

office.meltham@kirkleeseducation.uk

Date: Friday 20h Sept 2024

## **Dear Parents and Carers**

Good morning. I hope you've had as great a week as we have in school. The children have made a great start - they look smart and are settling into their new classes nicely. You will have received your child's Term I News Letter and had the chance to visit their new teachers, but if there is anything else, remember that you can contact the school via email and staff will endeavor to get back to you within 3 working days. If it's something a little more urgent, please contact the school office and we will see to it that your query is addressed a little more quickly. Take care over the weekend, stay safe and I'll see you on Monday.

## **Year Group Parents Information Meetings**

Many thanks for attending our year group parents information meetings this week. I hope you found them informative and had the chance to have a look at the classrooms your children will be working in this year. The presentations will be posted on the website in the coming week for your reference and information.

#### **BE RULER**

If you have visited school for the parent meetings, you may have seen displays in one corner of your child's classroom headed BE RULER. Be ruler is a whole school approach to helping children identify, name and deal with big emotions. It is rooted in research and evidence based.

Over the last four years, since the pandemic, schools across the country have seen a rise in the number of children struggling to navigate big emotions. Meltham CE is no exception to this. Countrywide, school avoidance, referrals for mental health support and suspensions have increased. We hope to respond to these needs and support Meltham School's children by helping them name and work through these big emotions.

**B** is for Boundaries **E** is for Empathy

**R** is for Recognising the emotion **U** is for Understand the emotion

L is for Labelling the emotion

**E** is for Expressing the emotions

**R** is for Regulating the emotion and its behaviours

Children will be given regular opportunities to reflect on their moods, thoughts and emotions by the class teachers and support staff. They will be supported to identify their feelings in class when they feel comfortable to do so. This will be further supported by the myHappymind programme, which continues to run in school to support the children with their understanding of their own brains.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Our whole school target is: 96%

This week our whole school attendance was:

## **Parking Consideration**

Traffic is very heavy outside school, on Clarke Lane and Holmfirth Road in a morning and also on an afternoon. Please leave enough time to drop-off at school, walk if you are able and be considerate of local residents drive ways. Thank you.

#### School Book Fair

This year's book fair starts on Wednesday 2nd October and runs until Tuesday 8 th October. Please come along and support this event, which can raise a considerable sum of money towards new books for the school library and classrooms. The children will get a chance to look at the books during the day on Wednesday 2nd and they will be available to buy from 3:25pm until 4:15pm daily from Wednesday 2nd October until Tuesday 8th. Any orders need to be sent to Mrs Widdop by Monday 7th March, with

full payment to ensure a Wednesday delivery. If you have ordered online, you will need proof of payment to collect your order. Thank you for supporting us.

## **Term Time Holiday Requests**

I have already received a number of holiday requests for the upcoming school year. As we have communicated over the past weeks, please remember that under the DFE's new guidance, and directives from Kirklees, I am unable to authorise family holidays or absences in all but the most exceptional of cases. Please refer to the penalty guidance information sheet within this week's newsletter.

## **Job Vacancies**

We are still looking for 2 x lunchtime supervisors to work alongside our existing team to help support the children at lunch and in their play. The hours are Mon-Fri 12:10 -1:20pm. Please look on the Kirklees Jobs website or follow the link if you are interested.

https://jobs.kirklees.gov.uk/roles/schools#/(ole-outlet:vacancylist/13504)

## Trip Payments

Please make sure you pay your initial installments for trips via Parent Pay as quickly as possible this year. The first payment gives the permission for your child to go, and confirms our numbers. Give yourselves plenty of time to pay, especially for the Year 5 and Year 6 residential trips to Cliffe House and Robin Wood and if you

have concerns, questions or worries, please contact the school office.











## We have a Yorkshire Champion in Y4!



Congratulations to Olivia in Year 4 who won the girls West Yorkshire tennis championship in the summer. What an achievement! Centre Court here she comes! We couldn't be more proud of your achievement, Olivia. Keep on practising, competing and reach for the stars.

#### Flu Vaccine

Please confirm Yes or No to your child having their Flu Vaccine by Friday 4th October.

## **Our School Prayer**

Each of our worships finish with a prayer in school. We always finish our Friday Celebrations assembly with our school prayer and would like our new children and in-year starters to learn it too:

> Dear God Bless our school That working together And playing together We may learn to love you And to love one another

> > **A**men

Our school prayer is an opportunity to share a prayer together and for those who don't wish to take part, to spend a moment in quiet contemplation.

#### **Cross Country**

Pennine Sports Partnership Cross Country event will take place at Neiley Playing Fields, Honley on Thursday 3rd October 2024.

Race I - 4:05pm Y5 (girls then boys)

Race 2 - 4:15pm Y6 (girls then boys)

Race 3 - 4:25pm YI fun run (mixed)

Race 4 - 4:35pm Y2 fun run (mixed)

Race 5 - 4:45pm Y3 (girls then boys)

Race 6 - 4:55pm Y4 (girls then boys

## **MyHappyMind Competition**

MyHappyMind are offering a fantastic prize to the school that demonstrates the highest levels of parent engagement through their Parent App. To help us win this prize, all you need to do is download the MyHappyMind Parent App and use it. The app offers tips and ideas to help you support your child with their emotional development and helps reinforce the learning they engage in in school.

To download the app, click the link below, fill in your details,

including our school authentication code: 107718. https:// myhappymind.org/parent-resources

Further information about MyHappyMind can be found on our school website by

clicking on the Wellbeing tab.

## **Dates For Your Diary**

Further dates and events for the Autumn Term will be added in September.

Wed 2nd Oct - Book Fair begins in school (3:25 - 4:15 in

Thurs 3rd Oct - Tempest School family photos & National Poetry Day

Thurs 3rd Oct - Cross Country at Neiley Playing Fields

Mon 7th Oct - Year 5 Cliffe house residential visits begin

Tues 8th Oct - Last day of the School Book fair

Fri 18th Oct - Year 2 Harvest Assembly to parents

Mon 21st Oct - Flu vaccination programme in school

Fri 25th Oct - Year 6 assembly to parents (9:15am)

Fri 25th Oct - Shining Stars Assembly (2:25pm)

Fri 25th Oct - School closes for half-term

Mon 4th Nov - School reopens

Fri 8th Nov - Year 5 assembly to parents (9:15am)

Mon 18th Nov - Parents Consultation Evening

Wed 20th Nov - Parents Consultation Evening

Thurs 29th Nov - Sing-Up assembly in School at 2:15pm

Fri 29th Nov - School closed for teacher training

Fri 13th Dec - Christmas Jumper Day in school for Save the Children (£2 donation)

Thurs 19th Dec - Singing in the Playground (Time TBC) and Shining Stars Assembly (2:30pm)

Fri 20th Dec - School closes for Christmas

Mon 6th Jan - School opens for the Spring Term

### Wellbeing Links

www.myhappymind.org.

https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/

I'm a parent/carer - Kirklees Keep in Mind (kirklees-keep-inmind.nhs.uk)

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

## **Community News**

Please view the Headline Attachments on our website.

\*\*\*Meltham CE Primary does not endorse any of the services which we share with parents via email communications, with Headlines or on our website. We cannot guarantee the accuracy or validity of the content of any such advertisements or notices.\*\*\*







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## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: THE LAW IS CHANGING



#### **EFFECTIVE FROM 19TH AUGUST 2024**



PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ARE CHANGING
THE GOVERNMENT HAS INTRODUCED A NEW NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR
PENALTY NOTICES

#### 5 DAYS OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE

Penalty Notice fines may be issued for any termtime absences that are unauthorised (for example, a 5-day term- time holiday) whether these absences are taken consecutively or cumulatively over a rolling period of 10 school weeks

#### 10 DAYS OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE

Penalty Notice fines will also be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in any rolling period of 10 school weeks

A school day has 2 sessions: I morning and I afternoon session per day

A school week means any week in which there is at least one school session. The threshold can be met with any combination of unauthorised absence (e.g. 6 sessions of holiday plus 4 sessions of arriving late after the register closes all within 10 school weeks).

These sessions can be consecutive (e.g. 10 sessions of holiday in one week) or not (e.g. 6 sessions of unauthorised absence taken in I week and I per week for the next 4 weeks).

The period of 10 school weeks can also span different terms or school years (e.g. 2 sessions of unauthorised absence in the Summer Term and a further 8 within the Autumn Term).

#### UNCHANGED

Penalty Notice fines are issued Per Parent, Per child. This means fines are issued to each parent, for each child who is absent. Eg. If 2 siblings are absent for a term-time holiday this will result in each parent receiving 2 separate fines.

#### **DEFINITION OF PARENT**

For education law, s576 Education Act 1996 defines a 'parent' as:

- all-natural (biological) parents, whether they are married or not.
- any person who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility for a child or young person (this could be a step-parent, guardian or other relatives).
- any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person.

#### **FIRST OFFENCE**

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term-Time Leave of Absence or irregular attendance, the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child (if paid within 28 days) Reduced to: £80 per parent, per child (if paid within 21 days).

#### SECOND OFFENCE (IN A 3 YEAR ROLLING PERIOD)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term-Time Leave of Absence or irregular attendance to the same parent for the same child the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child (if paid within 28 days) There is no reduction in the amount.

# THIRD OFFENCE OR ANY FURTHER OFFENCES (IN A 3 YEAR ROLLING PERIOD)

The third time an offence is committed for a Term-Time Leave of Absence by the same parent for the same child (including those by other Local Authorities) a Penalty Notice will NOT be issued but the case may be referred to Kirklees Council for Prosecution which may result in a Parenting Order, a community order, or fines of up to £2,500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in a Magistrate's Court can show on a parent's future Disclosure & Barring certificate.

## WHAT IS A PENALTY NOTICE?

A penalty notice is an out of court settlement which is intended to change behaviour without the need for criminal prosecution. If repeated penalty notices are being issued and they are not working to reduce absences they are unlikely to be the most appropriate tool. Therefore, from August 2024, only 2 penalty notices can be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within a 3 year rolling period and any second notice within that period is charged at a higher rate. Any further offences will result in criminal prosecution.

The law will be clear that where a Penalty Notice threshold is met – in each individual case, the school must consider if a Penalty Notice is appropriate.







**Eco-Schools** 



#### Meltham C.E School

#### Our School Uniform.

At Meltham CE Primary we wear our uniform with pride. It gives us a sense of belonging to our school and creates an identity for our school in the community. We are very lucky because we are given a choice of 3 colours for our sweatshirts – red, blue and black. We can also wear shorts, trousers, a skirt or a dress – whatever we feel most comfortable in.

A uniform prevents children from having to worry about peer pressure and what clothing they should wear. When everyone wears the same clothes this acts as a social leveller with children wearing the same uniform no matter what their family background or income.

If you need support with school uniform or other items, please get in touch and we will do our very best to help.

#### Uniform

- A red, black or royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan, plain or embroidered with the school logo.
- A plain white polo shirt.
- Plain grey or black trousers, shorts or skirt.
- Shoes must be practical and should be plain and black.
- Socks or tights should be school colours.
- In the warmer weather children may choose to wear school-style summer dresses in either blue or red

## P.E Kit.

Children should come to school wearing their P.E kit on the day of their P.E lesson.

- A plain white t-shirt (no logo).
- Plain dark shorts and/or jogging bottoms.
- A plain dark hoody.
- Black Trainers/pumps.
- · No sports kits, branded clothing or cropped tops

## Forest School and Welly Days.

- Dark Plain clothing suitable for outdoor work depending on the weather that day.
- A change of footwear. Clean pair for indoor, wellies/old trainers for muddy outdoor work with a
  plastic/kit back to take dirty footwear home in.

#### General information.

- Foundation stage/KS1 need a school book bag.
- KS2 children can bring a small rucksack style bag.
- Long hair must be tied back at all times and no jewellery other than watches and earrings for pierced ears are allowed.







- If worn, 1 pair of earrings must be small, plain and flat which must be removed by the child before
  PE. Plastic retainers may be worn. In exceptional circumstance staff will provide children with tape
  to put over their studs. (all earings must be removed before swimming in Year 4).
- If children have their ears pierced, we recommend it is done at the beginning of the summer holiday to allow them to heal.
- Children are not permitted to wear make-up or nail varnish
- No cropped tops to be worn in school (inc non-uniform days, forest school, clubs)
- Please make sure all your child's belongings are clearly named/labelled.

## Suppliers.

- http://www.termtimewear.com
- http://koolskools.co.uk/productcategory/meltham-cofe-primary-school
- Free pre owned uniform available from <a href="https://www.uniform-exchange.org/">https://www.uniform-exchange.org/</a>
- Plain school uniform is also available from most supermarkets
- Labels for all clothing and belongings available from <a href="https://www.stikins.co.uk/">https://www.stikins.co.uk/</a>



PE Kit, Forest School





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