

KERR MACKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

6th July 2015



Dear Parent/Carer,
Phew! It was hot last week! Why does it seem whatever the weather we have we are never satisfied! It was a scorcher of a day for our Reception, Y1 and Y2 sports day last week, and another successful event. The children all enjoyed each activity and worked very well in their teams. I saw lots of determination and perseverance on their faces. Well done to all the children and adults who took part in the races at the end of sports day. A big thank you to Miss Howard for organising the sports day and our Y6 pupils who helped out.

A group of pupils were fantastic ambassadors for Kerr Mackie on Friday evening, when they were 'guards of honour' as part of the Leeds Rhinos v St Helens pre-match activities. The organisers described their behaviour as impeccable. A big thanks to Pharrell Parker, Camali Dacres, Luke Gillibrand, Bezhan Mirzoev, Joash Webster, Leo Watson, Smeeh Hanif, James Worrall, Zoe Hunter, Shakayla Grierson, Ahmed Zayed, Kaleem Hussain, Abdullah Kurshid-Khan and Joe Gordon. The PE section on our website will be updated over the next couple of weeks and there will be a link to the Leeds Rhinos match.

Great excitement in school today as the children are spending the day with their new class teacher. I know the staff are really looking forward to getting to know their new classes except, of course, Mr Stout and Miss Rhodes who are moving up with the classes. Don't forget to follow how the day goes on twitter.

Mrs Ronicle, Headteacher

CURRICULUM

YEAR 3 VISITOR

"On Wednesday 24th June, Year 3 had a visitor from Leeds Museum (Discovery Center) to learn about the stone, bronze and iron ages. We learnt about how farming was invented and how people made money from trading. We had loads of fun and it was really interesting. My favourite part was doing archaeology." By Varda Khan and Ben Allen in Rowan class.

YEAR 5 TRIP

"On Wednesday 1st July we went on the most amazing school trip ever. It was called Dunstan Hall at Temple Newsam. Firstly we went into a great mead-hall and were sorted into slaves, serves and free men and women. We had to sit with our group and learnt how to make bread from wheat. Once we had finished they put it in the oven whilst we had lunch. After lunch we looked at the animals before coming back to Dunstan Hall. When we got back we smelt the bread which was delicious. Then we trained for war; they split us up into two groups – a sword group and a shield group. Next, we headed back to the hall and were told the full story of Beowulf and the Grendel. Finally, we went back in a coach and arrived back to school just before the end of the day." Written by Oscar Speck and Ollie Day in Larch class.

COOKING & GARDENING UPDATE

Our gardeners have been busy this summer term. We started the term with planting potatoes and sowing broad beans, sweetcorn, peas, tomatoes and pumpkins. We also planted flowers in the containers near the office, in the courtyard and the friendship corner. We have watched the tadpoles turning into frogs in the habitat garden!

Our cooking groups have been able to use fruits or vegetables in all our dishes. Some of our savoury favourites include carrot and coriander soup, tomato and basil soup, rainbow salad and pizza scone. Some of our sweet favourites include carrot and orange cakes, raspberry jam tarts, rhubarb crumble and fruity flapjack. This week we have started to taste our own strawberries and redcurrants from the school garden.

Nearly all the pupils throughout the school have had a session of cooking and gardening over this school year. It has been an enjoyable and educational time for all involved. We look forward to learning more next year.

There will be a plant sale on Wed 15th July from 3-4pm. Do come and see what the children have been doing.

INFORMATION

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.

NEWSLETTER

ATTENDANCE

The attendance per class for the period 15th June to 26th June is as follows. Please note that our attendance target is 95%.

Elm	98.2%	Alder	99.3%	Holly	98%
Willow	94.8%	Rowan	94.7%	Cherry	96.6%
Oak	93.3%	Cedar	92.3%		
Sycamore	98%	Lime	98.2%		
Maple	92.2%	Larch	98.2%		
Spruce	94.7%	Lilac	97.7%		

Some fantastic attendance figures here. Well done Alder class for the best attendance this period!

SCHOOL DINNER ACCOUNTS

As we approach the end of term can we please ask that **all** dinner accounts are fully cleared. If you need any assistance using the machine please ask at the office. Cheques, made payable to Leeds City Council, can be put in the grey box on the wall near the office. Texts/letters will be sent to those in arrears.

PARKING

We have had a complaint from a local resident about people waiting in their cars with the engines running outside school. Can we ask that you please consider the local residents and turn off your engines whilst you are waiting. Also please be considerate to others when parking and remember the safety of our children is paramount.

GUITAR LESSONS

Sound Generation provide weekly group guitar tuition at Kerr Mackie School. We are now registering new pupils to start in September 2016.

Pupils will learn how to hold a guitar correctly, read both tablature and notation, learn how to play individually and in a group, and they will develop an understanding of basic musical concepts including pitch, dynamics, rhythm and pulse. A wide variety of pieces is taught, mostly from a popular/contemporary background, including The Beatles, Black Sabbath and Jessie J! Lessons are taken by Sam Wood, who makes lessons fun, engaging and inspiring. All pupils will have the opportunity to perform in an annual guitar concert, and they will also receive reports at the end of the academic year.

Day: Fridays

Time: Between 8:30am - 12pm

Duration: 20-40mins depending on class size (classes are arranged according to ability)

Class size: Between 2-5 pupils

Cost: £7.75/class Invoices are sent half termly (twice per term)

Deposit: a £30 deposit is required to secure your child's place. This will be deducted from your first invoice.

If you are interested in signing up for guitar tuition next term, please contact Sofia Wilde at Sound Generation, and a registration form will be sent out to you - sofia@soundgeneration.co.uk or telephone 020 3344 2310.

RECORDER LESSONS

NEW!! Sound Generation are thrilled to now offer weekly group recorder tuition at Kerr Mackie School. We are now registering pupils to start in September 2015.

Pupils will learn how to hold a recorder correctly, read music, develop an understanding of basic musical concepts including pitch, dynamics and rhythm, as well as gaining a greater understanding of music. Pupils will learn fun pieces from classics to modern day tunes, and they will also get the opportunity to compose their own tunes. They will get to perform duets, as well as performing solo and in a group. Lessons are taken by Tina Featherstone, a professional musician and PGCE teacher. All pupils will have the opportunity to perform in an annual recorder concert, and they will also receive reports at the end of the academic year.

Day: Thursday morning

Duration: 20-40mins depending on class size (classes are arranged according to ability)

Class size: 2-5

Cost: £7.75/class. Invoices are sent half termly (twice per term)

Deposit: a £30 deposit is required to secure your child's place. This will be deducted from your first invoice.

If you are interested in signing up for recorder tuition next term, please contact Sofia Wilde at Sound Generation, and a registration form will be sent out to you - sofia@soundgeneration.co.uk or telephone 020 3344 2310.

Children in Yrs 2-6 will be watching a demonstration on Friday 10th July at 2pm for both guitar and recorders.

SPORT

FUN RUN

An enormous well done to all the Kerr Mackie children and families that took part in the 10th Roundhay Primary Schools Fun Run last Saturday. Thanks also to Miss Howard and Mr Woodman who represented the staff! As ever, the atmosphere was great and all the children were amazing!! Thank you to those that helped on the day to make the event such fun for everyone.

All runners should have received a sponsorship form last week. Please do encourage friends and family to support the Kerr Mackie children in their achievement. All the money raised via sponsorship goes direct to Kerr Mackie's PSA for the benefit of our children.
Louisa Riches

FOOTBALL

"On Monday 29th June, Zoe Hunter, Adella Morton, Ellen McHale, Zahra Alam, Alicia Stanley, Shakayla Grierson and Lucy Bulpitt travelled to Alwoodley Primary School to play a game of football. The game was 20 minutes each way and took place on the field in the sweltering heat. We all tried our very best but unfortunately we lost the match 7-0. Alwoodley were clearly a very strong and experienced side and they have inspired us to continue playing our best." By Adella Morton and Zoe Hunter in Cherry class.

SPORTS DAY – KS1

"On KS1 sports day myself, Iqra, and a few of my friends were helping Miss Howard. We were asked to be sports leaders and manage a few stations. The stations were – target throw, hurdles, speed bounce, long jump, relay and javelin. As it was warm, it was hard to cope but both leaders and younger pupils were very good. We had some very generous Roundhay pupils who also helped. Thanks guys!" By Iqra Saddique in Cherry class.

RAINBOW FAIR

Instead of the usual summer fair we will be holding a Rainbow Fair on Wednesday 15th July from 2-4pm, organised by children from the school council and staff. Children will be able to visit stalls from 2pm and parents are invited to join us at 3pm when there will be a plant and cake stall (hopefully outside). Children are also asked to come dressed in rainbow colours for the day for a donation of £1. The prices for the stalls will range from 20p-£1 and will include: Soft toys, sweet stall, hook the duck, pick a straw, jar stall, Asian food (finger food only), bun stall, children's tombola, tattoos and pocket money stall. It would be much appreciated if children could bring their money in 50p, 20p and 10p. **Any donations, particularly for the children's tombola would be most welcome!!** All money raised will be for school funds. We hope you will be able to support us in this event.