

Kirkbie Kendal School

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MHs/BPe

14th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

As we move towards Christmas it has been wonderful to see our students competing in the inter-form football and netball competitions in school, rehearsing for We Will Rock You and competing in inter-school fixtures, whilst continuing to work hard in lessons. It is my great pleasure to show visitors around the school; without fail they comment on the purposeful atmosphere in school and the hard work in classrooms.

Christmas Concert

Thank you to the staff and students who made the Christmas concert such a success last night. The evening was a wonderful occasion with over 25 acts performing, some of whom were old hands and some who were performing for the first time. Congratulations to everyone who took part. As always, we try to publish photos of the event on our social media accounts.

Weather

After the flurry of snow over the weekend I felt it appropriate to include a reminder of arrangements in case of closure due to adverse weather at this time of year. School will always remain open while it is safe to do so and very rarely closes. However, if school does have to close, we will post this information on our website and social media accounts as well as emailing and texting home. We recommend that you make prior childcare arrangements with neighbours or friends in case of an unexpected closure.

School Uniform

Christmas is a good time to check that school uniforms are in order. We expect all students to show their high expectations of themselves by wearing their school uniform smartly: neat ties, blazers worn to school, trousers that are smart and not skin tight. Please remember that multiple ear piercings and acrylic nails are not allowed to school, nor are any other piercings.

What is my child learning at school?

It was great to talk to parents and carers at the recent Year 9 Guided Choices Evening. We also asked Year 9 parents to complete a questionnaire about school. Feedback from the questionnaire was that not all parents knew how to find out what their child was studying in school. All our curriculum overviews, which outline the topics being studied and how parents can help to engage students with the content, can be found on the KKS website, via the links below:

Year 7 to Year 9 can be found here:

<https://www.kirkbiekendal.cumbria.sch.uk/our-school/curriculum/ks3-curriculum/>

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Year 10 to Year 11 can be found here:

<https://www.kirkbiekendal.cumbria.sch.uk/our-school/curriculum/ks4-curriculum/>

Sixth Form can be found here:

<https://www.kirkbiekendal.cumbria.sch.uk/our-school/curriculum/ks5-curriculum/>

National Cross-Country Success

Well done to our boys who qualified to compete at Leeds Grammar School in the National Cross-Country Final. At a national level the competition is fierce and so to place as the fifth best state school in England is a fantastic achievement. Joe Hilborne came 14th, Alfie Addison 21st and Will Brayshaw, Thomas Hearn, Joe Calderbank and Alex Speight all gave superb performances.

Eye Tests

A reminder that all students under the age of 16 are eligible to have a free sight test. An undiagnosed sight problem can make learning hard work for students, so please do take advantage of the free tests which can be booked at any optician. Please book outside of school hours.

Date for your diary - KKSA Quiz night

The KKSA are hosting a quiz night on Friday 20th January in school. Entry fee is £20 per team and our quizmaster has prepared a wide-ranging quiz for teams of up to 8. Further details will follow in the New Year.

Staffing

At the end of term we will say farewell and all the best to Dr Owen and Mr Humpage who are both leaving us to take up full time teaching posts. Mr Humpage's position will be filled by Mr Clarkson who worked with us last year and Dr Owen's position will be filled by Mr Fowler who is a specialist Biology teacher. We also say farewell, thank you and best wishes to Ms Cross who has been with the school as a Progress Mentor since 2013.

End of Term

A reminder that on Tuesday 20th December we will have a final celebration assembly before a staggered finish from 11.45 am to 12.00 noon.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year. We look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Wednesday 4th January 2023.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Harris
Headteacher