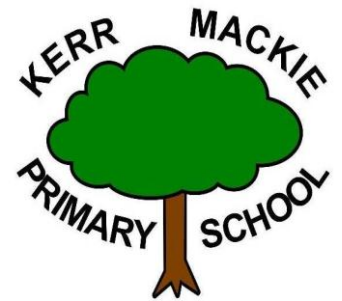


# KERR MACKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

15<sup>th</sup> November 2013



Dear Parent/Carer,

## FANTASTIC NEWS!

During the half term break all primary schools received a DFE report called RAISE-online, which shows the progress pupils made in reading, writing and maths whilst at the school and compares the data to how pupils performed nationally. Our data shows that the percentage making expected progress in maths was the same as pupils nationally but the percentage that made better than expected was higher and it gets even better. More children made expected progress in reading than the national and more made better than expected progress, and it gets even better. All our children made expected progress in writing with more than half making better than expected progress, significantly higher than the national picture. Huge congratulations to all our children and a big thank you to yourselves for the support you give the school and your children, it really makes a difference. I would also like to thank all the staff at Kerr Mackie who work so hard and do all they can to ensure children achieve well. WELL DONE TO EVERYONE.

Mrs Ronicle, Headteacher

## INFORMATION

### SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Please can we remind all parents/carers that the last date for order forms to be handed in to the office is Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November.

### ETHNICITY, LANGUAGE & EMAIL

We recently sent home a letter requesting the above information to be provided for every child in school. If you have not yet returned your details please do so as soon as possible.

From the beginning of December we intend to communicate all letters by email. As you can appreciate the money that we spend as a school on paper is extremely high and we feel that a significant saving can be made by communicating this way in future. We are also aware that not all letters make it home and this way we can be sure that you the parents/carers see all communication from school. If a reply slip is needed we would ask that you either print the slip yourself and send it into school in the normal way or email the completed reply back to the office email address. Printed letters will only be sent home to those parents who do not have an email address. Obviously we would ask that you inform us immediately if you change your details. Copies of all letters are also placed on our school website and can be downloaded from there.

### ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Next week is anti-bullying week. Kerr Mackie Primary School does not tolerate any form of bullying and takes incidents very seriously. To promote anti-bullying week and give the children more information we will be having an assembly to talk about bullying issues. There will also be an assembly led by Year 6 pupils. Circle time will concentrate on bullying in class and there will be an art competition for KS1 and KS2.

### MACKIE MAG

I would like to draw your attention to our amazing online magazine. Mackie Mag is developed and run by a growing team of very talented Kerr Mackie pupils, who work very hard to publish their articles weekly. There are a varied number of topics covered in the magazine such as current events at our school, sports, hot topics, technology and gadgets, etc. Our reporters work extremely hard to produce high quality articles to engage their audience. Interested? Then you can find Mackie Mag by clicking on Makewaves, on our school website home page and choosing the Mackie Mag page. The Mackie Mag team would appreciate any feedback and thoughts on our magazine.

Many thanks.

Mrs Maqsood-Shah  
Deputy Headteacher

### CHEQUES TO SCHOOL

Please can we remind parents/carers that cheques for school should be made payable to: Payments for milk, dinners and after school clubs should be made payable to Leeds City Council. Payments for trips, residential visits or visitors into school should be made payable to Kerr Mackie Primary School.

### PLAYGROUND

Please can we remind parents/carers that children remain their responsibility on the school grounds until the cloakroom doors are opened at 8.45am.

NEWSLETTER

## **CHRISTMAS DINNER MENU**

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December Christmas dinner will be served in school. The menu will be:  
Roast turkey served with mini pork sausage or  
Roast Halal chicken fillet with sage and onion stuffing or  
Roasted Mediterranean vegetable plait  
Served with: roast and mashed potatoes, Brussel sprouts & seasonal vegetables and gravy  
Dessert: Snowman ice cream log, Christmas pudding and custard or satsuma and yoghurt

## **ATTENDANCE**

The attendance for the period 21<sup>st</sup> October to 8<sup>th</sup> November for the classes is as follows:

|          |       |        |       |
|----------|-------|--------|-------|
| Elm      | 94.6% | Rowan  | 92.2% |
| Willow   | 93.7% | Cedar  | 97.5% |
| Oak      | 95%   | Lime   | 98%   |
| Sycamore | 96.5% | Larch  | 94.2% |
| Maple    | 91.9% | Lilac  | 93.1% |
| Spruce   | 99.1% | Holly  | 96.1% |
| Alder    | 98%   | Cherry | 98.4% |

Our target for attendance is 96%. Please help us to achieve this throughout the year.

## **SPONSORSHIP PLEASE**

Message from Camilla Hawkes, Mum of Harriet Bottomley (Year 2 Maple) and Dominic Bottomley (Year 4 Lime):

On November 17<sup>th</sup> I will be running the Leeds Abbey Dash 10k. I would be very grateful for your sponsorship to raise money for the charity Winston's Wish, which works to support bereaved children and their families across the UK. Early last year my friend Maria (who was Dominic's guide-mother) & I made a plan to run the Dash together. She died in November 2012 having been diagnosed the previous Christmas with cancer. She was 41, and left her husband James and 4 young children Eleanor, Hannah, Olivia & Joseph. Winston's Wish offers practical support and guidance to anyone concerned about a grieving child. The right support at the right time can enable young people to live with their grief and rebuild positive futures. If you would like to sponsor me, then please go to:

[www.justgiving.com/camillahawkes](http://www.justgiving.com/camillahawkes).

Thank you so much for your support. Camilla

## **GUITAR PRESENTATION**

Reminder, the guitar presentation has been re-scheduled for today at 2.45pm. If your child is interested in taking guitar lessons in school please feel free to come along.

## **SPORT**

### **SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS**

Congratulations to the Year 6 athletics team, who took part in the indoor Athletics competition at Roundhay High School. on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November. The children were involved in a variety of track and field events. We competed against four other schools and we have now secured our place for the next round.

### **FOOTBALL**

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November, Year 4 have a home match against St Theresa's so please come and show your support. The match will start at 3.15pm on Roundhay Field.

### **RUGBY**

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November, on the 3G Leeds Rhinos training ground, we took part in an under 11 rugby league contact tournament. We beat Immaculate Heart two tries to one, lost to Alwoodley (they were last year's Leeds Champions) three tries to nil, beat Bramley St Peters five tries to one and lost our final match three tries to nil. The children were superb, they put up with some exceptionally cold weather and got really stuck in. Thanks to the parents that supported and helped with transport.

## **PSA NEWS**

### **FILM NIGHT**

Our second film night was a great success and, judging by the eruptions of laughter, a big hit with the children! Thank you once again to Hamish Jamson for supplying the "cinema" equipment, Steve Wilson for his projectionist skills, Adam Sutcliffe for kindly donating the popcorn, all the parents and staff who volunteered their help on the night and, of course, everyone who supported the event by buying a ticket!

### **BAG-2-SCHOOL**

This week your child should have brought home their bag for the bag-2-school collection. Please return this bag filled with the items listed on the bag to the main school reception area by 9am on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December. There is limited storage in the Portakabin if you need to bring in your bag earlier that week. If you need more than one bag a normal bin bag is fine. Remember the school is paid money based on the weight of what is collected, so the more we collect, the more money we raise!!

### **WINTER FAIR - 6th DECEMBER, 3:30-5:30pm**

Yes, it really is that time of year again! The Winter Fair is fast approaching and, as ever, the PSA needs your help to make it spectacular! If you are able to help on a stall, even if for just half an hour, please contact Rachel Wilson (via the playground / office) in the first instance, or sign up directly to a stall rota (these will be in circulation soon). Please let us know your availability as early as possible, as this assists us greatly with prior planning!!

The PSA will soon also be seeking donations of the following, please:

- Good quality food/ drink/ chocolates/ festive decorations/ toiletries for the raffle/ hampers/ tombola;
  - Small gifts for the Secrets Room, e.g. candles/ toiletries/ jewellery (new or nearly new, please);
  - Pre-loved books, toys and teddies;
  - Baskets/ boxes for hampers;
  - Christmas wrapping paper;
  - Cakes/ biscuits/ mince pies for the cafe (please bring to school on the morning of the fair).
- We shall be collecting all donations in the new portacabin during the week commencing Monday 2nd December. Thank you for your continued support.

### **MATCH FUNDING and EASY FUNDRAISING**

Please refer to previous recent newsletters regarding these fantastic fundraising opportunities. **Please, please, please** take a few moments to consider whether you can support either (or both) of these initiatives. **They will cost you nothing** and could make a huge difference to the amount of funds the PSA raises this year for the benefit of all our children and the school. **Match funding could double our Winter Fair profits.**

### **KERR MACKIE TEA TOWELS - FEATURING YOUR CHILD**

The PSA is delighted to announce that the school tea towels are now for sale, featuring self-portraits of each child in the school. They are a great memento or present as well as being useful for drying the dishes!

There are two separate tea towels available: one design for KS1 and a separate design for KS2.

Each tea towel costs only £4 each and they are available from the office. A letter with a reply slip has been sent home. If you wish to send the reply slip and your payment back to the office we will arrange for the tea towel to be sent home with your child. Thank you in advance for your support towards PSA funds.

Thank you.

Rachel Wilson (PSA Chair)