

# KERR MACKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

6<sup>th</sup> March 2015



Dear Parent/Carer,

School seems very strange today, it is full of Spidermen, Horrid Henries, witches and fairies (and that's just the staff!). All the children have made a fantastic effort for World Book Day with a huge variety of costumes on display. Thank you.

Children at Kerr Mackie are very keen to support charities, particularly the two charities they have chosen: St Gemma's Hospice and WaterAid. The charity event organiser for St Gemma's came in to school on Monday to talk to the children about the work of St Gemma's and how much they appreciate that Kerr Mackie had chosen to support them. The children learnt how St Gemma's supports not just their patients but also the families of the patients, and how they go to great efforts to make the patient's stay a very special time with lots of happy memories. We also learnt that it costs £24,000 per day to provide the services at St Gemma's, a very significant amount. The children have been fantastic at helping to raise money for the charity: purchasing toys and bracelets, running their own stalls and putting money in their class collection box. Below is a list of the different ways your child can contribute to the running costs of St Gemma's:

- Putting money (any loose change) in their class collection box
- Purchasing the St Gemma's gifts, e.g. toys, magnets for £1 each
- Bringing in items for the fairs held at St Gemma's
- Running a stall in school

St Gemma's hold an event known as 'Purple Day' on June 12<sup>th</sup>, which we will be supporting – another 'strange' day at Kerr Mackie!

Mrs Ronicle, Headteacher

## CURRICULUM

### LIGHTS, CAMERA, PARLIAMENT!

You may remember last year a group of Kerr Mackie children won a competition and had a memorable trip to the Houses of Parliament in London. We are delighted to say that this year thirteen groups have entered Lights, Camera, Parliament! from across years 6 to 3 and we are hoping for more success! Their entries can be watched by going to [www.makewav.es/kerrmackie](http://www.makewav.es/kerrmackie) - and clicking on each entry within the two boxes labelled entries for Year 6 and entries for year 5, 4 & 3.

We hope you are able to watch them. The pupils have clearly spent time and effort planning their laws; approaching their topics with creativity to make a clear message, using persuasive and factual writing to back up their argument and role play and editing skills. Their enthusiasm was a credit to the school, and such a great range of ideas. There is still time for others to enter as the deadline has been extended to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Competition will be tough this year as there is only one category (all entrants must enter a video). There is also a viewer's choice prize. This will be the entry with the most likes by 5pm on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April. To like an entry you must be a member, parents can join as guests to like entries. Please support our children by 'liking their entry'. Thank you.

### YEAR 4 BIKEABILITY

"Bikeability was a really good chance for children to learn how to ride a bike. Last week Year 4 Cedar and Lime were riding their bikes on the playgrounds. Many children have achieved a Level 1 certificate and badge or a Beginners badge. Children have been thankful to Bikeability." By Homaira Begum in 4 Cedar.

"Last week Cedar and Lime got taught how to ride a bike or ride better by Bikeability. Everyone really enjoyed it and wants to do it everyday. The best bit was when we did the slow race." By Cameron Brockway, in Cedar class.

### YEAR 5 GOLF

Our Year 5 children are learning golf in their PE lessons at the moment. This is what Lybah from Larch class had to say: "First our professional golf training teachers Ellie and Louis told us about all kinds of different professional golfers and introduced us to what we were playing. Next, we were told our instructions and what we had to do, which was to try to hit the ball on the cones. After that was done, our 2<sup>nd</sup> challenge was to aim the ball through the two cones and run over the red ball. Our final task was to slowly swing the ball and make it land in the big square in front of us. To end the session we talked about how much we enjoyed the lesson"

### WORLD BOOK DAY

We had great fun yesterday for World Book Day. The children took part in different reading activities including 'extreme reading' in Year 6. There are some fantastic photographs on our school website..... please take a look at the news on our home page.

NEWSLETTER

## INFORMATION

### TRAINING DAYS

We can now confirm that the training days for 2015-16 will be:

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2015      Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016              Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2016  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016

### ATTENDANCE

The attendance per class for the period 9<sup>th</sup> February to 27<sup>th</sup> February is as follows. Please note that our attendance target is 95%.

Elm	96.3%	Alder	99.2%	Holly	97.6%
Willow	92.4%	Rowan	98.8%	Cherry	98.4%
Oak	93.3%	Cedar	97.3%		
Sycamore	97.8%	Lime	97.8%		
Maple	93.1%	Larch	97.5%		
Spruce	98.3%	Lilac	95.7%		

### 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

Please can we remind all parent/carers that dinner accounts should be maintained with a credit balance. We have a number of children in Years 1 and 2 who have arrears from the last academic year. Although you now qualify for free school meals we do need the arrears clearing on their accounts. Your urgent attention to this matter would be appreciated. **All** dinner accounts need to be in credit by 31<sup>st</sup> March as this is our financial year end. If you need to know how much is owing please ask a member of the office staff for assistance. Thank you.

### RED NOSE APPEAL

Reminder: On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March we would like all pupils to wear spots or stripes for a £1 donation to this great cause. Children can also wear funny faces. We have sold out of red noses in 2 days!!

### CHICKEN POX

Over the last few weeks we have had an outbreak of chicken pox particularly in Reception and Year 1. The guidance from the School Nursing team and Health Protection is that children should be kept off school for 5 days from the onset of the rash as this is the infectious period. If the blisters are still sore after the 5 days then please keep your child off for another day or two. Further guidance can be found on the NHS website.

### 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.

### SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Please can we remind parents/carers that school closes for the summer holiday on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2015 and re-opens on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

### ST GEMMA'S HOSPICE

St Gemma's have also asked us to advise parents that they will be having two fairs this year. The first is a Spring Fair on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March and a Garden Party on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July. If anyone would like to make a donation for either event, i.e. chocolates or toiletries then please bring them into school and we will pass them to St Gemma's. Further information can be found on their website [www.st-gemma.co.uk/](http://www.st-gemma.co.uk/)

## SPORT

### SPORT AMBASSADORS

"On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February, we went to a training course because we are sports ambassadors. We were taught to organise and advertise events and also how to set fixtures. We were put with another school, we had to make a game and also create a scoring sheet so we could find a winner from the other group. We made a circuit for the other group. When we tried standing long jump, Harry and Kyla won the long jump. Finally, we played a game called end zone – Hamza, Harry and Lamees won. It was a good day!" By Hamza, Harry, Umar and Lamees (Kerr Mackie Sports Ambassadors).

### SPORT FESTIVAL AT ROUNDHAY HIGH SCHOOL

"On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February the multi-sport club and a few more children went to Roundhay High School to play basketball and badminton. Mr Loftman and the sport ambassadors coached basketball and Mr Woodman coached badminton. We learnt lots of new skills and how to play each sport. It was absolutely brilliant!!" Written by Lucy Bulpitt and Sydney Whyte.

**PSA**

**BAG-2-SCHOOL**

Please donate your unwanted textiles.

Our next Bag-2-School collection will be on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March. You can include men's, women's and children's clothing, paired shoes, bags, hats, scarves, ties, jewellery, belts, underwear and soft toys. Please help raise funds for our school by returning any of these unwanted items in the bag provided (or any other suitable bag). Please place your bags outside school by the office by 9am on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

**SAVE THE DATE.....**

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