

Kerr Mackie Primary School



Spring Term

Curriculum Newsletter
2016

Kerr Mackie Primary School

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www.kerrmackie.leeds.sch.uk



Classes: Nursery- Beech and Pine

Taught by: Mrs Johnson

Term: Spring 1 Topic: Where could I see a dinosaur?

Spring 2 Topic: What's inside?

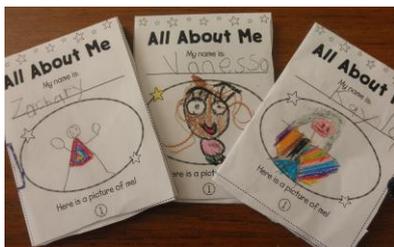
We would like to welcome all of our new January Nursery starters and their families to
Kerr Mackie Primary School.

Personal, Social & Emotional

This half term we will be helping the new January starters to settle into the Nursery environment. We will be supporting children to make positive relationships with staff and other children. We will also be encouraging children to become more independent and to explore their surroundings.

Each Monday we will continue to share our weekend 'news' in small groups. The children will learn to take turns sharing their news and will begin to develop their confidence in talking in a small group and listening to other children. You can help by talking to your child before school on a Monday about your weekend activities. Also please let us know if there has been a special event in your family that your child would like to share. This will help them become more confident when telling their news.

The 'All About Me' books are proving to be a big success and the children are enjoying sharing their photographs and drawings with others. Please take these home at any time and add more photographs, for your child to talk about.



Communication, Language & Literacy

In January and February, we will be following some of the children's interest in dinosaurs, by turning our role play area into a dinosaur den and dinosaur dig. We will be learning lots of new words linked to our theme and developing our relationships by playing with others.

Children will continue to learn stories using an approach called 'Talk for Writing'. Each day they will retell a story using actions. Some of the stories which will be introduced this term are: *Harry and a Bucketful of Dinosaurs*, *Jack and the Beanstalk* and *The Little Red Hen*. We will also be focusing on learning more rhymes and songs.

Children will be given lots of opportunities to develop their writing skills for different purposes both inside and outside.

In Phonics we will continue to use letters and Sounds, a structured Phonics Programme. A number of times each week, children will practise their listening skills in small groups. We will also be learning to recognise letter names and sounds. Some children will be using their phonic skills to develop their reading and spelling.

Mathematics

This term in Number we will be learning to:

- Recite numbers in order to 10 and beyond.
- Count a small group of objects, pointing carefully at each one.
- Select a small number of objects when asked.
- To group a set of objects in different ways.
- Adding more objects to a set and taking away objects from a set.
- Notice numbers in the environment.
- To recognise numerals and to begin to record numerals

We will also be learning about different shapes and using these to make patterns and models.

The children will be using their measuring skills to make play dough and to bake.



Understanding the World

We will be following our interests, to find out more about dinosaurs and fossils. We will develop our skills in finding things out, using books and video clips and think about how we can record our ideas.

We have an exciting project planned, with eggs and an incubator coming to nursery. We will be exploring what's inside eggs, fruits and seeds.

Expressive Arts and Design



Children will be encouraged to express themselves using a range of different materials in the creative and workshop areas inside and outside using natural materials.

They will learn to use tools independently, to cut and join materials and select resources to use.

They will be encouraged to engage in imaginative role-play based on their own first hand experiences and to sing familiar songs.

Physical Development

Children will given the opportunity to use a range of PE equipment outside and to climb over, under, through and on, the equipment outside.

The children will be encouraged to become more independent in putting their coat on. We will encourage them to put their arms into the sleeves, then we will start the zip off for them or support them with their buttons. At home, please encourage your child to put on their own coat and dress themselves.

Nursery Routines

Morning Nursery – Beech class

Doors open at 8:45am and will be closed at 9:00am. Any children arriving after this time will need to be signed in at the School Office. At the end of the session, doors are opened at 11:35 and all children must be picked up promptly by 11:45.

Afternoon Nursery – Pine class

Doors open at 12:15pm and will be closed at 12:30pm. Any children arriving after this time will need to be signed in at the School Office. At the end of the session doors are opened at 3:05pm and all children must be picked up promptly by 3:15pm

To encourage reading and the enjoyment of stories the Nursery team will continue a lending library. Every Friday, children can choose a book to take home. The books are stored in the Nursery entrance and can be returned and changed each Friday.

Stay and Play: Following the popularity of these sessions this term, we will be holding some more stay and play sessions in January, as soon as our new starters have settled in. Please check the notice board for dates.

Parents Notices: Please keep looking at our Parents Notices board, just inside nursery. Letters, useful information about your child's development and our much requested playdough recipe are currently on there.

Tapestry: It has been great to see that the majority of parents are regularly looking at Tapestry. Many of you are also commenting on your child's learning and adding your own photographs from home. This really helps us to build up a picture of your child, both in nursery and outside. It also helps us to talk about things that the children have been doing at home and develop their language skills and confidence.

Children will spend part of most days outside (whatever the weather). It is therefore **very important that children come to school in a warm coat**. It is also recommended that children **keep wellington boots in school**. Please label coats and wellington boots. We provide all in one suits and aprons, to keep the children dry outside, but sometimes clothing may become wet and we will change the children if this occurs. In case of wet clothing, please can all children have a bag of spare clothes (including pants and socks) on their peg each day. The outside environment is an invaluable part of learning during children's early years and we want them to enjoy outdoor experiences throughout the year.

Please can we remind Nursery parents/ carers NOT to use the bar to keep the main gate open in the playground. The school gates must be kept securely closed at all times to keep children safe.

Thank you for your continuing support. Please come and talk to the Nursery team if you have any questions or feedback.

We would like to wish all our families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The Nursery Team – Mrs Johnson, Mrs Sanig and Miss Mahmood