



# Headlines

Autumn Term Week 10

www.melthamceschool.co.uk

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office.meltham@kirkleeseducation.uk

Twitter: @melthamceschool

Good morning everyone,

It has been a while since I have had the pleasure of writing to you all in Headlines, and I am very happy to be able to do so this morning. As many of you may know, I am returning to school after a number of months away. It has been an absolute pleasure to see the children again (and of course to meet the children in Class 1 and 2 for the first time). I have seen some excellent learning going on in all classes across school and I'm thrilled and thankful to begin learning of all the hard work and success achieved by the children, staff and governors in my absence.

Of course it will take a short while to reacclimatise, but throughout the week I have been able to work alongside Mrs. Davies and Mrs. Turner to begin to bring me back up to speed. Over the coming weeks I will be returning for four days a week. School will be supported on the fifth day by Mrs. Davies in her role as Director of School Improvement, and of course our SLT, Mrs. Turner and Mr. Baseford, will also be in school.

In 'Headlines' in two weeks' time, I will begin to lay out for you the school's development priorities for the coming year so you can all get a feeling for the hard work that will be going on behind the scenes as we strive to further improve our wonderful school.

Take care, have a wonderful weekend and thank you for all your (and the children's) kind words and messages over the course of this week. I will see you all on Monday.

Phil Gibbins  
Headteacher

## Friday 24th November - Teacher Training Day

Don't forget that the above date is a teacher training day and the school will be closed to all children. The staff will be working off site in another local school to refresh our training around the neuroscience of learning and of the impact of early life trauma. We will be further developing our trauma informed approaches to working with children.

## New Governors Results

We are pleased to announce the result of the parent governor ballot. The count took place on Thursday 9th November as stated.

1st place - Catherine Hattersley  
2nd place - Tom Shires  
3rd place - Chris Carroll

Due to the very recent resignation of another parent

governor we are pleased to elect two of the above candidates:

Mrs Catherine Hattersley and Mr Tom Shires.

## Lateness

Please can we remind you that a parent or guardian **must** come into the school office to sign your child in to school if they are arriving late for school (after 9:00am).

We have had a number of children arriving late without an accompanying adult.

## Reminder of Unauthorised Absence Penalty

We'd 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.

## 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.

## Locala Health and Wellbeing

Locala is inviting everyone to a Family Community Event on Saturday 25th November - 12pm - 5pm at the Al-Hikmah Centre in Batley.

There will be refreshments and fun activities eg. Face painting, mehndi, and a fundraising raffle.

Find out more about the work of Locala, how services support people's health and wellbeing – and discover more about job and volunteering opportunities across Locala. If you or your friends or family members want to join Locala, ask them to bring along their CV.

And you can even get a free health check while you're at the event. The event is also raising funds to support humanitarian relief work in Morocco, Libya, and the Middle East.

Continued ...

## Thank you! From School Council

Last week we went to the food bank, near the Co-op, with the rest of School Council. We went to deliver all your Harvest donations that you sent into school before half term. We helped to move the food down stairs using a special moving trolley that goes up and down. It was amazing to see how many people volunteer at the food bank and all the hard work they do. Thank you for all your donations and hopefully they will help a lot of people in need. George P and Seb P (year 6)



## Online Safety

The social media network formerly known as Twitter has undergone numerous alterations since its change of ownership and rebranding as X – and many of these recent developments have proved controversial. With any user now simply able to pay a fee for account verification, for example, the once-reliable ‘blue tick’ system has become largely meaningless.

It’s just one of several changes that have set the social media giant on what many consider a concerning path in online safety terms. Our #WakeUpWednesday guide provides a run-down of the most significant tweaks made to X; their potential safeguarding implications; and how to help ensure young people minimise the risks while they continue to use the service.

## 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]

**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 24th Nov** - School closed—INSET DAY

**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 - 2:00pm—to parents

**Tuesday 19th Dec** - FS Nativity to parents - 9:30am - to parents

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

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

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

**Thursday 21st Dec** - Singing round the tree - TBC

## 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](#)

