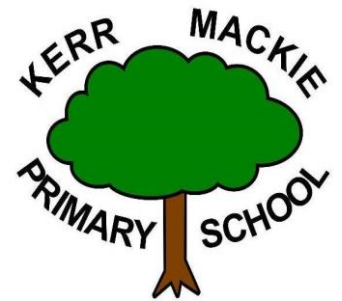


# KERR MACKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

17<sup>th</sup> January 2014



Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly, I would very much like to thank all the parents/carers who have made our new Deputy Headteacher feel so welcome at Kerr Mackie Primary School. Mrs Crowther is settling in well and has been very impressed with the behaviour of the children, their positive attitude to learning and their enthusiasm.

Kerr Mackie's innovative approach to delivering the national curriculum has led to the school being invited to present a workshop at the BETT conference in London on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. Two pupils will be with us describing some of the projects they have experienced and another pupil's report on the Go-kart project in Year 2 last year will form part of the presentation. We are very proud that our work has been recognised as good practice and a model to share with a large audience. Look out for photos of this on our school website.  
Mrs Ronicle, Headteacher

My first two weeks at Kerr Mackie have been thoroughly enjoyable. As Mrs Ronicle has written, I have received a genuinely warm welcome from staff, children and parents – thank you. I feel very lucky to be part of such a vibrant and exciting school. Over this two-week period I have been impressed by both your children's behaviour and attitude to learning and by how hard the staff work and how much they care about the children in their care. My highlight so far must be lunch yesterday! The Food Ambassadors invited me to join them at the top table at lunch yesterday. After lunch we had a party in the portakabin (it's surprising how refreshing it is to play pass-the-parcel in the middle of the day!). I look forward to getting to know the school community better as time goes on. In the meantime if there is anything I can do to help or support, please feel free to meet with me.  
Mrs Crowther, Deputy Headteacher

## CURRICULUM

### YEAR 6 VISITOR TO SCHOOL

"In Year 6 we are learning all about the science of music. To help us with this a man called Sam came and taught us all about: volume, why pitch changes and how to make amazing instruments using household objects. One thing we learnt was that pitch changes when something is short or long. Thus if you blow into an empty bottle the sound will be quite low because the air travels a further distance and if you fill it up with water it has a shorter way to travel so it's higher. He also taught us how to make instruments using old bits of tube and cardboard. A cardboard box is a great amplifier, perfect for making a guitar." Written by Charis Lenton in Holly class.

## INFORMATION

### AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Reminder that this term's after school clubs start again on Monday. There will be no after school clubs on the following days:

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb (film night)

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb (parents evening)

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> Feb (parents evening)

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April (Easter event)

### FUTURE CORRESPONDANCE HOME

Please note that with immediate effect all future letters will be sent via email with the exception of school trip letters that need a reply slip and payment returning. It is therefore important that you regularly check your email inbox and keep the office notified of any changes to your email address.

### LUNCHTIMES

"On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014 we had our first Top Table in the dining hall.

We the food ambassadors had suggested that we had something special for the children in the dining hall who were always good - children that always remember the dinnertime rules. The food ambassador invited Mrs Crowther to our top table in the dining hall. The table was set up with brightly coloured party tableware and included on the table there were lots of healthy fruit and veg snacks. We had our dinner in the hall and then moved into the external classroom to play party games. We had lots of fun playing pass the parcel, cat and mouse game and lots of talking!!!

We are hoping to invite children from all classes to join us on the top table but we will be watching you and then we will send you an invitation if you are good enough to join us!"

By The Food Ambassadors

NEWSLETTER

## CONTACTING SCHOOL

We have noticed that a few parents have left messages on the number that texts are sent from. Please note that all calls to school should be made through the main office number of 3368499.

## SAINSBURY ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

We're taking part in Sainsbury's Active Kids 2014, and we hope to get some fantastic new cooking equipment. We've already got our eyes on some exciting items so need a big team effort!

*Help us win our wishlist!*

We've created a wishlist that shows our top items that we are collecting for and if you nominate our school by Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May we will have the chance to win our wishlist up to a maximum of 15,000 Active Kids vouchers. All you need to do is visit [Sainsburys.co.uk/activekids](http://Sainsburys.co.uk/activekids) and search for LS8 1NE in the postcode finder on the homepage and follow the instructions to nominate us. Vouchers are available when you shop at Sainsbury's stores, petrol stations and with online grocery deliveries from Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January to Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May, so please get collecting for us. We have a box by the office – please donate your vouchers and let everyone know that we're collecting. Your efforts are really appreciated and can make a huge difference.

## CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Thank you for all your donations received at the various Christmas performances – we raised £337.39 which is going to be put towards the refurbishment of the parent's room. Thank you.

## VACANCIES

Catering Leeds have vacancies in the area for school catering staff. 10 hours a week. Term Time Only. If you are interested please contact Helen Collins on 0113 3782323.

## ATTENDANCE

The attendance for the period 9<sup>th</sup> December to 3<sup>rd</sup> January for the classes is as follows:

Elm	88.3%	Rowan	90.5%
Willow	94.8%	Cedar	96.3%
Oak	95.1%	Lime	93.3%
Sycamore	93.2%	Larch	97.1%
Maple	93.4%	Lilac	97.3%
Spruce	96.2%	Holly	97.1%
Alder	93.8%	Cherry	95.4%

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

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – SPRING TERM

Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 12.30-5.30pm	Year 2 at Bradford Alhambra to see Aladdin
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February 6pm	Year 6 meeting for parents re residential
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February time 3.30pm	PSA film night for Years 4-6
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 3.30-6pm	Parents evening
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 3.30-6pm	Parents evening
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 3.30pm	School closes for half term
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 8.45am	School opens
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Tempest Photography here taking class photographs for Nursery to Year 6
Friday 21st March	Sport Relief day (Red Nose appeal)
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Easter egg competition
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	PSA Easter event
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	School closes until Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April

Please see the events calendar on the school website ([www.kerrmackie-primary-school.org.uk](http://www.kerrmackie-primary-school.org.uk)) for updated event information.

## PSA NEWS

A letter will be sent home very shortly regarding the forthcoming film night.