

October '24 Newsletter



Kirkstall Valley Primary School

Argie Road, Leeds LS4 2QZ

www.kirkstallvalley.org.uk T: 0113 887 8982



Upcoming Events

Monday 4th November
Training Day – school closed

Thursday 7th November
Non Uniform Day

Friday 8th November
Year 5/6 cinema trip

Tuesday 12th November
Afternoon Pantomime!

Wednesday 20th
November
Y1/2/4 Cinema

Thursday 21st November
Autumn Fayre after school

Dear Families,

The first half-term has just flown by, even though it is one of the longest! I have really enjoyed it and the children have been brilliant. There has been so much happening in school and it has been great to see the children settle so quickly into their new classes and roles.

Do come and say 'hello' when I'm out and about in the mornings or after school and if ever there is something specific I can help with, then my door is always open.

Thanks for your continued support. I am looking forward to another really happy, successful half-term at Kirkstall Valley.

Best wishes

Phil Robertson – Headteacher

PTA

As soon as your child joins KVPS, you are automatically a member of our Parent Teachers Association. We are always on the lookout for new faces and fresh ideas. If you are interested in getting involved or would like some more information, then please get in touch – we'd love to hear from you.

There are lots of annual events the PTA organise and would love to have help with (such as this evening's Halloween disco!)

Other news

Training Day

Please remember that **Monday 4th November is a training day** and school will be closed to all children. We return to school on Tuesday 5th November.

Parents'/Carers' Evening

It was great to see so many of you at our recent parents'/carers' evening. Our school site is so difficult to organise so that things run smoothly. I hope that this worked well and that you were able to get to your appointment smoothly.

Our next consultation evening in March will run over two dates and the appointments will be longer. We are also considering making some appointments available online – any feedback about this idea would be welcome.

If you weren't able to attend the meetings last week, please do try and speak with your child's teacher to understand how they have settled and whether there are any challenges they are facing with their learning.

Harvest

This just in from Leeds North and West Foodbank - THANK YOU!

To Kirkstall Valley Primary School

I'm writing to thank you and all your pupils for your generous harvest donation of food and toiletries to our foodbank. Trussell foodbanks rely almost entirely on donations (of food or money) to meet the increasing needs of people in our area in these challenging times. Your donation of 82 kg will provide about 200 individual meals. We will be issuing a proper certificate for this shortly but I wanted you to know the figures before the half term break.

Thank you again!

Non Uniform Day

Thursday 7th November is a non-uniform day at school. Any donations for our Autumn Fayre will be gratefully received!

Colder weather

As the weather starts to get colder, please ensure that children have adequate layers to keep them warm at break times. Please also ensure that they are wearing suitable footwear for the colder months.



Attendance this term

YR – 96.2%

Year 1 – 95.8%

Year 2 – 95.7%

Year 3 – 94.8 %

Year 4 – 96.1%

Year 5 – 96.5% 🏆

Year 6 – 87.1%

Class Punctuality this term

Reception – 15

Year 1 – 12 🏆

Year 2 – 29

Year 3 – 23

Year 4 – 15

Year 5 – 12 🏆

Year 6 – 21

Barnborough Street gate

To ensure that our school site is safe and secure at all times, we have had an automatic closing mechanism fitted to the pedestrian gate as this was at times being left open. If you have to come to school when the gate is closed, you will need to push a little harder on the left-hand gate to open it.

Attendance

I am still receiving a significant number of holiday requests during term-time and I would like to remind all families that whilst I do understand all the reasons families may wish to take a holiday outside the school holidays, I am unfortunately **unable to authorise** these without significant exceptional circumstances. I am also required to refer all holidays taken which are of five days or more to the local authority who may impose a fine or in future begin legal action.

Please try to ensure children are at school and on time as often as possible unless of course they are too unwell to be here. Please also don't be offended if we get in touch with you to let you know about your child's attendance or to let you know we have concerns. These messages are intended to be supportive in nature and they are sent to all families.

Low attendance has a direct correlation with low attainment and with children's happiness at school and at KVPS we (like you) want the very best educational and social outcomes for all of our children.

Age Ratings



Please remember that age ratings on apps, games, films and music are there for a reason. Allowing children to access media which are not suitable is potentially damaging. Please make sure you know what your children are accessing and supervise them doing so.

Punctuality

Please ensure that your children are in school and ready to start their lessons at 08:45. These first moments of the school day are essential in terms of learning. Late arrival also adds significant additional stress on our office team who are working hard at this time to ensure children are in safely and have correct lunches ordered.

It is worth noting that those of you who come by car or public transport via Morris Lane (or that direction) will need to add time onto your journeys to allow for the closure of this road over the next nine weeks.

Supporting children at home

As you'll have heard me say before, we need all the support we can get to ensure that children are learning, and in particular their basic skills such as phonics, number bonds, times tables, spellings and that they have the regular opportunity to read to a grown up or older sibling. These opportunities make such a massive difference to children's learning and we are so grateful to you for supporting us. If you need any help with ways to support children, please don't hesitate to ask.

Parking



Please, please, please leave the yellow zig-zags outside school clear at all times and do not drop children off in the middle of the road. Both Barnborough Street and Argie Road are very dangerous roads with fast drivers using them for cut-throughs between the main roads and parking/dropping off in these roads puts children and other road users at risk. Thank you for helping us to keep all our children and families safe.

Staff Car Park

A reminder that the Staff Car Park is strictly out of bounds to pedestrians at all times. It can be a busy and highly unsafe area to walk through so please use the adjacent pedestrian gate and path for entering school – even before and after school.

Reach More Parents (WEDUC)

Thank you to those of you (over 85%) who are now using the school communications app to communicate with us. It is essential that you download this app and understand how it works so that you can stay up to date with events, make payments, book events and receive great newsletters such as this one!

Anything we can do to help? Just pop in and see our office team who will be happy to support.

School Uniform

A further reminder to please ensure that children are coming to school in school uniform. This includes footwear and PE kits. I have enclosed a reminder of what this looks like for your information at the end of this newsletter. Please support children to feel part of our school but sticking to our policy. If you ever need any support with this, again, just ask. Please also make sure that children's names are clearly marked in any items of clothing they bring to school – if it's unnamed, we can't help!

Courage | Compassion | Commitment

Safe | Ready | Respectful



Kirkstall Valley Primary School

Argie Road
LEEDS
LS4 2QZ

Tel: 0113 8878982
Fax: 0113 2306186
Email: info@kirkstallvalley.org.uk

Head Teacher: Mr Phil Robertson
Chair of Governors: Mr John Bradfield

School calendar academic year 2024-2025

Holiday	Schools close			Schools open		
Summer break				Tuesday	3 September	2024
Autumn mid-term	Friday	25 October	2024	Tuesday	5 November	2024
Christmas break	Friday	20 December	2024	Tuesday	7 January	2025
Spring mid-term	Friday	14 February	2025	Monday	24 February	2025
Easter break	Friday	4 April	2025	Monday	22 April	2025
May Bank Holiday	Friday	2 May	2025	Tuesday	6 May	2025
Summer mid-term	Thursday	22 May	2025	Monday	2 June	2025
Summer break	Tuesday	22 July	2025			

Bank Holidays include

Christmas	25 & 26	December	2024
New Year's Day	1	January	2025
Good Friday	18	April	2025
Easter Monday	21	April	2025
May Day	5	May	2025
Spring Bank	26	May	2025
August	25	August	2025

Teacher Training Days - School Closed

Monday	2 September	2024
Monday	4 November	2024
Monday	6 January	2025
Friday	23 May	2025
Wed	23 July	2025



School uniform:



You can buy a new school jumper or a school cardigan at the office.



Or you can buy pre-used uniform that other families have given to school.



Pre-used uniform



A small book bag: £5.00



A large book bag: £7.00



Children change into sports clothes for their P.E. lesson