

KERR MACKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

17th January 2013



Dear Parent/Carer,

This half-term we are continuing to teach exciting & engaging projects across school. In Reception children are 'flying all round the world' in the aeroplane set up in the classroom, Year 4 are producing films on the lives of icons such as Barack Obama and Stephen Hawkings which will then be shown at Hyde Park Cinema! This is just an example of the fabulous learning children are experiencing at Kerr Mackie. Each year group will be writing a piece about their learning for the newsletter.

I hope you enjoy the piece below written by two Year 2 pupils.
Mrs Ronicle, Headteacher

CURRICULUM

YEAR 2

"On Monday the 17th January we had a ball and at the ball we all had fun and did some dancing. I danced with Hamza. We had a ball to meet Prince Charming. All the teachers were wearing costumes and they all looked really funny. All the children laughed. We had some lovely food and had a super time. Mrs Shah was the stepmother, Miss Marsden was Drizella and Mrs Marcus was Anastasia." Written by Maleeha Ghori and Homaira Begum in Maple class.

OFSTED BANNER

I hope you have all had the opportunity to see the new banner on the school railings. This was commissioned to celebrate the success of our recent Ofsted report. The photographs used were selected as they represent the success and spirit at Kerr Mackie and we want the wider community to see how far we have come. We hope you are as pleased with it as we are!

GARDENING CLUB

Please note, Gardening club is changing its name to 'Environmental Club'. The children were very busy last term making items for the Winter Fair and planting bulbs around school. Mrs Judd and Mrs Hutchinson (parents) have come up with some great ideas for Spring term and the focus will be birds in the grounds and wildlife garden. We will be making a scrapbook and bird feeders to hang around school and the whole school will be taking part in topping the feeders up and counting birds we see for the RSPB big garden birdwatch taking place in January. Other ideas for the rest of this half term are: dream catchers, quizzes and planting when the weather warms up! Thank you to Mrs Judd and Mrs Hutchinson for all their hard work and enthusiasm.

INFORMATION

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Please note there will be no after school clubs on Monday 11th February and Wednesday 13th February due to parent evenings.

PUNCTUALITY

We are noticing an increased number of pupils who are arriving late for the start of school. It is vitally important that all children are in class ready for the start of their first lesson at 9am. We are closely monitoring the situation and if there is no improvement we will pass the names of those concerned to the Attendance Improvement Officer for further action.

We are also pleased to announce that we will shortly be having an 'Electronic pupil, staff and visitor signing in system' installed. Further details to follow!

NEWSLETTER

YEAR 4 SWIMMING

We have been advised by the School Nursing Team that pupils should refrain from swimming with school for two weeks after an episode of sickness and/or diarrhoea. Also, if your child has a verruca it should be covered whilst at the swimming baths. Thank you.

UNIFORM SALE

Mrs Hawley has very kindly offered to wash and sell the lost property items that have not been claimed. All named items have been returned to the children but there are a number of jumpers etc remaining and these will be for sale in the library next Wednesday 23rd January at 3.15-3.45pm. All items will be 50p each and all money raised will go into the school fund.

STAFF – HELLO AND GOODBYE!

We would like to welcome Tarandeep Kaur who has joined our staff team as a Teaching Assistant and also welcome back Ali Garlick and Denise Meehan who have both been on maternity leave. Unfortunately we have to say goodbye to Mrs Hutchinson, (teaching assistant) who is leaving Kerr Mackie after 5 years with the school. We would like to wish her well at her new school.

PSA

The next PSA meeting will take place on Tuesday 22nd January at 3.30pm in the library. Please come along and join us to discuss future events.

ATTENDANCE

The attendance for the period 17th December to 11th January for the classes is as follows:

Elm	87.9%	Rowan	93.6%
Willow	93.2%	Cedar	90%
Oak	88.5%	Lime	87.9%
Sycamore	96.8%	Larch	96.3%
Maple	90%	Lilac	96.0%
Spruce	96.3%	Holly	94.3%
Alder	97.4%	Cherry	94.8%

Our target for attendance is 95%. Please help us to achieve this.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – SPRING TERM

w/c 21 st January	After school clubs re-start
Wednesday 23 rd January	Alder class on school trip
Thursday 24 th January	Rowan class on school trip
Tuesday 29 th January	Tempest here – Yr 6 class photos
Wednesday 30 th January - PM	Yr 2 to the Pantomime
Monday 11 th February	Parents evening
w/b 11 th February	Maths week in school
Wednesday 13 th February	Parents evening
Friday 15 th February	School closes for half term
Monday 25 th February	Training day
Tuesday 26 th February	School re-opens to pupils
Tuesday 26 th February	Tempest here – Nursery – Yr 5 class photos
Friday 15 th March	Red nose day
Wednesday 27 th March	Easter decorate-an-egg competition
Thursday 28 th March	School closes for Easter
Monday 15 th April	School re-opens