



# SKA HEADLINES

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024

## Christmas Calendar of Events

Below is the school calendar for the final two weeks before the Christmas holidays. Here you will find each event, the date and key details. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Studd or Mrs Neary in the office. We hope you enjoy our events over the final two weeks of term!



Event	Date	Details
Christmas Disco	09.12.24	£2 per ticket from reception, which includes a hot dog and drink. Sweet tuck shop available. 3:30pm-4:30pm. Children to bring change of clothes in a named carrier bag. ALL children MUST be collected.
SKA Exhibition (Christmas Crafts)	11.12.24	Doors will open at 9am for families. Please wait on the playground by your child's classroom door. The craft session will run from 9am-10am. Christmas coffee morning in the hall from 10am-10:30am. There is no charge for this event but donations for refreshments will be gratefully accepted. If you are staying for coffee morning, please book onto the MCAS app so we can buy enough Christmas treats for all.
Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day	12.12.24	Christmas jumper/top half/accessories with uniform. Donation of £1 please. Bottom half and shoes – uniform.
Christmas Dinner Day	12.12.24	Please email 'skabookings@watertonacademytrust.org' to order your child a school Christmas dinner. Please pay on the MCAS app if your child is not eligible for free school meals.
Year 3 Christmas Shows	16.12.24 17.12.24	Afternoon showing – starts at 1:30pm promptly. Morning showing – starts at 9:30am promptly.
Christmas Fayre	17.12.24	After school in the hall. A variety of Christmas goodies to purchase! Please come along and support our school.
Christmas Movie Night	18.12.24	Christmas showing of Arthur Christmas. £1 per ticket from reception – includes popcorn and drink. ALL children MUST be collected.
The BIG SKA Christmas Sing-Off	19.12.24	Our annual, feel-good Christmas celebration! A final Christmassy get together and performance of Christmas songs that the children have been practising! Families are unfortunately not invited to this one.

As a reminder, we break up for the Christmas holidays on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 3:20pm and return in the new year for the start of spring term on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 is an INSET day so school will be closed for all children.**

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

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Facebook: Search for 'South Kirkby Academy' X: @WatertonSKA





Attendance this week: 95% 😊

Leeds	99%
Filey	99%
Harrogate	97%
York	95%
Ilkley	95%
Knaresborough	94%
Whitby	91%
Richmond	90%
Leeds and Filey may wear non-uniform on Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	

Carson (Leeds)	For excellent vocabulary choices in his narrative work.
Imogen (York)	For her much improved handwriting.
Mikey (Knaresborough)	For having an excellent week of maths.
Mia-Rose (Richmond)	For being really supportive during D&T lessons.
Maddison (Filey)	For an outstanding attitude to learning.
Xanthe (Whitby)	For making all the right choices and making good choices.
Scarlett M (Harrogate)	For always being an amazing role model.
Sonny (Ilkley)	For being calm and helpful with the IT equipment.

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week!

**What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SNAPCHAT**

SNAPCHAT is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent disappears 24 hours after it has been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2020, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**  
My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which responds to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnosis, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

**SCREEN TIME ADDICTION**  
Snapchat prioritises user engagement, so its features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score), the 'Snapstreak' (a notification called 'Streaker' and 'Spotlight' which show featured content to each user), 'Stories' (that can also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching video content) and 'Filters' (constant specifications can lure people into using the app).

**INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**  
Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The high level of user-generated content is determined by the user, so a search on the app for inappropriate images or videos will return a large number of inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also means that if you're young people can share explicit images or videos, so sending continues to be an unfiltered and unregulated space.

**ONLINE PRESSURES**  
Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'Beauty' effects on photos can be used to promote body image expectations - creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat also offers the 'Snapchat Spotlight' which still get displayed even if a video is 'discontinued' (meaning the pressure on users to log back in and interact).

**ADVICE FOR PARENTS & EDUCATORS**

- UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS**  
Snapchat's Family Center lets you see the details of other accounts, monitor friends, list users who they've spoken to in the last week, and report on activities. Snapchat has a parental control app called 'Family Center' which is available on the app, so you can set up a 'Family Center' and have a conversation with your child about the app.
- FAMILIARISE YOURSELF**  
Before you create a child's Snapchat account, download it yourself and explore the app to help you understand the risks and how you can help your child stay safe. It's also a good idea to have a conversation with your child about the app.
- ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS**  
Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you maintain an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and whether they are helpful. Talk about the risks of sending explicit images or videos and the importance of reporting inappropriate content. Encourage your child to talk to you if they're having trouble with the app, and encourage them to tell you if they're being bullied or harassed. Encourage your child to report any inappropriate content to the app's reporting team.

Meet Our Expert: Dr. Claire Sutherland, an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has worked with the Home Office, the Department for Education and other government departments on online safety issues. She is also a frequent speaker at conferences and events for parents and educators.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

**Value of the week: Be independent**

Hope (Year 6) Harvey (Year 6)  
Archie (Year 5) Chase (Year 5)  
Layla (Year 4) Jack B (Year 4)  
Levi (Year 3) Jack B (Year 3)

**Lunchtime Awards**  
Connor (Y3) & Harrison (Y6)

**DON'T MISS OUT ON IMPORTANT SKA INFORMATION!**

Please ensure you have the MCAS App downloaded with notifications turned ON.

Please follow our social media feeds for more information and reminders.

**We send out paper letters but at request only.**

**Key Events Next Week**

Please check the Christmas events calendar on the previous page.

Click the image to open the guide.

Have a great weekend.  
Mr Potter

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