



Kirtlington
C.E. School

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School value: Aspiration
Christian value: Hope

11th September 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back and a warm welcome to our new reception parents. I am delighted to report that it has been a really positive and happy start to the new term. Thank you to the team for their hard work and to the children and you for your support in making the start of the new term work so well -it is the start we all needed for the new school year! The children have adapted well to the change in routines in school, and as a team we are continually reviewing how things are working. We will continue to build upon the systems we have in place, with a more detailed review at half term, so please continue to be patient with us as we work to provide the best learning environment for our children.

Class newsletters

We hope you all received your class newsletter last week but please email the school office if you did not. We hope to be able to issue children in KS1 and KS2 with their new google classroom logins next week and set homework from Friday 18th September. For this term, we will be setting homework that helps children catch up on key learning facts from last year such as times tables, phonics, spellings.

We are still finalising a safe home -school reading book system and hope to be able to notify you about this soon. In school, children have a reading book which they keep in their own tray. In the meantime, please keep reading regularly at home with your child.

Student Update Forms

These will be arriving home with your child shortly. Please read the current information carefully and update any details **(especially contact numbers and email addresses which we use regularly to contact you)**, so that our records are as accurate as possible.

In order to make the end of school procedures even more effective, we would like to remind you of our password system (1 per family) for collection of children at the end of the school day. This will operate when someone new to the school may be collecting your child and will enable us to verify the adult. Please could you add a password to the bottom of the student update form for your child, which will be kept confidentially.

Please continue to inform the school office when there are any changes regarding your child during the school year.



Headteacher: Louise Williams

Chair of Governors: Paul Clifford

School Business Manager: Ruth Pangu

Home School /ICT User Agreement Forms

Attached with the newsletter will be a copy of the home school agreement. By enrolling your child at Kirtlington CE Primary you are agreeing to the expectations set out in the agreement. The home school and ICT user agreement will be discussed in class with your child next week.

Tic Tok safeguarding

We have had a message from the Oxfordshire Safeguarding team this week to remind parents to be aware of distressing information that can be seen on sites such as Tik Tok. They obviously do not want to draw additional attention to the actual video, as social media platforms are trying to remove it, and want to discourage parents from searching for it but want to remind you to be vigilant about your child's online use.

Parents Online Safety training

123ICT, our ICT providers, are pleased to be able to support their contract schools by offering another opportunity for parents to attend a FREE virtual parents Online Safety workshop on Wednesday 14th October starting at 7:30pm. This is open to all parents and anyone interested should sign up by visiting <http://123parents.oxon.in> where there is a link to book a FREE place via Eventbrite. Places are limited, as this session will be delivered using Zoom.

The session will cover:

- * The risks of using the internet.
- * Tips and suggestions on how to reduce these risks to keep your children safe online.
- * Signposting to further resources and information.
- * Advice on how to get help if things go wrong.
- * Tips for remote learning and remote video lessons.
- * The chance to ask questions.

Advance notice from Food and More

Our school meal providers have written to warn us that should they experience large numbers of staff unable to work due to Covid, it is a possibility that they may need to revert to a packed lunch offer or provide meals from an alternative site. They hope this will only occur as a last resort.

Parent Pay

All our new pupils now have activated ParentPay accounts. Only three pupils still need to activate their accounts and order their school lunches. Some parents have had issues using the system, particularly for recording meal choices. All issues raised with us have been shared with ParentPay and have been rectified or are being dealt with. Thank you all for your co-operation in using this system which makes school operations so much smoother and allows pupils to get stuck into their lessons straight away in the mornings.

Free School meals

Should your circumstances change over the next few weeks or months, please see this link for further support. <http://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/free-school-meals>



Dates for your diary

There are some school activities which we will not be able to do in our usual traditional manner, for example Harvest festival. This year, we will be celebrating Harvest in our classes and sharing this with you through our school newsletter. We are hoping to be able to hold virtual parent evening meetings with you before half term and are currently working to develop this.

Friday 25th September- 4pm Macmillan virtual 'raise a mug' afternoon tea

Friday 16th October – Harvest

Tuesday 20th October- Parent consultation evenings (more details to follow)

Thursday 22nd October- Parent consultation evenings (more details to follow)

Friday 23rd October – Last day of term

Monday 2nd November– First day of term

Thursday 12th November – Whole school nasal spray flu vaccinations

Friday 18th December – Last day of term 1.30pm

Breakfast club

We would like to thank Mrs Bradney for running our breakfast club and wish her all the best as she pursues a new career path. We are extremely keen to be able to continue to provide a breakfast club so if anyone is interested or would like more information, please contact the school office.

After School clubs

We hope to be able to start the following clubs once risk assessments are in place and we are sure that the providers are adhering to DFE guidance and system of controls.

	Day	Time
Sports Club	Tuesday	3-5pm
Sports Club	Wednesday	3-5pm
Art club	Thursday	3-4.15pm

School tuck shop

At the moment, the tuck shop is not available so please remember to provide your child with a healthy snack/ fruit for morning break.

Children in reception and key stage 1 will be provided with a piece of fruit but you are welcome to provide them with extra fruit or a healthy snack from home as well.

Morning procedures

If you have a message for a class teacher, please leave it with Mrs Pangu, our school business manager in the morning or email the school office at office.3500@kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk

We **strongly** encourage everyone to use the village hall car park in the mornings and after school and not the pub car park.

Covid

Please remember to not come into school if your child has [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#) or has tested positive in at least the last 10 days. If anyone develops these symptoms during the school day they will be sent home.



If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they will be sent home and advised to follow [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#), which sets out that they should self-isolate for at least 10 days and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). If your child tests positive whilst not experiencing symptoms but develops symptoms during the isolation period, they should restart the 10-day isolation period from the day they develop symptoms.

Kirtlington School Friends

Mrs Cole and the committee have already been working hard discussing possible virtual fundraising events and we hope to be able to give you more information about upcoming events soon.

Secondary School Applications

Parents and carers of children in year 6 need to begin the process of applying for a secondary school place for September 2021. The deadline for receipt of Secondary School applications is Thursday 31st October 2019. Further information and applying on line can be found at <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-schoolplace/secondary-school>

Community News

Macmillan afternoon tea September 25th

Unfortunately, we will be unable to hold our annual afternoon tea this year but we would like to 'raise a mug' virtually with you all at four o'clock on the day. Children are welcome to upload a selfie photo to the google classroom and we are also keen to celebrate any personal challenges they may undertake to support people living with cancer or in memory of loved ones.

For any recipe ideas see <https://coffee.macmillan.org.uk/baking-recipes/>

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable weekend,

Miss Williams and the team

Support for mental health

In these uncertain times, if you feel you may need some additional support or your children do, a 24/7 mental health helpline has been launched in Oxfordshire. This round-the-clock helpline makes it easier and quicker to get the right advice you might need for your own or others mental health. This service operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week and temporarily takes pressure off 111 for people who need mental health care when their situation is not life threatening. The phone numbers and further information can be found at

<https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/news/24-7-mental-health-helpline-replaces-111-in-oxfordshire-and-buckinghamshire/>

Further support is available at:



Young Minds <http://www.youngminds.org.uk> - Information on child and adolescent mental health. Services for parents and professionals. Phone: Parents helpline 0808 802 5544 (Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 4pm).

ChildLine is a free, private and confidential service where you can talk about anything. You can get help and advice about a wide range of issues and talk to a counsellor online or on the phone from 9am – midnight. Helpline 0800 1111.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/contacting-childline/>

For information and support for parents/carers on keeping children safe and developing their understanding of respectful online relationships amid increased online activity, visit the following websites:

- [Anti-Bullying Alliance](#)
- [Internetmatters.org](#)
- [Kidscape](#)
- [National Bullying Helpline](#)
- [NSPCC](#)
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

For young people on keeping safe amid increased online activity, visit the following websites:

- [Anti-Bullying Alliance](#)
- [CEOP Thinkuknow](#)
- [Childline](#)
- [Kidscape](#)
- UK Safer Internet Centre [3-11yrs](#)

Safeguarding

If you have urgent concerns about a child, please call 999. For other concerns, please contact the MASH team on 0345 050 7666

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/business/information-providers/multi-agency-safeguarding-hub>

