

## SCHOOL UPDATE 2

### December 2018

We have nearly come to the end of another very busy term and we would like to update you on some of our school activities and confirm final arrangements for Christmas activities.

This is the second update for this school year. In addition to this update we have also prepared a diary for the coming half term (see attached). Sending letters home via e-mail continues to be successful. If you change your e-mail address please let the office know and we will amend your details.

[office.holmfirthjin@kirkleeseducation.uk](mailto:office.holmfirthjin@kirkleeseducation.uk)

#### **Staffing Update**

You may have noticed that Miss Robinson is having a baby! We wish her all the best with her new arrival in the new year. From January until the end of this school year in July, Mrs Tobin will be teaching Year 3 on Mondays and Mrs Turner will be teaching in Reception class on Thursday & Fridays. We are delighted that Mrs Tobin and Mrs Turner have agreed to take on these extra hours. This means, given their expertise and knowledge of the school, the children will experience as little change as possible. Mr Warrener and Mrs Tobin will continue to teach Year 6 albeit with a slightly altered timetable. Miss Robinson will be returning to school in September.

#### **Website**

Please check the school website (<http://holmfirthjinschool.net/>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/HolmfirthJINSch>) for regular daily updates from Mr Rose, other information is shown on the site including all letters to parents sent from school.

#### **Absences and late arrivals**

If your child is absent from school, please telephone the school office on 01484 687565 by 9.15am giving a reason for their absence. The morning bell goes at 8.55am. Please ensure that your child(ren) arrives on time. Late arrivals cause disruption to classes and children miss out on important learning time.

#### **Parental Feedback Forms**

Thank you to all of you that sent back your Parental Feedback forms. We are working through these and the replies are providing us with useful information for school development. In the new year we plan to run a series of informative drop-ins around different subject areas. Further details will be sent home in the new year.

#### **Dinner Money**

The cost of school meals for the next half term (Jan-Feb) will be £66.00 (£11.00) per week. School dinners should be paid for in **ADVANCE** through your ParentPay account. Please note that your account will not show the full amount owed for the coming half term as dinners are only charged on a daily basis, if you pay the full amount for the half term the amount will decrease day by day. Please can you ensure that any outstanding amounts for this half term are paid by Thursday 20 December.

#### **Packed lunches**

We have noticed that some packed lunches are containing biscuits, sweets and fizzy drinks. Please ensure that your child brings a healthy packed lunch each day. We encourage children to have a healthy morning snacks, including fruit and vegetables. Thank you for co-operation.

#### **Trips and visits/visitors**

Year 5 completed their 'Bikeability' training and received certificates for their achievements.

The Year 6 class went to Robinwood in November and Year 5 enjoyed their time at Cliffe House in Shepley.

Year 2 experienced a Real History Day where they learnt about the Great Fire of London and Year 1 are enjoying their Pilates sessions.

## **PE Kit**

As we mentioned in the last school update, it is essential that all children have a suitable PE kit in school every day. We want to continue teaching high quality PE and this is more difficult when children do not have the correct kit.

They will need shorts, t shirt, trainers and, during inclement weather, additional tracksuit bottoms and top. A change of footwear (trainers) for outdoor PE is also required as they often get muddy. If there are any problems with the above, please see your child's class teacher so they can support your child.

Suitable (warm) clothing should also be worn when attending the after school sports clubs as they will be outside whenever possible. Children can get changed or add extra layers at the end of school. All children should be collected from after school clubs – we do not allow pupils to walk home alone during the winter months as it is dark and unsafe.

## **After School Clubs**

Details for all the clubs for the next half term was e-mailed home last week. Please log on to ParentPay and reserve your place at the clubs of your choice. Spare copies of this letter can be found in the blue folder outside the office. Please sign up for the clubs by Monday 17 December so that final numbers are known before we finish for the holidays – if there aren't enough people signed up by this date there is a possibility that the club will not be able to go ahead.

## **Fundraising**

For the 'Poppy Appeal' we raised an incredible £100.93. As always we thank you for your charitable support to the school and for other charities.

## **Contact details**

Don't forget to let the office know if you change your mobile number, email address or move house. We need your up to date details to enable us to contact you with day to day correspondence and to allow us to contact you in an emergency. Thank you.

## **Christmas Events**

Here are the final arrangements 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. Children who are not going to Aladdin will be supervised in school unless you have made prior arrangements with 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 was sent home about this at the end of November. Don't forget your crackers and hats! The children who normally bring sandwiches can bring a festive lunch including sweets/chocolates on that day only. Please do not include fizzy drinks though! Thank you.

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. This will then lead into the Christmas Fair which will run until 5.00pm, this is being organised with the FONS team and we would like to thank them all for their continued support. A letter was sent home last week requesting the following donations for the fair.

KS1 – Chocolates for the Chocolate Tombola  
KS2 – Cakes/Buns for the Cake Stall

School Council – unwanted Cuddly Toys

Don't forget to return your Raffle Ticket stubs and cash to the office asap.

Your School Lottery – we have had 50 people signed up and someone here has already won £20 this week! Please sign up by clicking this [link](#) – every week someone who supports this school will win a prize and there is a chance to win the weekly top prize of £25,000.

If you receive any unwanted Christmas presents this year, please can you donate them to FONS for future raffle prizes – we won't tell anyone where they came from!

FONS are currently compiling a list of events for the coming months – including a Quiz Night and a Sponsored Walk – further details to follow in the new year.

As you can see this will be a very busy but enjoyable day for us all and we hope you will be able to join us from 2.30pm or after school at the Christmas Fair!

**This half term school closes on Thursday 20 December and re-opens on Monday 7 January 2019. Please note that there is a staff training day on Friday 21 December 2018 so the school will be closed for the children.**

We would like to thank you for your continued support of the school. Also, we would like to say a huge thank you to the FONS team for their hard work and commitment to our school so far this year.

Finally, we hope you have a fantastic Christmas and we wish everyone a very Happy New Year.

Kind Regards

J Rose  
Headteacher