



Kirtlington
C.E. School

Kirtlington C E School
Heyford Road
Kirtlington
Oxon OX5 3HL
Telephone (01869) 350210

E-mail: office.3500@kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk
Website: www.kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk.

School value: Friendship
Christian value: Love

6th November 2020

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had an enjoyable half term break. We would like to thank you for your support and positive feedback about the virtual parent evenings we held before half term. We are extremely pleased with how successful they were, and whilst we missed seeing you in person, we are glad we were able to meet with you to discuss your child's wellbeing and progress so far this term.

The new national restrictions

We are reviewing our risk assessment in the light of the new government guidance and continue to follow the PHE system of controls to ensure that we are creating the safest environment for children and staff where the risk of transmission of infection is as reduced as possible.

The system of protective measures that we continue to follow include:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning and ventilation arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- reducing contacts and maximising distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise the potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

Prevention

Please remember that pupils and parents should not come into the school if they have [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#) or have tested positive in at least the last 10 days. Anyone developing those symptoms during the school day 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).

Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

If a child is awaiting collection, they will be moved, to a ventilated room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age and needs of the child, with appropriate adult supervision if required.

In order to take further preventative measures, we ask all parents to follow the guidance given on sickness protocols. Please do **not** send your child to school if they have the slightest hint of a cold, cough, sore



Headteacher: Louise Williams

Chair of Governors: Paul Clifford

School Business Manager: Ruth Pangu

throat or just feel 'under the weather'. This is vital for the safety and protection of all children but especially the staff.

Please continue to inform us if any family members receive positive covid tests and keep us informed during isolation times if your child develops symptoms. Thank you.

In line with the risk assessment, where there are two or more members of staff absent and we are unable to operate safely, we will inform you that we need to close the school. Where we can, we will operate single class closures but without putting staff at increased risk.

Handwashing

Everyone in school will:

- Frequently wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and dry thoroughly using [NHS guidelines](#), or use alcohol-based hand sanitiser to cover all parts of their hands
- Clean their hands on arrival, after breaktimes, after activities, before and after eating, and after sneezing or coughing
- Be encouraged not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose
- Use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze, and use bins for tissue waste

Children with medical requirements, may bring their own hand cream to use after soap and hand sanitiser but this needs to be in a small plastic bag and labelled.

Ventilation

All rooms in school are being kept as well ventilated as possible before, during and at the end of the school day. Therefore, you may need to make sure your child comes to school with more layers under their school jumper should they mention they are cold.

Equipment

Pupils are still not required to bring in anything from home apart from a lunch box, a waterproof coat with hood (no pencil cases or bags are required). Children should now have their indoor shoes, trainers and their wellington boots in school and pupils should still come to school in their PE kit on their PE days. Willow class should continue to bring their outdoor learning clothes on Fridays.

In line with the risk assessment, please can we remind you that no birthday food/sweets should be brought into school to share during this time.

Minimise contact between individuals

In order to be able to reduce the number of contacts between children and staff, all pupils continue to stay in their class groups and will be reminded to maintain their distance from staff as much as possible. In classrooms, pupils will continue to sit apart where possible, and PE will take place as often as possible outside. Music and singing lessons are not yet taking place.

Face coverings

Where social distancing is not possible in indoor areas outside of classrooms between members of staff or visitors, staff will wear face coverings.

Arrival/ pick up times

In order to reduce contact between staff and parents, staff will be wearing face masks. Please can we remind all parents to stay at least 2m away from staff and that all messages for class teachers should be left with Mrs Pangu at the school office station, in front of the main school reception, in the mornings or email the school office at office.3500@kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk.



If teachers need to pass on information to you at the end of the school day they will do this by phone. During this time of national restrictions, everyone's safety is important and therefore we ask you to drop off / collect your child as **quickly** as possible. Please remember:

- only one parent should accompany their child to school,
- that all parents follow the one-way system and do not gather at the entrance gates
- that the pavement closest to school is left free for access and to ensure we are all able to follow the 2m social distancing guidance. Everyone's safety is important and we want to avoid anyone having to step out into the road in order to be 2m socially distanced.

School Ambassadors

Congratulations to the following children who have been successfully voted onto the following councils:

Year 6 House Captains /Sports Leaders

Diamond: Alice

Ruby: Seth

Sapphire: Jacob

Emerald: Zach

School Council: Chair- Lucy

Vice chair- Isabelle

Eco Council: Aria

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following children for achieving their forest school value certificates:

Cooperation- George, Henry, Jojo, Teddy, Poppy

Creativity- Megan, Mortimer, Poppy

Well Being Friday: Children in Need

Next Friday, to celebrate Children in Need, children will be able to wear any Children in Need merchandise to school ie Pudsey ears, T-shirts. On this occasion, instead of collecting donations in school, if your child wishes to come to school wearing the merchandise, please can we ask you to donate via <https://donations.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 11th November- School Remembrance Day

Thursday 12th November – Whole school nasal spray flu vaccinations

Friday 18th December – Last day of term collection times:

Oak class - 1.15pm

Willow class - 1.20pm

Rowan Y1 - 1.30pm

R - 1.40pm

Remembrance Day

On Wednesday 11th November at 11am, the chair and vice chair of the school council will attend Kirtlington memorial with me to lay a wreath on behalf of the school. In school, we will celebrate the minute silence in our classes in special parts of the school.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Royal British Legion merchandise this year.

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 18th November 8-9pm. 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.

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>

Breakfast club leader vacancy

Please speak to Mrs Pangu, our school business manager, if you would like more information regarding this role.

After School clubs

In line with our risk assessment, we are sorry to have to temporarily postpone the start of our after-school clubs.

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

Morning snacks

Please remember to provide your child with a **healthy snack/ fruit** for morning break. Sadly, we are seeing an increase in crisps, biscuits and chocolate and this is not part of the school policy. 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 if you wish.

Kirtlington School Friends

Congratulations to the following children who were the top fundraisers from the Virtual Olympics:

Harvey - £110
Ernie - £110
Poppy - £110
Rowan - £95

A message from KSF:

Many thanks to everyone who took part in the pumpkin carving competition - they were brilliant and creative designs and our judges had a tough decision.

Winner of the child entry was Jonah from Reception and the adult entry was Hazel (Harvey's (Y2) mum). Special mention was also given to Lolo (Y5) and Isabel (Y1). You can see all the designs attached with the newsletter.



Our fundraising has got off to a great start this term, in spite of COVID, with more than £600 raised across our virtual Olympics and the pumpkin carving. We'll be able to update you soon on how that money is being put to work to benefit our children. Thank you all!

The KSF team

Applying to start primary school for the first time.

Children born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 (inclusive) need to apply for a primary school place for their children.

How to apply:

From 1 November 2020 you can apply online for a primary or infant school place.

If you cannot apply online, you can request a paper application form from schools, nurseries and from the School Admissions Team.

The deadline for receipt of completed school applications is 15 January 2021

If your application is late, it will be processed later in the year, and you are far less likely to get a place at one of your preferred schools <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/starting-school/infant-and-primary-school>

Wishing you a safe 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>

