



Kirtlington  
C.E. School

**Kirtlington C E School**  
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**School Christian Value:** Perseverance

12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year to all our Kirtlington School families!

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for the warm welcome I have received. It has been a lovely week getting to know all the children in class and meeting many of you at the school gates. The week has only reinforced my positive view of the whole school community, and I look forward to building on these relationships over the coming months and years.

Thank you also for your diligence in arriving punctually to school, always a tricky one with the cold, dark mornings and after a long holiday, but so important for starting the school day well.

I would like to extend a particular welcome to the new children and their families who have started this week: welcome to the Kirtlington school community! We are so pleased to have you with us.

As mentioned in my letter before Christmas, I would like to hold a 'Meet the Headteacher' event, enabling parents to get to know me and understand my vision for the school. This will be held on Monday 22nd January from 9-9:30am in the school hall. Tea and coffee will be provided, and parents are welcome to bring younger siblings if necessary.

While the beginning of the spring term is often quiet, we have some exciting community events coming up. Hopefully you will have seen that the 'Winter Wonderland' trail is running tonight from 4:30-6:30pm and can take your children along to enjoy the lights and maybe a cup of mulled wine. In singing assembly, the children have been practicing the Kirtlington Wassail and we encourage you to take them along to the community orchard to join in on Saturday 20th January. See below for full details of these events.

Grace and Paul, last term's interim heads, have asked me to pass on their grateful thanks for the lovely gifts and good wishes they received at the end of last term. They both thoroughly enjoyed their time at Kirtlington and wish everyone the best.

I hope that the New Year has started well for you and that 2024 continues to be a positive year for us all.

Kyla Bates  
Headteacher

### **KSF Winter Wonderland – this evening**

Come along to the wonderful KSF light trail at Park Farm today between 4:30pm – 6:30pm. This year there will even be a fire engine for the children to have a sit in! Beat the January Blues with a twinkly walk through the woods and a dance to the disco lights. The attached poster has all of the details. Parking is available.

### **Kirtlington Orchard Wassail – Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January**

Following last year's success, the annual Wassail is taking place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January at the orchard. Sue Brown is coming into school to teach the children the song written specially for the event and commented how lovely it was that so many of the children remembered it from last year. The Wassail team would love to see everyone there if you can make it. The attached poster has all the details.

### **Cold Weather Reminder**

The weather is feeling wintry! Please can you ensure that your child has a warm coat with them and is appropriately dressed for the weather. Break time and PE do take place outside, so we do recommend hats and gloves each day. On PE days in particular, children should be dressed warmly.

### **Class Newsletters**

Class newsletters will be sent out today and contain all the information for the Spring Term.

### **High Flyers Breakfast and Afterschool Club**

Happy New Year to everyone from all of us here at High Flyers! It was lovely to see all the children return, refreshed and full of energy, after their Christmas break. We have lots of activities and exciting plans for the upcoming year. We have arranged some special holiday clubs during the half term, Easter, and the summer holidays at Christopher Rawlins school, with some exciting themes.

We offer breakfast and after-school service for children to play Monday – Thursday, within school. You can book through our website: <https://www.highflyers.org.uk> or on our booking platform: <https://highflyersoxfordlimited.ipalbookings.com/>

### **Dates and reminders**

Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan	KSF Winter Wonderland, Park Farm – 4:30-6:30pm
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Kirtlington Orchard Wassail – 4-5pm
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	Meet the Headteacher, School Hall – 9-9:30am
<b>Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>
<b>Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Term Starts</b>
Thus 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Y4/5/6 Sports Hall Athletics, The Marlborough School
Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Reception Vision Screening
	Parents Evening – 3:30-6pm
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Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Easter Service, St Mary's Church - 2pm (TBC)
<b>Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>
<b>Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>Term Starts</b>

### **Parking reminder**

Please avoid parking outside the school when dropping off and picking up. The road is extremely busy at this time of day – try to use the Village Hall car park and walk up to school.

**Change of footwear**

Please remember that children should have a pair of trainers and a pair of welly boots in school for use during outdoor play. On PE days, they should come in their school shoes and will change into trainers when they do PE.

**Safeguarding**

May we take this opportunity to remind you that the school has responsibility for each child's safeguarding and welfare. Kyla Bates is the Designated Safeguarding Lead, with Victoria Grocutt and Cheryl Evans being the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Should you have any safeguarding concerns please telephone the office and ask to speak with one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads or, alternatively, the MASH (Multi- Agency Safeguarding Hub for all child protection and immediate safeguarding concerns) can be contacted on 0345 050 7666.

**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>