advice or a friendly face in the morning.

One of our behaviour support workers is available at the drop-in on Mondays, Mr White is available on Tuesdays for SEND advice. Our bi-lingual support workers are available on Wednesdays (Punjabi and Urdu), Thursdays (Arabic) and Fridays (Polish).

We also have following courses:

- **Stay and Play** sessions run by teacher and nursery nurse:
Tuesday afternoons from 1.45-3.15pm. Please advertise this to family and friends as it is open to everyone with pre-school age children in the local community.
- Weekly **Story Time** session for pre-school children and parents.
Thursday afternoons 2.45-3.15pm. Please advertise this to family and friends as it is open to everyone with pre-school age children in the local community.
- **STEPS** course starts 29th September every Friday until 8th December 9:15-11:45
Designed to help build confidence, feel good about yourself, setting goals and most of all having fun and eating cake!
- **Community cards** starts Wednesday 20th September 1-3pm.
Making cards for Birthdays, Christmas etc. – These are sold to raise funds for the Welcome Centre.
We also have a box where you can bring any of your old cards for recycling.
- **Jewellery Making** starts Tuesday 31st October 1-2:30

- **Reading Friends** training starts Monday 6th November until 27th November 9:15-12:15
- Local **Baby Clinic** Wednesdays 9-10:30 offering weighing of baby service and general advice for mums and babies.

Castle Community Hub is for everyone in the local community. Please encourage others to look on the website and to use the hub facilities.

Diary Dates

Thursday 28th September – National Poetry Day - Assembly at 2:30pm Parents/Carers Invited

Friday 29th September – Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Hub 9-10:30

Thursday 5th October- Harvest Festival Assembly – 2:40 Parents/Carers welcome

Monday 9th October – Individual Photos

Wednesday 11th October- Parents Evening 3.30-7pm

Wednesday 18th October – Black History Assembly 2:30pm Parents/Carers Invited

Friday 20th October – Disco EY/KS1 3:15-4:15 + Disco KS2 5-6:30

Friday 20th October – Break up for half term

Monday 30th October – Back to school

Wednesday 1st November to Tuesday 7th November – Book Fair

Friday 17th November – Training Day – School Closed

Thursday 14th December - Pantomime for Penguins, Sharks and Pandas (morning)

Friday 22nd December – Break up for Christmas

Monday 8th January 2018 – Back to school