

KERR MACKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

6th June 2014



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope the sunshine today is a sign of things to come, especially when the Tour de France is here in July. I seem to be seeing more and more banners, bikes and bunting everywhere I go now and you can feel the excitement building up. Year 3's project for this half term is all about the Tour de France. The children will be looking at the route the cyclists will be taking, how a bike works, different types of bikes and designing their own kit. Thank you to the Year 3 parents who came into school yesterday and showed the children a range of bikes including a tandem, road bike, mountain bike and a recumbent bike. I know they learnt a lot. By the end of this project Year 3 parents will be able to come to the children's 'Tour de France' exhibition and photographs will be placed on the school website.

At Kerr Mackie we are really proud of how we ensure our curriculum is engaging, exciting and enjoyable for the children. We are now busy planning our new projects for next year with the new curriculum, and again they promise to have the 'wow' factor.
Mrs Ronicle, Headteacher

CURRICULUM

YEAR 2 VISIT TO ROBIN HOOD'S BAY

"We went to school early with our packed lunches. Suddenly we were on the double decker bus and on our way to Robin Hood's Bay. It was a long way but finally we got there and then the whole class went 'yeaaaaa!' We were split into three groups and there were 3 activities. One was paddling, second was the coastguard station and third was rockpooling! The group that did rockpooling first found mini flatfish and female crabs. The crab eggs were amazing and very fascinating. The flatfish were speedy little creatures but still fun to catch. The rockpooling was incredible fun and all the creatures that we found were all very interesting and amazing. We all had our scrummy lunch on the beach and after we'd finished eating we went paddling. It was great fun and we splashed each other." Written by Edward Jones and Harriet Bottomley.

RECEPTION EVENT

Reception presented an interesting minibeast exhibition to parents/carers before the holiday. The children showed their knowledge of minibeasts and their enthusiasm in the topic. It was well attended by parents who found it very enjoyable and were very impressed with the quality of drawings. Please see below a selection of the comments left by parents/carers:

"Brilliant idea – shows children are actively engaged in learning."

"Really lovely to see how enthusiastic all of the children were!"

"What a brilliant exhibition. I learnt a lot and your pictures and writing is fabulous! Thank you for showing us what you know."

THE FISHERMAN AND THE PEARL PUPPET SHOW

"On Thursday we had a puppet show in the hall for years 1 – 4 and everybody loved watching it. Liz and Danny organised the magnificent puppet show and when it had finished everybody wanted to watch it again. Liz told us how to look after the sea and not to pollute it because it's important not to do it. The characters in the show were called Makmanan, Joe, Harry, Frank and Sea Spirit. It was terrific". Written by Tara Riley-Smith and Zahra Jameel in Spruce class.

BUDDHIST VISIT

Year 3 have been learning about the Buddhist faith as part of the R.E. curriculum. On Friday 16th May, Chokga, a Buddhist Nun from Ratnasambhava Centre, came to visit Year 3 classes.

"It was great to have a Buddhist Nun visitor in our Year 3 classes. She answered all our questions really clearly and helped us understand about Buddhism. I am glad she came to our school." By Homaira Begum in Alder class.

INFORMATION

GUPSHUP/COFFEE MORNING

Please come and join us on Tuesday 10th June at 9am in the Parent's room for refreshments. There will be some visitors from the University of Leeds here to talk about opportunities for learning. All parents/carers are welcome.

FRIENDSHIP CORNER

If you have the opportunity, please take the time to visit our wooden friendship corner near the football area in the school playground. It has been brightened up with some lovely decorated tubs, flowers and climbing plants. A big thank you to our volunteer parents who helped a group of children to do this.

BREAKFAST CLUB

From September we will have some places available for our breakfast club. If you are interested please see Mrs Cambridge or Mrs Lal.

NEWSLETTER

GUITAR LESSONS

Sound Generation provide weekly group guitar tuition at Kerr Mackie School. We are now registering new pupils to start in September 2014.

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: 40mins

Cost: £7.50/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.

GUITAR CONCERT

There will be a guitar concert for the parents of children who have been taking lessons this year. This will take place on Friday 11th July at 2.45pm. We hope you can join us!

OUR SCHOOL GARDEN

Last Autumn an appeal was made for parent/carer volunteers to come forward to help re-start the popular gardening sessions that took place in 2013. Thanks to the support of a dedicated group of parents and volunteers from the local community group, REAP, the school allotment is flourishing!

The sessions started up again in Spring and since then children have been involved in preparing the beds for planting including weeding, fertilising and watering. They have planted seeds, such as coriander, basil, nasturtiums, marigolds, into pots and nurtured them in the polytunnel before planting them out into the raised beds. Some children have planted seeds directly into the prepared beds, including carrots, peas, broad beans, radishes, beetroot and salad leaves. Others have planted strawberry plants, borlotti beans, sweetcorn, chard, potatoes and pumpkins that were started off in the sheds and greenhouses of the volunteers and then donated as plants to the school garden. Some children have also assisted in the building of a frame for peas and an A frame for the climbing beans out of bamboo and work has also begun in the front of the school to re-plant around the Peace Garden.

The children have really enjoyed the sessions and learnt lots about the conditions that plants need to grow, the importance of bees and bugs in this process, plant identification and what makes a good fertiliser.

Appeal: The gardening volunteers would like your unwanted/leaky children's wellies which will be used to plant flowers and herbs and then hung around the fences and Peace Garden at the front of the school.

There will be a chance to see the wonderful things your children have been growing at the Summer Fair when the garden will be open to visitors. There may even be a few plants for sale and a much needed refreshment.

CRAFT AT THE CLOCK

Please note that on the first Saturday every month from 9.30am to 3pm at Oakwood Clock there are the following activities:

Local arts and crafts, hot street food, face painter, music and kids' activities.

ATTENDANCE

The attendance for the period 12th May to 23rd May for the classes is as follows:

Elm	99.5%	Rowan	96.9%
Willow	98.3%	Cedar	98.7%
Oak	97.5%	Lime	98.3%
Sycamore	98.2%	Larch	99.7%
Maple	98.3%	Lilac	98.7%
Spruce	97%	Holly	97.3%
Alder	99%	Cherry	98.6%

Some really great attendance figures here. Let's keep it up!

SPORT

RUGBY

The Year 5 team are through to the Burton's Cup Final!! On Wednesday night we played in a group semi final in which we beat Woodlesford Primary 4 tries to 0, Churwell 3 tries to 1 and lost our final match against Alwoodley 4 tries to 3. This means we will play Alwoodley in the final to be played at Stanningley Rugby League Ground on Tuesday 17th June. There will be a presentation by two members of the Leeds Rhinos senior squad to the winners and man of the match. Well done Kerr Mackie and let's hope we can go all the way!

PSA

SUMMER FAIR - SATURDAY 21ST JUNE, 11AM - 3PM

Our summer fair is just two weeks away! This year, it will have a carnival theme, to tie in with the World Cup celebrations in Rio. Last year's event was hugely enjoyable and we hope to repeat that with an even better line-up this year. Please block out the date in your diary now and come along for some fabulous family fun! Here is just a taster of what you can expect to see on the day:

- BBQ
- Asian food
- Strawberries and cream and cream teas **NEW**
- Chocolate fountain
- Birds of prey
- Roundhay Tennis Club **NEW**
- Leeds United's Lucas the Kop Kat mascot **NEW**
- Bouncy castle
- Inflatable hoopla **NEW**
- Drumming workshop by YMES **NEW**
- Soak the teacher
- Penalty shoot-out
- Tug of war
- Lucky Socks game **NEW**
- Disk Drop game **NEW**
- Cupcake sweepstake **NEW**
- World Cup sweepstake **NEW**
- Limbo **NEW**
- Zumba **NEW**
- Busker's Corner **NEW**
- Face painting and Crazy Hair
- Mehndi and nails
- Raffle - fabulous prizes including a **family ticket to Flamingoland!**
- Tombolas
- Second hand books and toys
- Pocket money toys

....and much, much more!!!

Of course, the show can't go on without **donations** and help from **volunteers** and that is where you come in. A separate email will be sent out on Monday, outlining all the ways in which you can help. Please do offer to man a stall for half an hour here and there where you can. We shall be needing donations of secondhand books and toys, items for the tombola and lots and lots of homemade cakes, biscuits and scones...

The PSA will also be **selling raffle tickets** at the main gate in the week leading up to the fair. If you can help with this, please let me or a member of the PSA know, or sign up to the rota on the PSA noticeboard at the office.

Finally, we are borrowing a number of trestle tables from Roundhay School which need to be returned straight after the fair on Saturday afternoon. If you or anyone you know has a **van** that we could borrow (with driver!) to transport the tables back to Roundhay, please leave a message at the office as soon as possible.

We hope to make this another special and memorable family occasion and look forward to seeing you there. Thank you for your support.

Rachel Wilson,
Chair of the PSA.