



SKA HEADLINES

Friday 28th April 2023

Please have a quick read to keep up to date with everything going on at school. Don't forget to follow our social media pages and keep up to date with letters on our school website – the details are at the bottom of the page.

Ofsted – Thank You

Thank you for your patience and flexibility while we had our two day Ofsted inspection last week. I will share the findings of the inspection with you all when I am able to do so as until the report is published, marking the end of the inspection process, this information is confidential.

Summer Calendar

Please see the calendar I shared with everyone at the beginning of this week with some key events for this half term.

Event:	Date:
SKA Coronation Celebration Day	Friday 5 th May 2023
BANK HOLIDAY (IN LIEU OF CORONATION)	Monday 8th May 2023
Year 6 SATs Week	Tuesday 9 th May – Friday 12 th May 2023
Year 3 Trip to Magna Science Museum (Payments now due on MCAS please)	Thursday 11 th May 2023
Movie Night (All Years) - £1 for ticket, popcorn and drink	Wednesday 24 th May 2023
SKA Exhibition (Families invited)	Thursday 25 th May 2023
MAY HALF TERM	Break up at 3:20pm on Friday 26th May 2023
START OF SUMMER TERM 2	Back to school at 8:45am on Monday 5th June 2023



Coronation Celebration Day

A letter was sent out last week about our celebration day which will happen in school this Friday 5th May 2023:

Children are invited to wear red, white and/or blue for the day. There will be an assembly during the morning led by myself and the children will spend the morning learning about the event and creating red, white and blue decorations.

The children will use their decorations to dress up the 'The SKA Street Party' where tables will be set out in long rows outside (weather permitting). Children will eat their dinners with staff at their decorated tables with music followed by some games, street party style.



If your child would like a school dinner on this day, picnic bags consisting of a sandwich (ham, cheese or tuna), homemade sausage roll or vegetarian alternative, crisps, red white and blue bun and fruit will be available to order. **There will be no hot meals served on Friday 5th May 2023.** Children can of course bring their own packed lunch as normal if they wish.

Born in 1948, King Charles III would have been primary school age in the 1950s, so we will be holding a '1950s Sports Day' during the afternoon (weather permitting) where the children will learn some new games and take part in classic activities such as sack and egg and spoon races.

Stockingate, South Kirkby, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF9 3DP

Telephone: 01977 643187 **Email:** skaoffice@watertonacademytrust.org

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Code of Conduct for Families, Parents & Carers

I would like to extend my thanks to the vast majority of families, parents and carers who work with school appropriately and supportively when issues arise. We pride ourselves on having an 'open door policy', with staff outside before and after school, teachers on the doors each morning and afternoon and office staff usually available in person or over the phone. Members of the Senior Leadership Team are usually around to speak to too, but I appreciate that sometimes we are tied up elsewhere.

I also appreciate that we do not always get it right but I do know that when this is the case, we hold our hands up and endeavour to find a solution.

I am therefore always disappointed when it is brought to my attention that some families, parents and carers have not followed the appropriate routes of communication and have spoken inappropriately against South Kirkby Academy and its staff on social media platforms such as Facebook. It causes me even more disappointment when I see that unacceptably, individual staff members have been named – including myself – as this goes against the values of respect and kindness, something that we are working so hard to teach all of our children.

I have therefore written a Code of Conduct for families, parents and carers which I have attached to the end of this letter. Please read this carefully and of course if there is anything you would like clarification on, please see me.

I would like to reiterate that the vast majority of families, parents and carers do treat school staff with respect and kindness and work with us to seek a solution when something goes wrong. Thank you for your understanding and ongoing support.

Attendance Matters (Our school attendance target is 95%)

Our whole school attendance figure for **Week 2 of Summer Term** was **90%**.

Our class attendance this week:

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Bretton 90%	Fairburn 93%	Brodsworth 94%	Ackworth 86%
Nostell 94%	Waterton 92%	Wragby 89%	Wentbridge 89%

Well done to **Brodsworth and Nostell classes** for winning the week's attendance with **94%**. **As their reward, they are welcome to come to school in non-uniform on Thursday 4th May 2023 (Friday 5th May is wear red, white and/or blue day).**

I hope you all had a lovely long weekend.

Mr Adam Potter
(Head of School)

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Code of Conduct

Parents, Carers & Families

We are fortunate to have a very supportive community of families who recognise that educating children is a complex process that involves a partnership between families, teachers and the wider school community. As a partnership, our families will understand the importance of a good working relationship to prepare their children with the necessary skills to be good citizens.

Purpose

At South Kirkby Academy, we believe it is important to:

- Work together with families to support their child's learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for children, staff and families
- Model appropriate behaviour for our children at all times

To support us with this, we set clear expectations and guidelines on behaviour for all members of our community. This includes staff (through the Staff code of Conduct) and children (through our Behaviour Policy).

We use the term 'families' to include:

- Anyone with parental responsibility for a child
- Anyone caring for a child
- Anyone representing the parent of a child

Our Expectations

We expect **all** families to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school
- Work together with staff in the best interests of our children
- Maintain reasonable expectations for staff response to general communications
- Treat all members of the school community with respect, setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- Seek a peaceful and reasonable solution to all issues
- Correct their own child's behaviour (or those in their care), particularly in public, where it could lead to conflict, aggression or unsafe conduct
- Approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern, following up if an appropriate response has not been received

Behaviour that will not be tolerated:

- Swearing, or using offensive language
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms (see below)
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent or child, regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, children or other parents
- Damaging or destroying school property
- Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication

- Unreasonable demands upon school staff to respond to a query, or expectations for staff to communicate outside of normal working hours
- Making serial and unreasonable complaints (please see Complaints Policy)
- Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
- Any aggressive behaviour (including verbally or in writing) towards another child or adult
- Disciplining another person's child – please bring any behaviour incidents to a member of staff's attention
- Smoking or drinking alcohol on the school premises
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)

Inappropriate use of social media

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/students. Governors, Trust staff and school staff consider the use of social media websites or apps being used in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the students or the whole school community.

Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the appropriate member of staff, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

'Think before you post'

We ask that social media, whether public or private, should not be used to fuel campaigns and voice complaints against the school, school staff, parents or children.

Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises, the school may take any of the following actions:

- Ending a meeting if this behaviour is displayed
- Not replying to communications that are offensive, abusive or derogatory
- Insist that the adult communicates with the school through one member of staff only
- Contact the appropriate authorities
- Consider banning the offending adult from entering the school grounds

Breaching the code of conduct:

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a family member/parent/carer has breached the code of conduct, the school will gather information from those involved and speak to the family member about the incident.

Depending on the nature of the incident, the school may then:

- Send a warning letter to the family member/adult
- Limit contact by allocating one key staff member to communicate with
- Invite the family member/adult into school to meet with a senior member of staff or the headteacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from the local authority's legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Ban the family member/adult from the school site