KERR MACKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

A "Good" school (Ofsted October 2012)

Gledhow Lane, Leeds, LS8 1NE

Tel: 0113 3368499 Fax: 0113 2370569

Email: office@kmps.org.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Jennifer Millington Chair of Governors: Veena Murray



Together Everyone Achieves More

13 March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers.

Local Authority Review -Thursday 9th March 2017

I just wanted to update you about the outcome from the Local Authority review visit last Thursday.

In light of meeting the 'Coasting School' definition, the review was conducted to support the school in continuing to move forward and to validate the accuracy of our self-evaluation. The fact that the notification for this review was only the day before it was due has certainly prepared us for when Ofsted calls. The advisors followed what normally happens in an Ofsted inspection which we felt was really important to ensure consistency for the children and their learning.

The 3 School Improvement Advisors were overwhelmed with the happy, safe, inclusive and welcoming atmosphere that children and the whole staff team demonstrated; you should feel very proud of your children because we are!

We have had clear confirmation that our priorities for development are making a positive difference to children's learning and the suggestions for continued improvement are in line with what the school has identified. As you know, every child enabled to achieve their full, well rounded potential is our priority.

Key strengths were:

- The school's self-evaluation was accurate, based on the evidence seen, and the actions from the School Development Plan were seen as appropriate and progressing well.
- Children are happy, articulate and passionate about their school
- Provision for children's personal development, behaviour and welfare is strong
- Rigorous safeguarding procedures and processes are in place
- There was clear evidence of established systems to ensure continued improvement

Key developments were:

- Continue to raise aspiration and ambition to ensure every child achieves their potential
- More challenge for all children
- Ensure consistency across school in all that we do and embed it
- More opportunities to write for purpose, length and stamina

'The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all children and expects our staff and volunteers to share this commitment.'

'Pupils enjoy learning, work hard & achieve well' (Ofsted October 2012)













Recent Appointments to start after Easter

I am pleased to inform you that Mrs Furlong will be joining us as the temporary Deputy Head teacher to cover Mrs Crowther's maternity leave. This will enable a full transition to take place before Mrs Crowther leaves in June. Mrs Furlong will be visiting our school on the afternoons of Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 30th March 2017, so I am sure there will be an opportunity for you to meet her.

As you know, we will also be saying goodbye at Easter to Miss Rhodes and Miss Fox as they start a new chapter in their teaching journey. However, I can now inform you that the two teachers who will be taking over their class responsibility are joining us this coming Friday, 17th March, for an essential transition day.

Mrs Hunt has been appointed to take over the responsibility for Year 1 Sycamore and Miss Pickering will be the new teacher of Willow, one of our Reception classes. Our new class teachers will be available at the end of the day on Friday to meet and greet parents.

We are also pleased to welcome Mrs Jowett and Mrs Joicey to our support staff team in Early Years.

Parking safely and sensibly

Unfortunately, there has been another serious complaint from a local resident about unsafe and inconsiderate parking opposite school at the end of the school day.

A car completely blocked the entrance to the resident's driveway, preventing them from entering the drive to get inside the house. One person remained in the car with the engine left running. I am sure you will agree; this is totally unacceptable. As previously, we have informed the local Parking Enforcement Officers.

Please can I stress again the importance of showing care and consideration to our school neighbours and anyone who has come to school to pick up their child.

Thank you for continuing to work in partnership with us for the benefit of every child and family.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Millington Headteacher

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