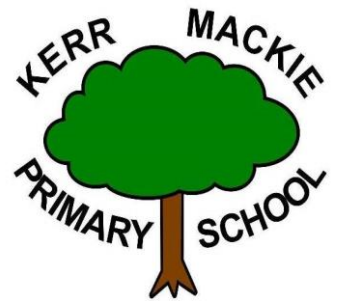


KERR MACKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

20th March 2015



Dear Parent/Carer,

The last time I wrote, it was World Book Day and we had a wonderful selection of outfits across school. Today, we have children right from nursery to Year 2 wearing yellow; dresses, t-shirts, ribbons, badges and painted suns on cheeks. We have asked children to wear yellow to raise money for Sunshine & Smiles Charity, which supports children with Down Syndrome and their family. Thank you to all our parents/carers, your support is very much appreciated.

Eclipse of the sun

There was a lot of excitement across the school this morning; how dark would it be? would the sky be clear enough? After registration this morning, all the children discussed the total eclipse in class; torches, tennis balls and footballs were used to explain why the sky would become very dark and children watched the BBC broadcast. It certainly felt very eerie when it occurred. The children in reception made pictures showing an eclipse and I was very impressed how well some could explain why an eclipse happens, and also the difference between a full and partial eclipse. I wonder where we will all be for the next one!

Mrs Ronicle, Headteacher

TRAINING DAYS

We can now confirm that the training days for 2015-16 will be:
Wednesday 2nd September 2015 Thursday 17th September 2015
Monday 4th January 2016 Tuesday 5th January 2016
Monday 18th April 2016

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Please can we remind parents/carers that school closes for the summer holiday on Tuesday 21st July 2015 and re-opens to pupils on **Thursday 3rd September 2015**. This is in line with Roundhay High School but will be different to most other schools in Leeds. A copy of the letter regarding this is available to view on our school website.

CURRICULUM

YEAR 5

On Thursday 12th March, Year 5 presented their Greek learning to pupils from Gledhow Primary School. Please see below some of the comments below from the Gledhow children:

"It was really good and I liked the way they told the information."

"I loved how informative it was, it was funny and the grapes were delish."

"You have done an amazing performance."

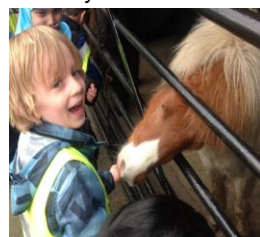
"A fantastic performance, well done. Love to see another one!"

Well done Year 5.

RECEPTION

Reception children had a super day visiting St Leonard's farm at Baildon. They met farmer James who showed them a range of animals – a lamb, chicken, kid, rabbit, guinea pig, ferret, rat and even a water squirting snake! They visited the milking shed and milked a cow and fed a pony, goats, sheep and hens. They found the pony's tongue a bit ticklish!

They enjoyed a fun time in the play barn climbing ropes, sliding down poles and whizzing down the slides. They later climbed on the bales of straw and ventured into dark tunnels. Even though they left tired they chattered non-stop all the way back to school!



NEWSLETTER

YEAR 1

Year one have had more exciting adventures around our local area!

We took a 'short' walk to Canal Gardens, Roundhay Park, to look at garden design and the flowers that were planted there and also those that were used to decorate the park areas during spring. On our arrival back at school, with our green fingers at the ready, we began to design our own gardens for the Oakwood Clock restoration project. Further to this we asked members of the local community, store managers and workers their opinions of Oakwood and how they would like Oakwood to be in the future. The children used this information to influence their designs of the areas around Oakwood clock and the design of the clock itself. The children enjoyed quizzing people about their knowledge of the local area and even taught some people about the history of the clock. It was lovely to see them sharing their learning and interacting with people outside of school.

A huge thank you to parents who helped and all the local shops that got involved!

Year 1 Teachers.

INFORMATION



EASTER FESTIVAL

On the last day of term, the school council (Yrs 2-6) have arranged a fundraising event for St Gemma's Hospice. Each class has chosen a stall to run in the afternoon on a rota basis and the Easter themed stalls are:

- Name the chick
- Hook the chick
- How many eggs in the basket
- Easter bun stall
- Jewellery
- Soft toy stall
- Face painting
- Pick a stick



There will also be an Easter Hat competition so we would encourage children to decorate a hat. The children will take part in a parade in the afternoon and there will be a prize for the best decorated, judged by Mrs Ronicle.

Any donations for the stalls above would be greatly appreciated. The stalls will be charging 20p-£1 for items and all money raised will go to St Gemma's Hospice.

ATTENDANCE

The attendance per class for the period 2nd March to 13th March is as follows. Please note that our attendance target is 95%.

Elm	81.5%	Alder	96.5%	Holly	97.6%
Willow	92.3%	Rowan	97.8%	Cherry	98.9%
Oak	93.5%	Cedar	97.9%		
Sycamore	96.3%	Lime	97.5%		
Maple	97.7%	Larch	98.5%		
Spruce	98.2%	Lilac	97.2%		

SCHOOL CROSSING

Leeds City Council has vacancies in this area, including Kerr Mackie, for School Crossing Patrol Wardens. There are variable hours available. For more information please telephone 3781829.

SCHOOL DINNER ACCOUNTS

All dinner accounts need to be in credit by 31st March as this is our financial year end. If you need to know how much is owing on your child's account please ask a member of the office staff for assistance. Thank you.

SCHOOL DINNER MENU

Please note there has been a slight change to the dinner menu from Monday. The choices are the same, it is just the menu has been switched around slightly on certain days. It is available to view on our school website under 'our school' - 'school meals' and copies have been put in the display stand near the office.

OAKWOOD CLOCK

Saturday 2nd May 2015 is Oakwood Day - with stalls, music, an open air cinema and kids activities - when the newly renovated [Oakwood Clock](#) will be revealed. Festivities start at about 12.00 noon. In a Ceremony at about 13.30 the Lord Mayor of Leeds will reveal the beautifully refurbished clock tower; the newly landscaped gardens will be formally opened; the new Heritage Trail will be inaugurated; and a Time Capsule will be 'buried' for a 100 years. (We hope that something representing Oakwood Church will be placed in the Time Capsule – [Junior Church](#) is working on that.)

RED NOSE APPEAL

Thank you to all the children, parents and staff who have bought red noses and dressed up in spots and stripes. We have raised £534.33 for the red nose appeal.

CHEQUES

Please can we remind parents/carers that cheques for school trips should be made payable to Kerr Mackie Primary School and cheques for school milk or dinners payable to Leeds City Council. Thank you.

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

We are now collecting the vouchers issued by Sainsburys for the above campaign. Please drop your vouchers into the box by the office and help us to get some free items for sport.

PARKING

We have had a complaint from a local resident that her driveway was blocked by a parent one morning this week. The resident needed to leave with her newborn baby in an emergency and there was a car parked across her driveway. This is unacceptable and reflects badly on Kerr Mackie. Please park safely away from school and walk the last few minutes. Parking enforcement officers will be visiting Kerr Mackie on a regular basis now and will be issuing fines to people parked illegally.

LOST PROPERTY

Please note that our current box of lost property will be thrown out when we break up for Easter so please check if you are missing any items. We also have a pair of purple glasses waiting to be claimed from the school office.

SKIN & ALLERGY SUPPORT GROUP

We have been asked to promote this group which will be run by a parent from Gledhow Primary School:

Do you or your child suffer with eczema or allergies? Have you got so many questions & in need of help & support & just can't find the answers & support you need? A 6 week support group will be run by myself, Rio Hunter, at BHI 231-235 Chapeltown Road, Leeds, LS7 3DX in the next few weeks. If you would like to be involved, please don't hesitate to call me so I am able to add your name to my list. Kind regards, Rio Hunter, Tel 07739 688418.

WIN TICKETS FOR THE FILM HOUSE - THE UK'S LARGEST FAMILY FILM ADVENTURE!

We have been asked to pass on the following information:

From 3-6 April 2015 Leeds Town Hall is being transformed into The Film House, a brand new attraction for families to discover the magic of cinema across four full days packed with unforgettable new experiences. There will be activities, events and lots of exciting things for young people to do and learn about, and they can meet their favourite film characters in person, including The Gruffalo, Shaun the Sheep and the Easter Bunny and loads more. We'll be having a sing-along to Frozen on the Big Screen, and you can see a real-life DeLorean car from Back to the Future! BAFTA Kids: Behind the Scenes with CBBC leads the unique and high profile range of workshops. Animator David Bunting's Masterclass shows the magic behind his work on Shaun the Sheep, Chuggington and Bob the Builder. You can work on your own How to Train Your Dragon, Frozen and Lego in our dedicated Animation Zone, and take part in a giant, living Minions comic book or learn skills in Documentary and Soundtrack making too. Tickets for The Film House are exceptional value, with all-inclusive tickets from just £6.50. **For more information visit thefilmhouseleeds.com.**

Leeds Young Film are offering the very special prize of a Family Pass for The Film House (which gives access for up to four people, including up to two adults) to five lucky school pupils who enter our Favourite Film competition. To enter is simple - sign up to the Leeds Young Film Festival newsletter, and tell us what your favourite film is, and you could win a Family Pass worth £32.50, which gives you full access to all of the exciting films, workshops and activities that take place during a day out at The Film House. Oh, we'd like to know your age and what school you're from too. Parents and carers are welcome to complete the form on their children's behalf. The deadline for entries is midday on Thursday 26 March. Click here to enter: <http://eepurl.com/bgFimn>

SPORT

RUGBY

Last week, our Under 11's rugby team played two home matches against Alwoodley and Gledhow Primary Schools. In our first match we lost by 1 try to 4, but in our second match against Gledhow we won 5-4, scoring in the last minute. They played really well as a team.

SAVE THE DATE.....

The annual Roundhay Primary School's fun run will be taking place on the morning of Sat 20th June. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.