



BELIEVE ACHIEVE SUCCEED

January 2018 – NEWSLETTER

Please remember to check book bags for letters and please ensure we have your correct contact details.

The new school term is well under way now and everyone is working hard. Please help your child with reminders about behaviour, trying their hardest, completing homework and reading every day.

Christmas Fair

Thank you to everyone who helped, contributed and came to the Christmas Fair. We raised £1223.00 which goes towards school funds.

Christmas Jumper Day

We raised a huge £300 on Christmas Jumper Day. The money will be shared between 3 charities – Forget Me Not Trust, Ruddi's Retreat and Save The Children. Thank you for your contributions.

Staff Changes

We are happy to welcome Mrs S Thornton Class Teacher in Barn Owls.

Miss L Wood Educational Teaching Assistant/Outdoor Learning

Mrs L Storer Educational Teaching Assistant in Penguins and Whales.

Miss K Kaur Educational Teaching Assistant in Wolves and Lunchtime Activity support

School Meals and Milk

Can parents of Reception and KS1 children in receipt of benefits, please make sure they apply for Free School Meals via the Kirklees website (www.kirklees.gov.uk). If you are entitled to Free Meals your child will also receive Free School Milk.

The Governments 'Universal Free School Meals' scheme is for all children in Reception and KS1. If your child would normally receive Free School Meals and is in Reception or KS1, you still need to make an application for Free School Meals via the Kirklees Website. If an application is not made, then from the beginning of the school term your child turns 5 you will be required to pay for School Milk.

If your circumstances change, you must inform the Free School Meal office on 221928 and let them know what has changed. Please also let the school office know.

If you would like further advice or support with applying for Free School Meals, please see Mrs Mellor or Mrs Heywood at the drop in sessions between 8:30-9 Monday to Friday.

Parking

Please be aware that both the front and side car parks are for staff only and parents should not drive onto the school grounds, unless they have a disabled permit issued by the headteacher. Taxis or parent/carer cars should not be coming into the car parks. There are limited spaces on Headfield Road, but we recommend that you park on the roads away from school and walk the last bit. Please do not block driveways on Headfield Road, or White Hart Drive. We have received several complaints from local residents. We have had several near misses and need all parents and carers working with us 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 (see flyer attached) 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).

Recycle

If you have any old Christmas/greetings cards that you would like to recycle please drop them in at the Hub. Community Cards will make new greetings cards with them, to help raise funds for the Welcome Centre.

Also any outgrown school uniform you have can be handed in at the Hub or the main office for the Uniform Exchange Programme.

Bad Weather

Please make sure your child has warm, waterproof clothes as we do try to get outside whatever the weather. We will always try to keep school open if it is safe to do so but if we do have heavy snow, we will use our texting service to let you know if we have to open late or close. Please make sure your contact numbers are up to date. School closures are posted on the Kirklees website and announced on local radio stations.

Attendance Champions

Last term's winner of the 'Best Attenders' were Lemurs with 97.87%. Second were Wolves with 97.46%. Third were Rhinos Sumatran with 97.27%. Good attendance is a key factor in supporting pupils to make good progress and we are always aiming for 100% attendance.

Please support us by sending your child to school on time every day unless they are genuinely too ill to attend.

Diary Dates

Thursday 15th February – Early Years and KS1 Disco -3:15-4:15

KS2 Disco – 5-6:30

Thursday 15th February – Break up for half term

Friday 16th February – School Closed – Staff Training Day

Monday 26th February – Back to School

Thursday 1st March – World Book Day

Wednesday 7th March – Parents Evening, 3:30 – 7pm

Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th March - Year 4 Bikeability

Tuesday 27th March - Easter Showcase Event, 2.00pm

Wednesday 28th March – Easter Fair, 3.15pm

Thursday 29th March – Break up for Easter

Monday 16th April – Back to School

