



# Headlines

Autumn Term Week 8

www.melthamceschool.co.uk

Date: Fri 27th October 2023

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## Dear Parents and Carers

It has been my pleasure entirely to lead our school in the absence of Mr Gibbins. There is no doubt in my mind that we have a good school, a haven of learning, focus, progress and personal growth. The school has all the right ingredients to continue to flourish, namely, an expert Governing Body, talented SLT, specialist and dedicated staff, passionate and supportive parents and carers and, of course, our amazing children!

I'd like to thank all of you and the team here at Meltham for giving me this privileged opportunity. As you know, I will be here for 7 days after half term as Director of School Improvement and I will continue to serve all stakeholders and make myself available to you all. The children and staff will always have a place in my professional heart!

We can't wait for Mr Gibbins to return to his role as Headteacher and everyone has missed him. I am sure that you will all give him a wonderful welcome back after half term. Have a smashing holiday. The kindest thoughts always.

Debbie Davis  
Interim Headteacher

## Message from the LA

On Wednesday Carol Martin, Headteacher Wellbeing Officer, from the Local Authority came to visit me to see how I was getting on. I was eager to take her around school and so pleased to receive this e mail from her. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I did.

*Good morning Debbie,  
I hope you have an assembly today as I want you to do me a big favour!*

*Please will you mention to the pupils and staff at Meltham Cof E Primary that I cannot stop smiling since I visited you yesterday.*

*You so very kindly invited me to look around 'your' school and I had the pleasure of meeting most of the children, although I missed the welly gang!*

*What a school Meltham Cof E is – the children are so polite, welcoming and friendly. They took time to share some of their work and what they were proud of.*

*It was an absolute pleasure to meet them all – I hope you all have a wonderful half term and I hope to see you all again.*

## Thank You Mr Buckley

On a dreary wet day this week when the yard had been soaked with water, Mr Dean Buckley came to chat to me in the pour! He offered his services to the school to help us to make the water drain away. Of course, we said yes and were so grateful. Thank you Mr Buckley for team working and

caring so much about us all. We appreciate your support and talent! Regards from the whole school.

## Reporting Your Child's Absence

Please can I kindly remind all parent/carers to contact the school office as soon as possible if your child is absent from school. You must provide a reason for your child's absence and you must continue to ring in every second day of your child's absence. If we have not heard from you, we will phone you and you may receive a home visit.

## Absences/Holiday Requests

We have been receiving a significantly large number of Absence Request Forms this term. Unfortunately in some cases parents have not followed the school's procedure in informing us or giving us notice to respond.

If you would like to request absence due to holiday, you need to complete an Absence Request Form which can be found on the school [website](#) or can be collected from the school office. Please can I remind you and draw your attention to the school's [Attendance Policy](#) which states:

*All requests from parents for absence must be made in writing to the school in advance of any travel arrangements being made, and **at least two weeks prior to the absence**, using the leave of absence form which is available from the school office/website."*

## Reminder of Unauthorised Absence Penalty

We'd just like to remind parents of the Kirklees Absence Requests policy - **Kirklees state that parents may be fined if you take your child out of school unauthorised for 5 consecutive school days or more.** There is the possibility of a fine of up to £1,000 and receipt of a criminal record if the fine remains unpaid and the matter is heard in court.

## Uniform Exchange

Uniform Exchange are once again doing their 'Big Winter Coat Giveaway'. Here is a message from them:

We are delighted to have available warm winter coats, plus hats, gloves and scarves for ANY child who needs the help. We also have access to new underwear items too, including tights, socks, pants and vests.

We also have some additional items on the list, this year it's pyjamas and slipper socks. We do have a limited stock of wellies available on request (this is first come basis and these are all second hand).

Please speak to the office, or Mrs Turner if you'd prefer, and you'll be given an order form to complete. Orders are promised within a week.

*Continued ...*

## Children In Need Friday 17th November 2023

The School Council would like to invite all children and staff to come to school wearing their uniform and something spotty in support of this year's Children In Need. The council will also be decorating biscuits for all children. They are asking for a donation of £1, though anything will be accepted. Allergies will be catered for. Please support this amazing charity with us on Friday 17th November.

## Plea for Metal and Wood

Our Forest School teacher, Mrs Patterson is appealing for donations of metal items for our Mud Kitchen in Reception eg. Metal spoons, pans.

She's also appealing for some 2x2 off cuts to make some Christmas items with in Reception.

If you think have anything suitable please contact her on 07796 692 610



## Appeal For Help - Colne Valley Leisure Centre

We recently reached out to you asking for your help with regards to saving Colne Leisure Centre and Pool from proposed closure. Since then we've been busy attending council meetings and arranging protests. We have a number of upcoming council scrutiny meetings which we'll be attending, including 'Children's Scrutiny' on the 1st December at 2pm, Huddersfield Town Hall. We need as many volunteers to come forward and attend these meetings. We would be happy to work with anyone wishing to pledge a case to the Council scrutiny panel, concerning the affects the centre and pool's closure would have on children and teenagers across the community. If you would like to work with us and attend the meeting on the 1st December, please email us in the first instance and we can arrange to have a chat to discuss in more detail - [savecolnevalleyleisurecentre@outlook.com](mailto:savecolnevalleyleisurecentre@outlook.com).

## Online Safety

For 20 years, FIFA dominated the football video gaming arena, attracting legions of devoted fans and scooping up accolades like a digital Real Madrid. After parting ways with the sport's governing body, however, renowned developers Electronic Arts (EA) have now launched their own individual bid for the title. It's called EA Sports FC 24, and it's effectively FIFA 2.0.

Familiar action delivered by the same team, of course, points to a comparable level of popularity – especially among those young gamers raised on the FIFA franchise. As our #WakeUpWednesday guide highlights, however, EA Sports FC 24 also carries many similar risks to its predecessor, including addictive gameplay, abusive voice chats and expensive in-game purchases.

## Celebrations

Please see attached for all our wonderful celebration winners this fortnight or visit the school [website](#) and view it in Headlines Attachments.



## Entitled to Respect

Please remember that like all Kirklees Council staff members, our staff are entitled to be treated with both dignity, respect and kindness both in verbal and written communication. Thank you for your support.

## Cost of Living

Remember that if you would like regular updates and support on ways to help this winter in the face of the cost of living crisis, you can sign up for the latest information direct to your email at: [www.kirklees.gov.uk/cost-of-living](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/cost-of-living)

## Wellbeing Links

<https://www.melthamceschool.co.uk/page/wellbeing/93763>

<https://www.nhs.uk>

<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/mental-health/index.aspx>

<https://www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk>

<https://www.triplep-parenting.uk.net/uk/hot-parenting-topics/my-child/parenting-during-covid-19>

<https://www.mind.org.uk>

<https://www.annafreud.org>

<https://youngminds.org.uk/supporting-parents-helpfinder>

<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/cost-of-living/index.aspx>

<https://www.thewelcomecentre.org/articles/cost-of-living-support-from-kirklees-council>

[www.kirklees.gov.uk/cost-of-living](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/cost-of-living)

## Dates For Your Diary

[Refreshments are available in all assemblies for a suggested donation of £1]

**Friday 10th Nov** - Year 5 Assembly to parents - 9:10am

**Monday 13th Nov** - Parents Evening, 4:00 - 6:30pm

**Wednesday 15th Nov** - Parents Evening, 5:30 - 8:00pm

**Friday 17th Nov** - Year 6 Assembly to parents - 9:10am

**Friday 17th Nov** - Children In Need Day

**Thursday 23rd Nov** - Year 3 Assembly to parents - 9:10am

**Friday 1st Dec** - PSA Christmas Fair—tbc

**Friday 8th Dec** - Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

**Tuesday 12th Dec** - KSI Dress rehearsal to school—9:30am

**Wednesday 13th Dec** - KSI Performance to parents - 9:30am

**Wednesday 13th Dec** - Years 3 & 4 Christmas Service in Church

**Thursday 14th Dec** - KSI Performance to parents 9:30am

**Thursday 14th Dec** - KSI performance to parents 6:00pm

**Friday 15th Dec** - FS Dress rehearsal to school 9:30am

**Monday 18th Dec** - FS Nativity to parents 9:30am

**Tuesday 19th Dec** - Years 3 & 4 Christmas party

**Wednesday 20th Dec** - FS/KSI Christmas party

**Thursday 21st Dec** - Years 5 & 6 Christmas party

## Attachments

We attach flyers and information sent to us by external businesses promoting events and activities which you may find useful. All attachments can be found on the school website [here](#).

You can also find the newsletter online [here](#)