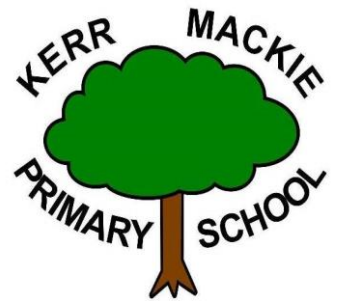


# KERR MACKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## 18th March 2016



Dear Parent/Carer,

Spring definitely seems to have arrived at last, at Kerr Mackie. We have colourful crocuses on display in the gardens and 'dancing' daffodils in tubs around school. The spring and Easter feel was kick started by the hatching of eggs in nursery. The nursery took delivery of a chicken hatching kit, including eggs and an incubator and by the end nursery had nine fluffy yellow chicks.

This experience enabled the children to learn about the life cycle of chicks and how to care for them. To continue their learning, Mrs Garlick brought three of her chickens in to school, which you can see in the outside area in Reception and Nursery and they have laid some eggs whilst they have been here!

Talking of eggs, don't forget it's our Easter Egg competition next week. Children can bring their decorated eggs in on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March and Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Judging will take place on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

All the eggs will be displayed along our main corridor and you are most welcome to come and view them.

Please remember nearly all our communication now is via email & website, so please check regularly.

Mrs Ronicle,  
Headteacher

**Dates for your diary are below;**

### March

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016 – Sports Relief  
Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016 – Easter Egg competition  
School closed Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2016 – Good Friday  
School closed Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2016 – Easter Monday  
School opens Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2016

### April

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 – School closes  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 – After school clubs finish  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016 – Training Day  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016 – School opens  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016 – Show Racism the Red Card

NEWSLETTER

## **Rights Respecting School Update**

Children's rights are at the heart of the RRSA (Rights Respecting Schools Award) work that we are doing in school. On Thursday morning, the steering group met to do two things: reflect on what is going really well and to plan for future actions.

### **What have we done so far?**

- ✓ We have set up a steering group for pupils, staff, parents and governors. If you would like to be part of our steering group we would love to hear from you;
- ✓ There is a large display in the school hall;
- ✓ Articles are displayed around school in the 'right' places. For example, article 17 about access to information from the media is on the laptop trolley; article 29 about respecting the environment on by our recycling area;
- ✓ There is helpful information about RRSA on our school website;
- ✓ Mrs Crowther tweets about RRSA on her twitter feed @MrsHRCrowther;
- ✓ Mrs Crowther had attended a training course;
- ✓ We have made a link with Kippax Ash Primary School who are at the same stage as us – we are sharing good ideas with their teacher Linda Hodgson who leads RRSA there;
- ✓ Articles have been added to school policies where possible;
- ✓ Assembly themes always link to the article of the week;
- ✓ Article of the week is displayed in every classroom and notice board;

### **What difference has it made?**

Children in school are more aware of their rights and the rights of children 18 and under all over the world. Through learning more about children's rights, our pupils are empowered to stand up for those rights both for themselves and for children all over the world.

When I asked pupils in our steering group '*How do we know our school is rights – respecting?*' here is what they said:

- We try to help children around the world through charity work and giving;
- We leave school with a smile on our faces – we're happy here!
- Teachers make learning fun;
- There are lots of clubs on offer so we can develop our talents;
- We trust each other;
- We respect each other;
- Manners are 100% in Kerr Mackie!
- We respect each other's religions.

### **What are we planning to do next?**

Our three next big projects are:

1. To create an RRSA film to show to our pupils, our governors and parents. We'd love to show our film in an assembly to local schools, too.
2. To launch a whole school RRSA poster competition;
3. To increase 'pupil voice' by writing to people to share our views and find out more about what matters to us e.g. litter in the local area, the war in Syria and finding school places for refugee children.

If you would like to find out more about RRSA and children's rights, please get in touch!

Mrs Crowther  
Deputy Headteacher - RRSA Lead

## EVENTS

### NURSERY AND RECEPTION

"This week, Nursery has had 3 special visitors to look after in their playground. Mrs Garlick brought in 3 of her hens from home so the children could see what adult chickens look like and see how they are different from the chicks they hatched last week. They, along with the Reception children, have done a great job of finding worms to feed them 'treats' and some children have been lucky enough to collect their eggs!

Caramel, Snowflake and Bella have loved all the attention, the strokes and the cuddles from staff and children alike; let's hope they won't be too bored when they go home on Friday."

### RECEPTION ST LEONARDS FARM TRIP

Last week Reception visited St Leonards Farm. We had the chance to stroke and hold lots of different animals. We then had an exciting time playing in the play barn. Following this, we fed animals outside and got busy exploring the outside hay tunnels. Back at school we have created a re-count of our trip and made our own re-count maps. Fun was had by all, a thoroughly exciting day!

### YEAR 3 YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March both Year 3 classes went to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park near Wakefield. First, we got on a coach. After that we walked to the first sculpture; it was a sculpture by the artist KAWS that looked a little bit like Mickey Mouse with eyes that were crosses and he looked sad. Next we went over to a bright, shiny, golden light. We were all quite confused until we realised that it was a galloping horse. It was awesome! Then we saw a flowery hat and when we stood on the planks we made music. Later on was my favourite part as it was a large hill we could run up and down for about three minutes!

Finally it was home time. We walked through a studio or art gallery, but nobody could walk properly because we were so tired. When we arrived at school everyone went home as we were quite tired from our Kerr Mackie Year 3 trip to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park.

By Ruqayyah and Anaya Rowan & Alder Class



### YEAR 5 MOORTOWN BAPTIST CHURCH TRIP

As we entered the church, we went into our groups. After that, we played lots of games to do with Easter, like 'true or false'. Next, we sat down on the floor and watched a performance about the night Jesus and his friends had a feast before Jesus died. Then some people made flowers and decorated the flower pots, meanwhile we interviewed the characters that were in the play. Then we watched a clip of Jesus on the cross.

We really enjoyed the trip, we didn't want to leave, but we had to.

By Sara and Maleeha Larch class

## **INFORMATION**

### **SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD**

The Red Card workshops for Lilac, Lime, Cedar, Holly and Cherry class will now be on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

### **Nursery & Reception Parents Evening**

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March & Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March it is parents evening for both Nursery and Reception classes. If you still need to book an appointment, then please arrange it with your Childs' teacher.

### **CHILDREN'S SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY SERVICE UPDATE**

Children's Speech and Language Therapy Service have been in touch with school to say they will be writing to approximately 600 parents across Leeds asking them to opt in for an appointment during the weeks of 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April.

Parents will be asked to contact the SLT admin office to make an appointment within two weeks of receiving the opt-in letter. If parents do not respond to the opt-in letter it will be assumed that they do not want a further appointment for their child and the episode of care will be ended.

If you do not receive a letter, it may be because your child has had recent input or ongoing support in school, so a further appointment won't be necessary.

Can we please encourage all parents who do receive a letter to respond, thank you.

### **YEAR 5 AND 6 BOY'S FOOTBALL TEAM**

Kerr Mackie 7 – 4 Talbot Primary

The boy's team played Talbot Primary on the 11<sup>th</sup> March at the Rounday Sports Hall. This was the boy's first indoor game of the season and they won the match 7-4. All of the boys played well and great team spirit was shown throughout as they came from 2-0 behind. I know that they were very proud to get a win for their school.

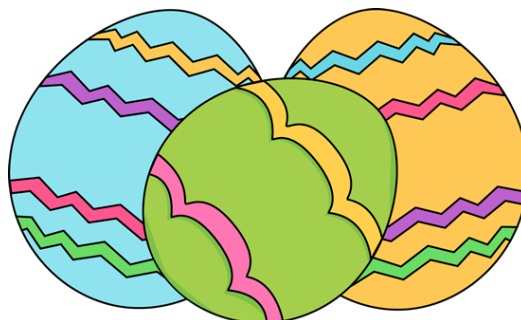
### **YEAR 6 FOOTBALL TEAM FALKINGHAM CUP**

Kerr Mackie 6 – 2 Bankside Primary

Year 6 boys yet again put in a strong performance in their latest cup game. They were 1-0 up at half time and kept their composure to see the match out with another 5 goals after halftime. The boys displayed excellent teamwork and communication throughout. A big thank you to the parents, who came to watch and for their support on the sidelines. They now progress to the quarterfinal stage.

### **EASTER EGG COMPETITION**

Don't forget get to bring in your decorated Easter Eggs on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.



### **PUPIL ABSENCE**

If your child is absent from school please can you ensure you contact the school office on 0113 3368499 **BEFORE 9am** and leave a message on the attendance line. The message must include your child's name, class and reason for absence. Failure to provide a valid reason for your child's absence on the first day may result in us having to escalate the matter.

### **PAYING BY CHEQUE**

Please can we remind parents that cheques for school trips should be made payable to Kerr Mackie Primary School. Everything else, i.e. milk, dinners, after school clubs should be payable to Leeds City Council.

### **LOST PROPERTY**

Lost property will be disposed of on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. Please collect from the parents' room.