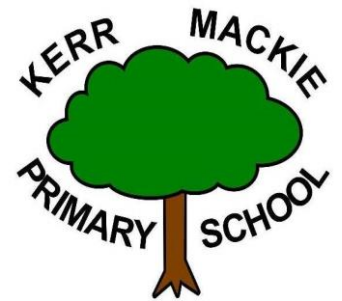


KERR MACKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

28th February 2014



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope yourselves and your family all had a good (and restful!) half-term break. I can't believe we are now half way through the school year. The light in the mornings and at the end of the school days makes you feel summer is on its way, especially with the small signs of spring.

Over the break I spent a few days in Cornwall, and sadly there was a lot of evidence of how much damage the storms had caused. However, it was also clear that communities had really worked hard together to improve the conditions. At one bay that I visited, members of the community had 'planted' their redundant Christmas trees in the sand dunes to prevent the dunes being washed away completely. It looked strange but what a great example of how people pull together at difficult times.

Please read the section 'Toilet Twinning' and the 'Co-op Oakwood' to see how the community is supporting Kerr Mackie.
Mrs Ronicle, Headteacher

INFORMATION

SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS

Please note that the school email address has changed to: office@kmps.org.uk. Thank you.

SCHOOL NURSERY PLACES

We are currently sending out the offer letters for pupils to join us in nursery from September. If you have, or someone you know has, a 3 year old and have not put the child's name on our waiting list please do so as soon as possible. Points to note are:

- Our free nursery sessions for 3 year olds are for 3 hours per day either morning or afternoon (8.45am-11.45am or 12.15-3.15pm)
- The nursery offers a wide range of resources, equipment and activities, which along with the support and guidance of our experienced staff helps children become well prepared for the start of their formal schooling
- Children will develop their knowledge and understanding of the world; improve personal and social skills; extend their artistic and physical abilities and add to their communication, language, literacy and mathematical understanding.



BIG WIN FOR SMART SWAPS!

"Our KS2 pupils who were making healthy smart swaps on our web page did a great job! We got over 600 tokens in our online totalizer - an incredible achievement in such a short space of time! The results have been collected and we have done so well that we have been awarded a prize! We have won a £100 voucher! This voucher is for Red Hall Nurseries and will be given to the school to visit Redhall Nurseries to discuss what growing equipment we would like i.e. fruit trees, growing starter kits etc.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the children who jumped on board with the Smart Swaps project! I hope we continue to be a happy and healthy school!"

Mrs Crowther, Deputy Headteacher

TOILET TWINNING

'As part of our aim to raise £2460 for the charity 'Toilet Twinning', Year 6 have written letters to local businesses in the Oakwood community, asking for support. We then followed these up with phone calls to store and business managers and were delighted with the result. The Co-operative have donated Easter eggs, Spice4U have given a table for 4, Nawaab Khan have given vouchers for 2, Stew & Oyster have given vouchers for 2 and Morrisons have provided £20 worth of store vouchers. We will be raffling all of these next week in the playground from 3pm onwards.

It is great that the local community is backing the challenge we have set ourselves, and we think it's great that, working together, we can help improve the lives of others.'

Mrs Harrard, Year 6 teacher

NEWSLETTER

CO-OP OAKWOOD

You may remember a while ago we made a bid to apply for some grant funding from the Co-operative. Thank you to everyone who voted for us. The Oakwood Clock Restoration Fund was the overall winner but we have been awarded £204.49 as a share of the grant. This money will be put towards the development of the parent's room. Thanks again for your votes!

OUR LOCAL AREA

We are delighted to see that the amount of litter being dropped in the school's vicinity is reducing; this shows that we are taking pride in our local environment!

With the bad weather we've had this half term, the attractive grassy verges have taken a real hit. Please encourage children to avoid walking on the verges and we certainly want to encourage families not to park on the grass verges. It will be very difficult for the spring flowers to grow if they continue to be so muddy.

There have been some concerns raised by local residents about illegally parked vehicles at the start and end of the school day. As a school, we ask that you park with consideration (not just for the paths, but for the residents' houses you park outside and for other road users). Please try not to obstruct junctions, paths and entrances and do not park on School Zigzag marked areas.

We want the area outside to school be litter-free, safe and attractive – please help us to do this for our community.

Many thanks!

SCHOOL COUNCIL FUN DAY

Thank you... Thank you... Thank you...

'The school councilors organised a second fun day on the last day of half term which was a huge success. We raised **£580.00** which will be used for indoor wet playtime toys. We came up with some fantastic ideas to raise funds such as: penalty shoot out, name the teddy, hula hooping, tennis volleys, face painting, bun sale, minecraft doodle store and a bracelet sale. Everyone enjoyed themselves. Thank you very much for your support from the School Councillors of KMPS and Mrs Bourne.'

MATHLETICS

We would like to thank the PSA who have funded 50% of the cost towards the Mathletics package that we have recently bought for the children.

SCHOOL GATES

We have noticed that a few parents are using the bar on the gates to prop the gates open, particularly at nursery pick up and drop off. It is vitally important that the gates are securely closed at all times during the school day in order to keep all our children safe. Your cooperation in this matter would be appreciated.

GLEDHOW WOODCRAFT

We have been asked to pass on the following information which may be of interest to you:

'Gledhow Woodcraft Folk are welcoming new members aged 6 - 9 years. Join us at Gledhow Primary School on Thursdays from 6.15 - 7.15pm for games, craftwork, songs and outdoor activities. Make friends, have fun and be part of a cooperative group!

Recommences Thurs 24th April. Places are limited so book now.

Email gledhowleeds@woodcraft.org.uk or phone Jo on 368 1402.

More info at www.woodcraft.org.uk

TRIATHLON

Leeds and Bradford Triathlon Club are holding their annual Aquathlon (Pool swim followed immediately by a run) for 8-18 year olds at The Edge at Leeds University on Sunday 18th May. We believe this is a great event for all abilities to get involved in sport from first timers to athletes who hope to compete for the region. Information can be found on the website

www.lbt.org.uk Any questions please contact lbtquathlon@gmail.com

ATTENDANCE

The attendance for the period 3rd February to 14th February for the classes is as follows:

Elm	94.7%	Rowan	99.5%
Willow	98.3%	Cedar	97.7%
Oak	95.2%	Lime	98.3%
Sycamore	99%	Larch	98.7%
Maple	98.3%	Lilac	97.2%
Spruce	95.8%	Holly	95.5%
Alder	97.5%	Cherry	97.4%

The attendance for the school for the last half term (Jan-Feb) was 97.2% which is fantastic. Let's keep it up!

PSA

Thank you to everyone who attended or helped out at the KS2 Film Night on 7th February. It was a really enjoyable evening and great to hear the children cheering and applauding at the end of the film! Profit from the evening was an impressive £285.

Our next event will be a Mad Hatter's Tea Party on Friday 4th April after school. This will be our Easter celebration and the theme will be all things Alice in Wonderland. We are planning a café in the hall with food and drink stalls, a few games and activities and even one or two character appearances! We are planning to get creative with our themed decorations and some of the children will have an opportunity to help with this during school time.

The tea party will also feature a Mad Hatter's / Easter bonnet hat decorating competition, so now is the time to start planning your creations! They can be as quirky or as eccentric as you like, providing they have an Alice or Easter theme. Go on, have a go!

More details about this exciting event will follow nearer the time.

Rachel Wilson,
PSA Chair.

FUN RUN

The date for this year's Roundhay Primary Schools fun run will be 7th June so get those running shoes out in preparation! More information will follow nearer the time

Remember, the majority of correspondence is now being sent home via email so please check your inbox on a regular basis. Thank you.

Don't forget to drop your Sainsbury Active Kids Vouchers into the box by the office. We have a wish list of items we would like to get so any vouchers you have would be appreciated.