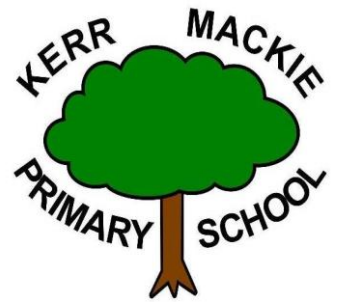


# KERR MACKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

**15<sup>th</sup> February 2013**



Dear Parent/Carer,

The weather has certainly been challenging this half-term but what a lovely day it has been today. Let's hope it's a sign of things to come. Please note the information below about the rearranged parents' evening.

Monday February 25<sup>th</sup> is a training day for staff at Kerr Mackie. In the morning teachers, with staff from Talbot Primary and Moortown Primary, will be receiving training on taking all good teaching to outstanding, which is the next step for us as a school. In the afternoon we are very fortunate to have David Price OBE and his wife Clare working with us on developing our curriculum even further. Their work will continue with us for most of the next half term. David is well renowned internationally for his innovative work and we are all really excited about this opportunity. I would personally like to thank Tim Riches, a parent of the school, who put us in touch with David.

I would like to wish everyone a good break and I look forward to seeing you all on February 26<sup>th</sup>.

## CURRICULUM

### YEAR 4

The children in Year 4 have been learning about icons and had the opportunity to go to Allerton Grange CLC to make movies about their work. These films were then shown at Hyde Park Picture House this week for the parents/carers of Year 4 to watch. The children have been really excited about this:

"Year 4 have been very lucky for the past few weeks. Everyone in Year 4 has made an amazing movie. Our favourite parts were getting filmed in front of the green screen. We were all involved in the movie and have all been learning how to make a movie for now and the future. Every pupil enjoyed their learning at the CLC. We edited our movies and made it good and funny." Written by Ellen McHale, Mia Riches and Iqra Saddique in Lime class.

### MATHS WEEK

The children have been very hands on this week learning how maths skills are used in the workplace etc. A big thank you to the parents/carers who were able to come into school and talk to the children about their careers and how they use maths at work.

We were really lucky to have Barclays Bank in to discuss money skills with the children including how to set up a bank account. The children really enjoyed these sessions and found them most useful. We thanked the staff from Barclays Bank for giving up their time to come in to talk to us.

### YEAR 6

"Sharon Middleton, the filmer, came into school to film us for a competition. We had to come up with a new law. Our law was... you can watch the video on the Kerr Mackie website. It was a challenge to learn our long lines in 5 minutes and then say it whilst being filmed. In the end we made a very successful video. Also, if we win we get to go to...LONDON! Even better we would go to the Houses of Parliament!" Written by Checky Marcus and Sam Watson in Holly class.

### INTERNET SAFETY DAY

Last week 60 children were involved in an internet training workshop, provided by Digital Me, where they learnt to use the internet safely and also how to protect themselves from online dangers. Madiha Azam and Kaja Arthur were interviewed live on Radio Leeds as part of the day. The girls were on cue with their comments as they went live on the radio via satellite truck in our car park! All the children were very responsive and a credit to the school throughout the day. The day culminated in an assembly where Councillor Bill Urry awarded the children their internet safety training badges and certificates.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

Rachel Grady and Kaele Pemberton from Year 5 have written a summary of what the children have done this half term:

"Lately there has been lots of snow and the pond has been frozen. Nothing has had a chance to grow. On 7<sup>th</sup> February we got the chance to go outside to see if there was any sign of Spring. We saw red tree buds, insects eggs, green shoots, crocus and daffodils. We also decided to plant some raspberry plants. Please feel welcome anytime to watch our nature develop. See what you can find."

NEWSLETTER

## SPORT

### SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS

Unfortunately our great run came to a dramatic end in the semi-final at Temple Moor High School. At the end of the competition we were second equal with Strawberry Fields Primary School, Garforth. The organisers could not distinguish between ourselves and the other school and it went to a sudden death race off which we unfortunately lost. Thank you to all the vocal support throughout the tournament and a huge thank you to Mr Monks for giving up so much of his time to coach and organise the events

## INFORMATION

### BOOKS

As we have recently changed our reading books we have a surplus of the old Oxford Tree reading scheme which we would like to offer to any parents/carers who may find these useful. They will be available on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February in KS1 library area after school. There will be a donation box for any contributions made. Thank you.

### PARENTS EVENING

Unfortunately due to the severe weather and road problems the parents evening due to take place on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February was postponed until Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February. The same time slot that you were given to meet with the teacher will apply. After school clubs will run as normal.

### YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL

There will be a meeting for parents/carers of Year 6 pupils on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm where you will be provided with information about this year's residential trip.

### TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHY

Reminder: Tempest Photography will be in school on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February to take the class photographs for Nursery to Year 5.

### ONLINE PAYMENTS

We are looking into providing an online payment service for school dinners. If this is something you would find useful please can you let the office know as we need to gauge interest before proceeding further. Thank you.

### ATTENDANCE

The attendance for the period 28<sup>th</sup> January to 8<sup>th</sup> February for the classes is as follows:

|          |       |        |       |
|----------|-------|--------|-------|
| Elm      | 95.8% | Rowan  | 99.8% |
| Willow   | 96.7% | Cedar  | 97.6% |
| Oak      | 97.4% | Lime   | 87.5% |
| Sycamore | 98.3% | Larch  | 98.1% |
| Maple    | 98%   | Lilac  | 97.6% |
| Spruce   | 98.2% | Holly  | 95.8% |
| Alder    | 97.1% | Cherry | 97.7% |

We are really pleased with these attendance figures. There has been a significant improvement over the last few months. Well done and let's keep it up.

## PSA NEWS

### FILM NIGHT

Thank you to everyone who has sent in their slip for tickets to our forthcoming film night. All 120 tickets have now been sold and will be distributed to the children this week. Thank you for your support with this event.

### KERR MACKIE CRAFT & GIFT FAIR

Just in time for Mothers' day we are holding our second craft fair, Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup> 10-1.00pm. Please come along for some springtime treats. There will be stalls, our Mothers' day cupcake café and a craft activity for the children. Stalls are still available. Please contact Caroline Judd via the school office or [carojudd@hotmail.com](mailto:carojudd@hotmail.com) if you would like to have a stall, if you can lend a hand or donate some yummy cupcakes.

**SCHOOL CLOSURES ON FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY AND  
RE-OPENS ON TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY.**