



**Staveley and Kirk Hammerton CE Primary Schools
Christmas Newsletter 12th December 2016**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Christmas newsletter!



Dates and Reminders:

Dates for the last week of the Autumn Term

Kirk Christmas lunch* - Tuesday 13th December

Trip to the pantomime (classes 2 and 3) – Wednesday 14th December

Class 1 (from both schools) Christmas crafts at Staveley – Wednesday 14th December

Staveley Christmas lunch* – Thursday 15th December

Carols around the tree at Staveley – Thursday 15th December, 2.30 p.m.

Christmas parties at both schools – Friday 16th December

Term finishes – Friday 16th December

Children are welcome to come in their own clothes along with Christmas accessory on Christmas party day.

*Children are invited to bring in a Christmas accessory to wear on Christmas lunch days but still need to be dressed in school uniform.

Dates for the Spring Term

INSET day for staff only - Tuesday 3rd January

Term starts for children - Wednesday 4th January

Class 2 assembly at Staveley, 2.45 p.m. - Wednesday 18th January

Parents' Evening at both schools - Monday 6th February

Parents' Evening at both schools - Wednesday 8th February

Class 3 assembly at Staveley - Wednesday 8th February

Class 2 leading worship at Kirk - Monday 13th February (parents welcome)

Celebration assembly at Staveley, 9.00 a.m. - Friday 17th February

Celebrating our work worship at Kirk, 3.00 p.m - Friday 17th February (parents welcome)

School finishes for half term - Friday 17th February

School starts 27th February

World Book Day - Thursday 2nd March

Celebration assembly at Staveley, 9.00 a.m. - Friday 7th April

Celebrating our work worship at Kirk, 3.00 p.m. - Friday 7th April

Term finishes - Friday 7th April



School Lunches for 1st half spring term £69.30

Important – just a reminder that both schools are NUT FREE SCHOOLS. Please refrain from sending your child into school with any food containing nuts. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Text messaging communication

In January Staveley will be trialling the use of text messaging as a way of communicating dates and important information with parents/carers. The service is a one-way communication service and will not change how regular communication such as newsletters and emails are delivered to you. Communication from yourselves to school will also not be affected by this.





We would be very interested to hear your views about this, once it is up and running. If the trial goes well at Staveley, the service should be adopted (budget permitting). We are expecting that the service will then also be trialled at Kirk.

Thank you!

On behalf of staff at the schools I would like to thank the following people for their very valuable support of the children, families and staff:

Staveley

- 😊 Diane Bracken – for hearing readers
- 😊 Rev Camilla Denton – for leading an assembly in school once every half term
- 😊 Chris Denton – for supporting the choir at Staveley
- 😊 Camilla Backhouse – for hearing readers and supporting the work in the classroom
- 😊 FOSS – for organising the Christmas Disco, providing crackers for the Christmas lunch and paying for ice-creams during our trip to the pantomime
- 😊 FOSS for donating our Christmas tree
- 😊 Mrs Quinn for decorating the Christmas tree

Kirk

- 😊 Alison Burnett-Fisher, Phyllis Pick and Kate Long for coming into school regularly to hear children read
- 😊 Matthew Bennett and Matthew Taft for running the football club every Friday lunchtime
- 😊 Ainsty Farm Shop for donating our Christmas tree
- 😊 Johnsons for donating the tree for the school entrance and for organising a tree and bulb planting session for children in National Tree Week
- 😊 Playground Buddies for supporting all children to have positive play times and for organising the playground equipment
- 😊 Rev Paul for leading worship on some Wednesdays throughout term
- 😊 Friends of Kirk for organising the Film Night for the children, the Christmas Fair for families and the community and the Wreath Night. Also, a very big thank you to Friends of Kirk for purchasing our fabulous new mobile smart board.

Both Schools

- 😊 All the parents, carers, governors and staff that supported our open mornings
- 😊 Edd Mason – for teaching PE once every week and organising events through our link with Queen Ethelburgas School (both schools)
- 😊 All parents/carers who sent in contributions for the Christmas hampers
- 😊 Open the Book team – for leading an interactive assembly in school once every half term (the children love your visits!) The Open the Book team have asked if there are any members of the community at Kirk who would be interested in joining in with their events in school. No previous acting experience is needed!! If so Glennis Copnall would love to hear from you. Glennis is happy to be contacted – her contact details are with Becki in the school office.





Children's News

Achievements

Star of the Week and Effort Shield



Kirk Hammerton Stars of the Week

Class 1 – Arthur Hoggarth and Isabelle Taft

Grace Barrington-Hirst

Merlin Rowell

Class 2 – Whole class

Anna Whittemore

Tessa Goodwin

Class 3 – Archie Whittemore

Jack Parnaby

Kirk Hammerton Effort Shield – Jan Gordon

Ava Davis-Blackburn

Martha Main

Messages from Kirk School Council

In our last meeting, we decided on our code of conduct:

- *To listen to other people*
- *To think before we speak*
- *Only one person to speak at a time*

We decided on our roles as follows:

Seb - Chair

Livia – Vice Chair

Jack and Henry – Fund raising Ambassadors

Ava – Community Ambassadors

Archie – Food Ambassadors

Yours sincerely

School Council

Staffing news

Teaching staff

With effect from January 2017, Mrs Gibson (Class 2 teacher) will be working on Monday through to Thursday every week and Miss Maguire will be working in Class 2 on Fridays. The children already know Miss Maguire as she has been teaching them on a Thursday afternoon during the second half of this term.

Volunteer School Counsellor

A volunteer school counsellor has offered some time to support the children, staff and families within both Staveley and Kirk Hammerton. Her name is Mandy Dadswell and she currently works as a school counsellor at Harrogate Ladies College. She is carrying out some further training focussing on counselling support for younger children. Please see the message below from Mandy:





Hi my name is Mandy Dadswell and I have been working with children and adolescents in a counselling role for several years. I became interested in supporting young people when I worked for The Harrogate Probation Office and the Police service whilst supporting my Psychology degree and Forensic science/criminology diploma. I wanted to help those who had taken the wrong path and support them in finding their feet again. My role incorporated helping young people with job applications, work experience and general integration within the community. This sparked my interest in counselling work and I embarked upon a Diploma in Counselling supported by St Michaels hospice (working with bereaved and terminally ill people) and The Market Place Counselling agency (working with 13-23 year olds). After 2 years I became qualified and registered with the British Association of Counsellors and Psychotherapists. As I have always been interested in continued professional development I decided to take the BACP accreditation course which is awarded to Counsellors who have attained a higher level of experience.

Currently I work for a local school (11-18 year olds) and as a Private Practitioner in Harrogate. I began my Masters course in Psychotherapy (child and adolescents) earlier this year. My experience has taken me onto the course at year 4 meaning I will be working toward the Masters degree for a 2 further years. The course is registered by the UK Counsel for Psychotherapy and it is run by The Northern Guild for Psychotherapy in Newcastle (under Newman University). In order for me to be able to gain the most from the degree I wanted the opportunity to work with a very young age group so began to look at the schools in Knaresborough where I have always lived. My preference being to work in a smaller school where I believe that I could easily and quickly become integrated with staff, parents and children.

My intention is to work with the children at the school for approximately 4 hours a week offering support with any difficulties they may be encountering or any worries they may have. I work with many different models of therapy including play and art therapy and I will be helping the children to manage their difficulties better by using certain tools and thinking about things in different ways. I also work with Dyadic Development Psychotherapy which incorporates other members of the family should there be a need to ask parents to come along and join in our sessions occasionally.

Should you wish to know anything further about me please log onto 'The Counselling Directory' and enter my post code 'HG5'. You should find me in the top few listings of the directory where there is a lot more information that you may find useful.

Just to clarify, Mandy would not be working with all of the children and any support offered would be through communication with yourselves. No involvement would take place without your knowledge and agreement.

Mandy will be available at the start of school either during next week and/or the first week of the Spring Term as an opportunity for you to meet her.

Nativity

Thank you to all the children who performed in our nativity plays 'A Miracle in Town' at Kirk and 'Prickly Hay' at Staveley. Thank you also to Miss Fraser, Mrs Gibson, Mrs Gill, Mrs Moss, Mrs Hartshorn and Mrs Dickinson for working with the children on such fine and enjoyable performances. We clearly have some very talented children at both schools. I felt very proud of them all!





Happy Christmas and New Year!!

On behalf of the staff teams at both schools, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy new year. We are looking forward to seeing you all at the start of the Spring Term!

Liz Mellor

