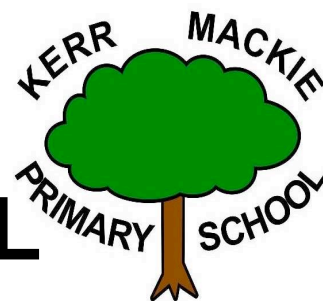


KERR MACKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL



19th December 2012

Dear Parent/Carer,

It is almost the end of 2012 and the Autumn term. It has been an amazing year, with the success of the London Olympics, Bradley Wiggins winning the Tour de France and Andy Murray winning Olympic gold and the U.S. Open. Watching the BBC's Sports Personality of the Year reminded me again of the great sporting achievements of 2012. And, of course, there was also the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. 2013 is going to seem very quiet in comparison.

It has also been a great Autumn term for Kerr Mackie with the Ofsted inspection confirming just how far the school has come in a short space of time. There is a great feeling of pride not just within the school but the wide community. The support parents/carers have given myself, staff and pupils has made a significant contribution to the school's success and our goal now is to become outstanding!

I would also like to thank the PSA for their support this term, and the considerable amount of time they have given to the school. Their fundraising events have included a Halloween bun sale and the Winter Fair, both of which were very successful. From the quality of the cakes on sale at the Halloween bun sale I think we could have our own Kerr Mackie bake off!
Mrs Ronicle, Headteacher

PSA NEWS

It was fantastic to see so many parents/carers and children having fun at the **Winter Fair** on 7th December. It was an amazing turn out and we were overwhelmed by people's generosity and support.

We have received some lovely feedback, from adults and children alike, about how much they enjoyed the fair and what a wonderful, friendly, festive atmosphere there was in school. The hall was a hive of activity, with the new café and the brass band being particularly popular. Many congratulations to all the children who took part and especially to those who performed on stage and helped to make the fair so memorable.

All pennies have now been counted and we are delighted to say that the total profit from the fair is a staggering **£1465.25!!**

A huge thank you to **everyone** who helped (in any way) to make the Winter Fair such a great success.

Please look out for details of the next exciting PSA event in the New Year!

Best wishes for a happy holiday, from the PSA.

SCHOOL NEWS

CHRISTMAS 'BIG SWITCH ON'

Thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas lights switch on. We hope you enjoyed it. The PSA very kindly provided refreshments and the total of donations was £85.25. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this occasion.

RECEPTION CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Reception children have been very busy rehearsing for their Christmas concert and all their hard work paid off when they performed in front of their parents/carers on Wed 12th December. A selection of the comments left by parents were:

"Absolutely fantastic, amazed how the children learn so many lines. Well done to the children and staff. Thank you."

"Brilliant, well done everyone. It was fantastic."

"What a lovely performance and beautiful singing. Well done!"

NEWSLETTER

YEAR 1 & 2 CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The children in Years 1 and 2 performed together for their Christmas concert and it was a huge success enjoyed by a hall full of parents and carers. A selection of the comments left by parents/carers were:

“Fantastic, all the children were marvelous in key and on time.”

“Fun and joyful – great to see all the children taking part.”

“A lovely show! The children and staff have obviously put so much work in.”

“Utterly charming!! Fantastic energy and wonderful costumes. Well done all!”

“Fantastic production – loved every minute of it. Well done everyone.”

YEAR 3 & 4 CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The children in Year 3 and 4 performed their concert this week to another packed hall. Their theme was ‘Children of the World’ and how different countries celebrate Christmas.

A selection of the comments left by parents/carers were:

“Very Christmassy! The kids were fantastic as always!”

“Another excellent concert. Well done all.”

“Very enjoyable. Well done all!”

A very big thank you for your generous donations at the above concerts. We raised an astonishing £363.34 in total. The money collected at the concerts will be going towards tablets e.g. Ipads, playground equipment and the refurbishment of the parent’s room to provide kitchen facilities for the children to bake in.

YEAR 5 BAKE SALE

Well done to the children in Year 5 who made and sold buns recently in aid of St Gemma’s Hospice. A representative from St Gemma’s collected the £80 the children raised and asked that we pass on their appreciation to everyone involved.

READING DEMONSTRATIONS

KS1 had a reading demonstration for parents on Thursday 6th December in the school hall. It was very well attended and many parents/carers told us how informative and useful it had been. All parents were given a pack with resources to use at home to support their child with reading. Please see your child’s class teacher if you have not received a pack.

SPORT

We are very pleased to announce that on Wednesday 5th December Kerr Mackie athletics team won the North East Leeds Sportshall Athletics Plate competition. We competed against a number of local schools in the preliminary rounds of the competition and are delighted to have come out on top, especially as this year’s competition had been so strong.

However this is not the end of the competition, as North East champions we have now been invited to compete in the Leeds semi-finals against other schools from across the city. This will take place in January and we are all very eager to compete.

All members of our team have performed fantastically well and many members of staff from both Roundhay High School and David Young Academy commented on how well all pupils had conducted themselves, both in the events and whilst spectating.

A big thank you to all parents who have showed support for the team so far this year as without their permission and support our team would not have been this successful.

Mr A. Monks
PE Coordinator

INFORMATION

KS1 PLAYGROUND

If anyone has any dressing up clothes, unwanted Lego or a wooden train set that they would like to donate to school this would be very much appreciated. It would be available for the children on KS1 playground to play with at lunchtimes.

NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE

Please can we remind all parents/carers to let the office know as soon as possible on the first morning of your child's absence. You can telephone on 3368499 or alternatively leave a message in person at the office. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

LOST PROPERTY

We have a huge amount of lost property in the Parents Room. If you have mislaid any items please check as this will all be disposed of over the Christmas holidays. It would help if all school items could be named and then it would make it easier for items found to be returned to their rightful owner. Thank you.

SCHOOL DINNERS

The school dinner menu will be changing from Monday 7th January. The new menu is available on the school website www.kerrmackie.leeds.sch.uk under Information downloads or you can collect a copy from the office. Remember, you have the flexibility to change between school dinners and packed lunches whenever you like. If children are having a school dinner they will choose their lunch in the classroom each day. If you need your child's dinner account number to make a payment please see the office and they will be able to help you.

BREAKFAST CLUB

From January we will have a few places available for breakfast club. If you are interested please speak to Mrs Cambridge or Mrs Lal.

SCHOOL CROSSING VACANCY

We have a vacancy for a School Crossing Supervisor. If you are interested please telephone Belinda Letham on 07891 272478.

PARKING

We have been advised that once again parents and carers are parking in our neighbour's driveways and on the pavements outside school and stopping in the middle of the road to let children jump out. This is not only inconsiderate to the homeowners but also an accident waiting to happen. Please park safely away from school and walk the last few minutes. We have been in touch with the Police and they are going to be monitoring this situation. They have previously issued tickets and fines and will do so again if this unacceptable behaviour continues.

Also parents should not be coming along the school drive to drop off, collect children or to park for school events. This access is strictly for staff and parents with disabled children who have a fob. We need to keep the driveway clear for school buses. We are monitoring this situation on the CCTV and will be passing vehicle details to the Police.

ST ANDREW'S ROUNDHAY

St Andrews Church have asked that we pass on their thanks for the toys that were generously donated to their Christmas Toy Appeal. The toys were taken to St Georges Crypt who work with homeless families and they were very much appreciated by the children who might otherwise receive very little this year.

ATTENDANCE

The attendance for the period 26th November to 14th December for the classes is as follows:

Elm	84.4%	Rowan	92.9%
Willow	90.3%	Cedar	93.8%
Oak	93.4%	Lime	91.7%
Sycamore	93.6%	Larch	89.7%
Maple	94.9%	Lilac	89.8%
Spruce	95.7%	Holly	95.9%
Alder	87.7%	Cherry	96.3%

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

Finally, on behalf of all the staff at Kerr Mackie, we would like to thank you for all your support in 2012 and wish you and your family a very Happy Christmas and New Year. School re-opens to pupils on Monday 7th January.

