



# KIRKBY LA THORPE

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## Half Term - Welcome back!

We hope you all had a great half term! It has been lovely hearing about the activities the children have been doing. Apologies for the 'glitch' with last terms last Newsletter. Hopefully the Gremlins are now playing nicely! Take a read on what the children have been doing just before we broke up for half term...

## CLASSES

**Robins** – What a busy few weeks in Robins. The children have worked so hard! In literacy we have been reading the book Astro Girl. We have been saying and writing instructions and giving our opinions on what we like and don't like and we even acted out what it would be like to be an astronaut. In maths, we have been measuring length and using words longer and shorter. Our pre-school children have been repeating patterns. We have all enjoyed making and eating pancakes and have been learning a Chinese dragon dance to learn about the Chinese new year. What a term! Time for a well deserved rest.

**Goldfinches** – This week we have been reading Traction Man - a super hero who loves to wear interesting clothes and help people in distress. From this we have produced a narrative piece of writing. In maths we have been looking at 3d shapes and counting to 20. In History we have been looking at how schools have changed over the years. They have changed a lot! In art we have been using paper to model with and made a giant spider! In Science we have been comparing animals. What a term!

**Kingfishers** - What a great end to the term. Kingfishers really enjoyed their day out at the theatre. In Science the children tested the pitch of their vocal chords, and how we can change the pitch of glasses filled with water! Our year 4's have had fun trying to decided what our new book could be about just based on the front cover. So many ideas! We have all been practising our times tables a lot, as this makes all our maths work much easier. We enjoyed our trip to the Lincoln arts centre and were very well behaved.

**Golden Eagles**- This week year 6 have finished and published a script. What a hard job with lots of skills required. The children have really enjoyed studying art and have looking at how artists such as Paula Rego, can create emotions in their work. We have also been studying ancient greek court and comparing it to English court.

The whole of Key Stage 2 enjoyed a trip to the Lincoln Arts Centre yesterday and were treated to a wonderful performance and workshop with members of the Royal Opera House. We sang, used movement and expression and helped the singers to recreate a story. What a treat!

**POLITE REMINDER:** Please can children not bring toys or items from home into school. Too many things get lost or broken and this can cause upset (this includes pencil cases - unless otherwise agreed).

# E-SAFETY

Who can young people trust for mental health advice online? From TikTok to Instagram, not all content is accurate.

This guide shows how to spot misinformation and support young people to make informed choices. Download your FREE copy: <https://vist.ly/4petq>

## KEY TIMINGS

- Breakfast Club: 7:50am
- School gate opens: 8:30am
- Registration opens 8:45am
- End of school day: 3:15pm
- After school Club: 4:45pm or 6:00pm

Please be aware that if you are late collecting for 4:45pm session, then you will be charged for a 6pm session

### PRE-SCHOOL

- 8:30-11:30- Morning session
- 11:30-2:30- Afternoon session
- 2:30-3:15- Optional additional session

Owls phone number to be used 3:15-6:00pm  
07511 855786

## KEY DATES



**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** - Kingfisher Swimming Lessons start

**Monday 9th March**- World Book Day at KLT.

## Thank you from Mrs Leighton!

A huge thank you to all the children and their families who took part in our Readathon during the first half of the spring term. It was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm for reading, and we are incredibly proud of the effort and excitement shown by everyone involved.

Thanks to your participation and generosity, we have raised funds that will go directly towards the Readathon charity with a percentage supporting and enriching our school library. Your continued support makes a real difference, and we are truly grateful for everything you do to help us inspire a love of reading in our school community.

Thank you once again for your invaluable support!  
Mrs Leighton

**What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MENTAL HEALTH MISINFORMATION ONLINE**

A research study by Ofcom revealed that children aged 9-15 increasingly use online platforms like TikTok for mental health advice, with 50% relying on social media for information. Unverified medical content and harmful trends are spreading, with the potential to cause confusion, anxiety, or incorrect self-diagnosis. This guide provides expert strategies to help parents and educators tackle misinformation effectively and ensure safer digital experiences for young people.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

- POPULAR ONLINE SOURCES:** Platforms like TikTok and Instagram are fast becoming a go-to for young people's mental health content. Videos and posts frequently feature influencers, contributing to misinformation, myths, and unverified advice. This unverified content can distort perceptions, and create unrealistic expectations and self-harm risks.
- RISK OF SELF-DIAGNOSIS:** Social media's misleading content encourages young people to self-diagnose complex mental health conditions. This can be done in a way that is not safe, and can exacerbate anxiety, cause unnecessary worry, and delay seeking professional help. This has the potential to exacerbate long-term conditions into more significant mental health issues requiring intensive clinical support.
- LACK OF FILTERS:** Social media platforms struggle to filter misinformation effectively, allowing false content to spread widely and quickly. Without proper moderation, young people may not discern false information about mental health. This can negatively impact their mental health and delay seeking professional help or managing mental wellbeing.
- IDENTIFY RELIABLE SOURCES:** Teach young people to critically evaluate mental health content by checking credentials, source authority, and evidence-based information. Encourage them to refer to trusted medical or educational platforms and consult healthcare professionals for clarification. This reduces young people's reliance on potentially harmful or misleading sources.
- MONITOR ONLINE ENGAGEMENT:** Regularly review and discuss a young person's online activity. Encourage responsible guidelines on discussing accurate content. Seek support and professional advice if you notice any digital habits that indicate harmful thinking about mental health.
- SCHOOL-HOME COLLABORATION:** Strengthen collaboration with educators to integrate digital literacy into the school curriculum, emphasizing responsible internet use. Jointly delivered education sessions on identifying and responding to misinformation can significantly improve pupils' ability to critically assess mental health content, supporting their mental wellbeing.
- ENCOURAGE OPEN DIALOGUE:** Foster a non-judgemental environment where young people feel comfortable discussing online content. Regularly talking about their online experiences and perceived mental health concerns helps clarify misunderstandings, engages interested parties, and builds trust. Identify and address false narratives and digital literacy. Model situations where you have sought advice from accurate sources and not only related to mental health.
- REPLACING PROFESSIONAL HELP:** Frequent reliance on digital content can deter young people from seeking professional mental health care, substituting expert support with unverified information. This can lead to misunderstandings about mental health, potentially preventing them from seeking the help they need for their mental health and wellbeing.

**Advice for Parents & Educators**

**Meet Our Expert**  
Anna Beaman is Director of Wellbeing Education Ltd, Director for Wellbeing and Family Services at Leigh Tross, and lead expert for mental health at The National College. Anna specialises in strategic mental health solutions for schools, inspiring educators and families to improve resilience, emotional literacy, and overall wellbeing for children across the UK.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College  
@wake\_up\_weds @wunthenationalcollege @wake.up.wednesday @wake.up.weds

## Thank you PTFA!

Our wonderful PTFA have very kindly funded the purchase of laptops for the children to use in school. Thank you PTFA! These will be a great asset to the children. Please continue to support the PTFA with their incredible fund raising events. Not only do they raise funds but their events also help to create a whole school community.



# MUSIC COMES TO KIRKBY!



Thank you to Mrs Priestly who came and taught the year 3 and 4 children how to play the Djembe drums.



Each class sung a song beautifully and it was evident the children had been practising hard.



We had some solo performances including singing, keyboard and flute. What talented children we have at KLT!  
A BIG WELL DONE TO ALL OF THEM!

# CLASS ATTENDANCE AWARDS

The winning class gets to keep an attendance trophy for a week.  
We are aiming for 97+%

Robins- 89.13 %  
Goldfinches- 96.89 %  
Kingfishers- 93.52 %  
Golden Eagles-95.42%


Well Done Goldfinches!!! (LAST WEEK OF LAST TERM)



**KIRKBY LA THORPE CE PRIMARY ACADEMY**

**★ ATTENDANCE MATTERS ★**

Important information for parents and carers

 **The 10-session rule**

A penalty notice **may** be considered if a child has:

**10 sessions (5 school days) of unauthorised absence**  
within a **rolling** 10 school-week period.

→ This includes **unauthorised** holidays.



**✗ What counts as an unauthorised absence?**

**U** Late after registers close    **O** Unauthorised absence    **G** Holiday taken without permission

**! Please remember**

Headteachers **cannot authorise** leave after a holiday has taken place.  
All requests must be made **in advance!**



**⚖️ If a fine is not paid**

Up to **£2,500** per parent, per child  
→ **Community Order**  
→ Up to **3 months** in prison

**Penalty Notice Fines (From 19 August 2024)**

✓ **First offence**  
**£80** per parent, per child (if paid within 21 days)  
**£160** per parent, per child (if paid within 28 days)

✓ **Second offence**  
**£160** per parent, per child (for the same child within 3 years)

✓ **Per parent / per child**  
Fines are issued to **each parent** for each child!

✓ **Third offence**  
No third penalty notice.  
Case sent to **Magistrates' Court.**

**DBS DBS information**

Conviction could appear on a parent's DBS certificate.



Thank you for supporting good attendance and helping every child build a hopeful future through kindness, learning and trust.