

## **School Update – October 2018**

Welcome to the first update for this school year, in addition to this we have also prepared a diary for the coming half term Paper copies of all correspondence sent home can always be found in the blue folder in the front entrance or on the school website. All letters and updates are sent home by email unless you have specifically asked for paper copies. If your email address changes please let us know and we will update our mailing list. If you change any of your other contact details (mobile, home phone number or home address) please let the office know immediately.

### **School Website**

Please take the time to have a look at the school website (<https://holmfirthjinschool.net/>). The website is updated daily and is full of information about the activities your children's classes take part in every day. If ever you need any other information about the school you can find it on the site - including letters to parents, diary dates, school updates etc.

### **New Starters**

A reminder for parents of children in Nursery, please don't forget to register your child for a Reception place for September 2018. The closing date is the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and all applications should be made on-line at [www.kirklees.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/admissions). Please contact the school office if you require any assistance.

### **Absences**

If your child will be absent from school please telephone the school office by 9.30am giving a reason for their absence.

### **School Development Plan**

Our school priorities for this year are:

- To ensure that systems and processes are securely in place for accurate and rigorous self-evaluation.
- To further develop systems which ensure the identification of needs and measurement of impact.
- To ensure the continued successful working of Early Years, without a Nursery teacher.
- To develop greater opportunity for scientific thinking and investigation.
- To develop greater depth writing opportunities and ensure verification.
- To develop greater opportunity for reasoning, explanation and justification.
- To develop greater opportunity for musical provision and performance.
- To develop greater provision for mindfulness.
- To improve the attainment of Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling.

## **Dinner Money**

The amount due for the coming half term is £74.80. All payments for milk and dinners should be paid in advance regardless of whether you pay weekly or half termly.

Please can you ensure that any outstanding money for this half term are paid, via ParentPay by Friday 26 October.

If your child currently has school dinners and wishes to stop having dinners and have sandwiches instead, please be aware that the kitchen require 3 weeks' notice, to enable them to reduce their food orders.

## **Head Lice**

We have had a number of cases of head lice in school, we would therefore ask that over the holidays you check and treat your child's hair if appropriate. To help eliminate head lice we ask that long hair, for girls or boys, be tied back at all times.

## **Flu Immunisations**

The children in Reception, Year 1, 2, 3 & 4 (where parents have given permission) will be having their flu immunisations on Wednesday 28 November in the morning.

## **PE Kit - Reminder**

Some children are still coming to school with no PE kit – please can you ensure that your child(ren) have the following PE kit in school at all times, shorts, t-shirt, and trainers. In cold weather joggers and a sweatshirt/hooded top should be worn. Long hair should be tied back and no jewellery should be worn. This applies to children in Years 1 to 6.

## **Jewellery**

Jewellery is not allowed to be worn in school, apart from simple stud earrings if your child has pierced ears. This should be removed or covered during the PE lessons.

## **School Trips/Events**

In September Year 2 went on a Blackberry walk and then made jam (which was delicious) with Mrs Formby, thanks to her and the parent helpers who went on the walk.

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent school book fair. It was a great success; you bought around £700 worth of books which has raised around £350 for school. This a huge amount for us, thanks again.

On Wednesday 10 October Year 5 stayed at Cliffe House for their three day residential trip. They had a great time despite some mixed weather conditions! They completed a river walk and climbed very difficult rock faces. Their behaviour was amazing throughout the stay!

The Year 5 children will have the opportunity to attend the 'Bikeability' training sessions during the second week back after the holidays (6/11 – 9/11). Further details, such as which days, the children will ride will be given to the children by Mrs Turner/Mrs Perrons to those children who have had permission given by their parents.

A number of permission slips are still to be returned, please reply by Monday 22 October, confirming whether your child is taking part, so that final arrangements can be made.

There will be a KS2 'Mindfulness' Assembly on Thursday at 9.10am. Parents/Carers are welcome to join us.

The Year 1 class will be holding a 'Phonics' Open Morning for parents and carers on Tuesday 20 November between 9.00 – 10.00am.

### **Sporting Events**

Year 1 have been enjoying their 'Pilates' sessions each week, thank you to Mrs Root (Laurie's mum) for holding the sessions and for her patience!

Year 2 have also been having weekly yoga sessions, which they have enjoyed very much. On the 24 October there will be a presentation for parents/carers held in the hall at 1.30pm.

A Year 3/4 & 5/6 cross country competition and Year 1/2 Fun Run was held at Holmfirth High School in September. The children ran with great enthusiasm and came away with some fantastic results. Well done to all those children taking part.

The annual 'Sports Hall Athletics' competition will be held on Tuesday 23 October. The Year 5/6 team have been selected and a letter has been given to the children who will be taking part, details of the event are given also.

### **Before and After School Clubs**

Details of the clubs taking place next half term were sent out last Friday. Places are still available at the clubs please reserve your child's place by making a payment to your ParentPay account. After signing up for a club your child should attend regularly, if your child will not be attending any of the sessions please let the office staff know so that we can mark them off the register. After half term all children will need to be collected from school after the clubs have finished as it will be dark at 4.30pm.

### **FONS**

There will be a 'Spooky' Halloween Disco on Thursday 25 October – FSU/KS1 6.00pm – 7.00pm and KS2 classes from 7.15pm – 8.15pm.

The FONS Christmas Fair will be held on Wednesday 19 December with Santa's Grotto being available for the children. The fair will run from 3.30pm to 5.00pm.

FONS are looking into the possibility of starting a school lottery – details will be sent home in due course.

New members are always welcome, especially parents of new starters. Call into the office if you would like details about FONS and we will introduce you to committee members.

### **Christmas 2018**

Here are some dates for your diary for the Christmas period:

The Early Years/KS1 performances will be held on Wednesday 12 December at 10.00am – 11.30am and 2pm – 3.30pm. The dress rehearsal will be held on Tuesday 11 December.

'Aladdin' will be performed at the Lawrence Batley Theatre in December. Our children (Reception – Year 6) will be going to watch on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 1.00pm – Further details are available on your ParentPay account or from the school office.

Class parties will be held on Tuesday 18 December.

The Christmas lunch will take place on Wednesday 19 December. Children who normally have sandwiches will be able to have a school meal on this day. A letter will be sent home nearer the time.

The following is also happening on Wednesday 19 December:

In the morning the whole school will be going to Holy Trinity Church Holmfirth to meet Rev Griffin. The children will return to have their Christmas lunch.

In the afternoon, from 2.30pm – 3.30pm, there will be a KS2 Carol Service in the Mission Possible area pupils and parents/carers. This will then lead into the Christmas Fair which will run until 5.00pm.

As you can see this will be a very busy but enjoyable day for us all!

Further details for all these events will be given in due course.

### **Holiday Dates**

School closes for half term on Friday 26 October and re-opens on Monday 5 November.

The school will close on Thursday 20 December for the Christmas holidays. We will re-open on Monday 7 January 2018.

We hope you have an enjoyable half term holiday and would like to thank you for your continued support of the school.

Regards  
The Leadership Team