

School Update – October 2019

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. Please read this Update carefully as it has dates of Christmas events on it.

School Website/Twitter

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. We also have a Twitter account <https://twitter.com/HolmfirthJINSch>

School Lottery

Please would you consider supporting FONS and the school by joining our school lottery? There is a guaranteed weekly prize for someone supporting our page every week and every week you could even be the lucky winner of £25,000! Visit the Your School Lottery webpage here <http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk> and search for Holmfirth J I & N School. Thanks!

Amazon Smile

If you shop regularly at Amazon please consider shopping via Amazon Smile and they will donate 0.5% of your total spend to FONS – follow this link <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1040723-0> or search for Amazon Smile on the Internet and log in using your usual log in details and look for Holmfirth J I & N School Parent Teacher Association and start your purchase. We have already raised more than £80 for FONS through this scheme - thank you.

New Starters – September 2020

A reminder for parents of children in Nursery, please don't forget to register your child for a Reception place for September 2020. The closing date is the 15th January 2020 and all applications should be made on-line at www.kirklees.gov.uk/admissions. Please contact the school office if you require any assistance.

Year 6 Applications for High School

The closing date for applications for a High School place close on 31 October 2019. All applications should be made on-line at www.kirklees.gov.uk/admissions. Please contact the school office if you require any assistance.

Nursery Places

Do you have a child under 3 or know anyone looking for up to 30 hours of free childcare? If you would like a place for your child in our Nursery please can you ask for a Registration Form so that we can add your child to our list. You can do this anytime – you don't need to wait until they are nearly ready to start to apply. The earlier we know that you might need a place will help us to plan ahead and make sure that we keep you informed about Nursery places.

Child's 3rd Birthday falls between	Start Term
1 January – 31 March	Summer Term
1 April – 31 August	Autumn Term
1 September – 31 December	Spring Term

Absences

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

Car Parking & Exhaust Emissions

When you are waiting for your children outside school, please turn your engines **off**. Exhaust emissions are not good for our children or the environment. Please ensure that you do not park opposite, or block, the turning circle, or park your vehicle on the slope to the entrance of the car park. In addition, please observe all legal requirements, as well as showing consideration for residents by not parking on their driveways or blocking their exits.

Dinner Money

The amount due for the coming half term is £78.75. 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 Thursday 24 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. If your child wishes to start school dinners please ask in the office.

Before and After School Clubs

Details of the clubs taking place next half term were recently sent out. 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 with the exception of Year 6 pupils with written permission from parents.

Health

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.

Chicken Pox seems to be doing the rounds again. The advice we have from Public Health is not to send your child back to school until you are sure that all the spots have appeared and have formed a protective crust – please do not send them back to school too soon as we do have some children in school with weakened immune systems.

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 – these must be removed if your child is in Year 4 and attends swimming lessons.

Fundraising Events

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent school book fair. It was a great success.

Candlelighters – The raffle raised £406. The Coffee morning raised £34 for Candlelighters and £380 was raised at the coffee morning for McMillan Cancer Support. Also well done to one of our children who raised over £350 for Candlelighters by having 40cm cut off her hair!

FONS Events

Thursday 24 October – School Disco. KS1/Early Years 6pm – 7pm. KS2 7.15pm – 8.15pm

Friday 21 November – Family Breakfast. 8.15am – 8.55am.

Tuesday 26 November – Film Night. 3.30pm – 5.30pm

Wednesday 4 December – Christmas Fair. 3.40pm – 5.00pm

New members of FONS 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.

Other Diary Dates

Monday 4 November – Wednesday 6 November – Year 6 to Robinwood

Tuesday 5 November – Sports Hall Athletics Years 4 & 5 (invitation only) Holmfirth High School - 4pm to 6pm – details to follow

Tuesday 12 November – Year 2 Great Fire of London Day (children only)

Thursday 14 November – Celebration Assembly – Year 6 parents invited - 2.45pm

Saturday 23 November – Holmfirth Lights Switch On – choir singing in church – times tbc

Monday 25 November – Elves Christmas Crafts Workshop Day Years 1 – 6 (children only)

Tues/Weds 26/27 November – Early Years Christmas Crafts (children only)

Wednesday 27 November – Year 3 Stone Age Day (children only)

Thursday 28 November – Music Assembly – featuring children in the Choir/Brass Band and those who have Kirklees Musica lessons – parents of children performing invited – 2.45pm - details tbc

More information about the above events will follow nearer the date of the event – these are just brief details to allow you to plan your diaries in the busy run up to Christmas.

Christmas 2019

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

On Thursday 5 December we have arranged for a Pantomime performance of Jack and the Beanstalk, for all the children, to be performed at Holmfirth Civic Hall at 9.30am. Further details will be sent home after half term. We will not be attending the Pantomime at the Lawrence Batley Theatre this year.

The Early Years/KS1 performances will be held on Wednesday 11 December at 10.00am – 11.00am and 1.30pm – 2.30pm – exact timings will be confirmed nearer the time when tickets go on sale. The dress rehearsal will be held on Monday 9 December.

Year 3 & 4 will be holding a Christmas Café on Friday 13 December 2pm – 3pm.

Class Parties will take place on Tuesday 17 December.

The Christmas lunch will take place on Wednesday 18 December. Children who normally have sandwiches will be able to have a school meal on this day.

The KS2 Carol Concert will take place on Wednesday 18 December at Holmfirth Parish Church at 6pm

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

Holiday Dates

School closes for half term on Thursday 24 October (Friday 25 October is a staff training day) and school re-opens on Monday 4 November.

There will be no clubs on Wednesday 13 November or Wednesday 20 November as all staff will be attending Safeguarding Training at 3.30pm, or on Wednesday 4 December as it is the Christmas Fair.

The school will close on Friday 20 December for the Christmas holidays. We will re-open on Monday 6 January 2020.

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

The Leadership Team