



Kerr Mackie 'Magic News'

May 2018 Issue

Together Everyone Achieves More

Kerr Mackie Learners...
'Can be, can do, can change, can achieve'

Headteacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers

It's been a busy half term for our children and staff, especially in Year 2 and Year 6, and I can honestly say how impressive those children have been with the mature, calm and positive manner in which they have tackled their statutory assessments. Whatever the outcome, we feel exceptionally proud of everyone! Thank you to families for working so closely with the staff team too, it's much appreciated. Also, special thanks to the staff team for working so hard together to ensure our children had the confidence and self-belief to achieve their absolute best too.

Well rounded achievement has dominated the half term too, with the Roundhay Family Fun Run getting us off to a flying start. Congratulations to everyone who entered. We promoted the event in school as much as possible and this year saw the highest number of entrants from Kerr Mackie, so I am reliably informed, which is brilliant. Last weekend saw the annual Roundhay school's football tournament and all four teams that participated filled us with immense pride. The highlight of the morning was the Year 6 team winning their competition having been exceptionally close to winning in the previous 2 years. Today we have 40 children from across KS2 entering into a city wide triathlon event so we are hopeful for even more success.

Thank you to those parents who have ensured that their child has come to school prepared for the increasing heat and lovely sunshine –today is definitely the exception! Please can I remind you that every child needs a water bottle to keep hydrated. It's also important that you administer sun cream before the children come to school and I would recommend a non-designer sun cap/hat too. Open toed sandals and flip flops are not safe for the children to wear, given our tight learning spaces. Please can you name all items of clothing that the children bring in. Thank you.

Finally, as you will read in the Chair of Governor's section, we continue to work hard to ensure compliance with meeting the new Data Protection Law which comes into effect from today. It remains a core priority for us to ensure confidentiality and security. Please check the policies section on the school website to view the relevant documents. Please note that additional documentation will appear in the near future.

I am hoping that the sunshine remains throughout the forthcoming half term holiday and we will look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 4th June.

Jennifer Millington
Headteacher

Governor Update

Since our March update, both the Teaching and Learning and Resources Committees have met to review student attainment and progress, monitor attendance and behaviour management as well as set the school budget.

On Tuesday 22nd May, the Full Governing Body agreed the school budget for 2018/19, always a challenging exercise given the limited budget most schools are now operating within. There was positive news in that we have made significant savings in a number of areas- thanks to Mrs Millington and her team and have been able to fund much needed work to improve internal structures within the school. These savings have also allowed us to review the structure of the senior leadership team and we have recently recruited to an additional post of Deputy Headteacher. On behalf of Governors, I would like to extend warmest congratulations to Mrs Furlong who has been appointed.

Philip Moore, our Governor who leads on monitoring attendance has reported on a significant number of pupils whose attendance is regularly falling below 85%. Regular school attendance is an important part of giving your child the best possible start in life and whilst we recognise that there can be very legitimate reasons for pupils to be absent- we are keen to support parents and pupils to achieve 95% attendance wherever possible. We will be reviewing the school attendance and behaviour policies next term and plan to relaunch these at the start of the next academic year.

Attendance during one school year Equivalent days missed

Attendance during one school year	Equivalent days missed
95%	9 days
90%	19 days
85%	29 days
80%	38 days
75%	48 days
70%	57 days
65%	67 days

We have also been working at pace with Mrs Millington and the senior leadership team to ensure the school is meeting its obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which comes into force on 25th May 2018. This legislation has significant implications for how the school stores, manages and uses any personal data it holds about pupils, staff and parents, volunteers, governors and guests and as you can imagine there is significant ongoing work to both meet and maintain compliance.

We are a Governing body of 7 volunteers plus the Headteacher and a staff governor. We currently have vacancies for one parent governor and three co-opted governors. We will be writing to all parents to seek your nominations to join the governing body. Everyone has skills and experience to offer- a good governor has: common sense, the ability to work in a team, an interest in education and a commitment to the school as well as patience, energy, enthusiasm and some spare time. In return you will receive training and support and make a real difference to the life chances of our pupils.

If you would like to understand more about the role, please feel free to contact either myself or any of my fellow governors via the school office.

Wishing everyone a wonderful and well deserved break.

Veena Murray
Chair of Governors

Holiday	School Closes	School Opens
Summer		Wednesday 6 th September 2017
Autumn mid-term	Friday 20 th October 2017	Monday 30 th October 2017
Christmas	Friday 15 th December 2017	Tuesday 2 nd January 2018
Spring mid-term	Friday 9 th February 2018	Monday 19 th February 2018
Easter	Thursday 29 th March 2018	Monday 16 th April 2018
May bank holiday	Friday 4 th May 2018	Tuesday 8 th May 2018
Summer mid-term	Friday 25 th May 2018	Monday 4 th June 2018
Summer	Friday 20 th July 2018	

Training Days for 2017-18 are:

- Monday 23rd, Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th July 2018

Events	
11.06.18 – 15.06.18	Diversity Week
13.06.18	Reception open evening (2018 intake, parents only)
21.06.2018	Reception Trip – Scarborough Sealife
21.06.18	Year 1 Trip - Carriage works
29.06.2018	Year 1 Trip – Herd Farm
09.07.18 – 12.07.18	Year 6 Trip – Herd Farm (Holly Class)
16.07.18- 19.07.18	Year 6 Trip – Herd Farm (Cherry Class)
27.06.18	Reception/KS1/KS2 Sports Day
04.07.18	Year 6 Disco
05.07.18	Year 6 Production
12.07.18	Summer Fair

Office Reminders

Free School Meals

Did you know that you may be eligible to receive FREE school meals? This is a great opportunity for your child to receive a healthy hot dinner each day without the hassle of having to think what to put in a packed lunch. To check your eligibility and apply for free school meals please follow this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

KS1 children are ALL entitled to FREE school meals – please see the attached poster.

Barrier Access

Please be reminded that we are unable to allow access through the barrier unless it is for special circumstances that have been pre-authorised by either the inclusion Team or Mrs Millington. Please see the attached document confirming gate/barrier access times.

Staff Changes

This half term we have said goodbye to Mrs Tasker, who has now started her maternity leave. Miss Bennett will cover Alder class until the end of the academic year.

Mrs Bashir has also left for maternity this week. Mrs Bashir will not be returning at the end of her maternity, Miss Procter will cover the role of SBM for the coming months.

We also say goodbye to Ms. Pascoe, Mrs Monkhouse, Mrs Oxley and Mrs Kendrick at the end of the academic year.

Mrs Crowther will be returning from her maternity on 11th June 2018 and will continue to be full time until the end of the academic year. In September, Mrs Crowther will carry on in a part-time Deputy role. Mrs Furlong will continue as a full time Deputy Headteacher.

We will be welcoming Mr. Quirk and Miss Slingsby to the KMPS team in September.

We wish all staff well as they take the next step in their journeys, and thank them for all their commitment and dedication to making a difference at Kerr Mackie.

Attendance

As always, Kerr Mackie focusses on attendance and punctuality and strives to stay above the national average of 96%. Currently attendance is only 95.2% which is below the national average with only half a term to go.

Please continue to support us in delivering excellent attendance and also make sure your child arrives at school on time, ready for registration.

Last Day of Term

School closes at 3.25pm on Friday 25th May 2018 and reopens on Monday 4th June 2018, 8.45am.

Nursery Space Hop

On Wednesday 16th May, Nursery held a sponsored space hop outside. The children were amazing and worked really hard to hop as many times round the course as they could in 3 minutes. It was very tiring but they were brilliant and cheered each other on. So far they have managed to raise £248 to go towards new resources for the Early Years outdoor area, and we are still collecting in money!

Well done Nursery! An incredible effort!



Diversity Week

On the week beginning the 11th of June, we will be enjoying a Diversity Week across our school, as we continue to address our anti-bullying agenda and promote tolerance and understanding of Kerr Mackie's Family's diverse backgrounds, cultures, languages and the right to each person's individual identity.

As such, during the course of the week, children will have the opportunity to explore and discuss a range of different issues, which heighten their understanding, acceptance and respect of and for each other. In addition, we hope that through this work, in line with the SMSC agenda for schools, we will help to further shape the children's attitudes and tolerance towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities and to address any bullying or potential for prejudice or discrimination.

Furthermore, as part of celebrating different cultures, we will be having a special lunch menu with each day being dedicated to a different country. During this week, the school dinner menu will be available to those children who would normally have packed lunches.

Should you wish to find out more about any of our events during the week or to raise any questions, please don't hesitate in speaking to myself or any member of the leadership team - we are always about!

Ms Hill

Fundraising

Last term we had a busy time with our fundraising. We raised £301.45 for St Gemma's Hospice selling chicks, knitted not real ones. These were a great success yet again. Another charity we raised £50.00 for was Water Aid, as this was year 4's topic last term.

Another charity that benefitted from our fundraising was Teenage Cancer Trust, where children sold buns at break time, always appreciated by the children.

Thank you all for your continued support in raising money for those less fortunate than ourselves.

Miss Bourne

Roundhay Football Tournament

Thank you for coming to the Roundhay Cup at the weekend. There was a fantastic atmosphere and it was great seeing so many families supporting extra-curricular sport. Please let me know if you didn't receive certificates of participation and I will send them out.

The final results are as follows:

Year 4

First - Roundhay St John

Second - Roundhay

Semi-Finalists - Weetwood & Kerr Mackie

Year 5

First - Weetwood

Second - Roundhay St John

Third - Roundhay A

Fourth - Moor Allerton

Fifth - Talbot A

Sixth - Kerr Mackie

Seventh - St Matthew

Eighth - Talbot B

Ninth - Roundhay B

Year 6

First - Kerr Mackie

Second - St Matthews

Semi-Finalists - Roundhay St. Johns & Talbot A

Year 5/6 Girls Team

First - Talbot

Second - Kerr Mackie

Sports Days

Wednesday 27th June we have the use of the fireld at Roundhay for our sports day. Reception, KS1 will be in the morning and KS2 will be in the afternoon. Times will be confirmed as soon as possible.

Miss Horwell.

Staff Fast

As most of will you be aware we are now in the month of Ramadan. Being such an inclusive and diverse school, some of our non-Muslim staff have volunteered a day, **Tuesday 22nd May**, to fast for charity. The chosen charity is the **Penny Appeal, 'Sponsor an Orphan'** which raises money for orphans around the world. Some staff have made the personal decision to fast for a longer period of time, such as a week or the whole month. If you wish to know which staff this is, please ask your class teacher.

If you wish to, you may make a donation to the above name charity in support of the staff fasting. Please send any donations into school addressed to 'Sponsor Fast/Penny Appeal'.

Many thanks in advance for your continued support, and to those of you who observe the fasts, may you have a wonderful month of blessings.

Miss Brown, Mrs Izenman-Qureshi and Mrs Lal

The School Gates Opening Times

Please see the timetables for all parental access to Kerr Mackie Primary school. For safeguarding purposes, we monitor access to the school, which includes through the barrier. This is to keep all our pupils, as well as staff, safe and secure. The timings for site access are listed below.

Nursery Parents Access

Morning Sessions	8:45am – 9am
Please buzz for these sessions. (push the arrow key down until it says Nursery then click the bell button)	11:35am – 11:45am (not before as this is lunchtime for pupils)
Afternoon session	12:15pm – 12:30pm (not before as this is lunchtime for staff)
End of the day	3:05pm – 3:45pm

Primary School Parents Access

Morning Sessions	Main Gate (Gledhow Lane)	8:00am - 9:15am
	Top Pedestrian Gate (by the bus stop)	8:00am - 9:15am
Afternoon Sessions	Main Gate (Gledhow Lane)	12:15pm – 12:30pm (not before as this is lunchtime for nursery staff)
	Top Pedestrian Gate (by the bus stop)	3:05pm – 6pm (for those attending Child Seasons)
	Main Gate (Gledhow Lane)	3:05pm - 3:45pm

Afterschool Parental Access

(These are the **ONLY** access points parents should be using)

After School Club Activities	Top Pedestrian Gate (by the bus stop)	3.05pm – 6pm
Child Seasons Childcare		3.05pm – 6pm (please ring Child Seasons buzzer after 4:30pm)