



Mackie Hill J&I School, Painthorpe Lane, Crigglestone, Wakefield WF4 3HW

Tel. 01924 303520

email: [office@mackiehill.wakefield.sch.uk](mailto:office@mackiehill.wakefield.sch.uk)

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## Newsletter

Over the last few weeks, we have seen our children become immersed in new topics, learning new skills and developing a strong knowledge base. It is fair to say we have had a very busy start to the school year.

School staff are working hard to improve the individual and overall attendance of pupils. As per my previous letter:

*We have now rewritten the school attendance policy and will be fining families for taking term time holidays that are above 9 sessions. A session is defined as either a morning or afternoon. A fine will be issued on the 10th session. Holidays will be cumulative over a term so any holidays taken at different periods of time will be added together.*

*Consideration will be given to parents who have restrictive work patterns/holidays and can provide evidence of this, such as a letter from your employer. These will be discussed with the educational welfare officer before a fine is issued.*

### Mary Creagh MP

Last Friday, we had the pleasure of welcoming Mary Creagh MP into school for a celebration assembly and a tour of the school. She was impressed with the class presentations and the quality of work she saw around school. Mary has publically supported the Local Authority plan to amalgamate Mackie Hill and Kettlethorpe School and was happy to meet with parents after school at the gates to listen to their thoughts moving forward.

Also, thank you to Lee Ward for giving up his time to take some fantastic photographs.



### Upcoming Events

Friday 25th January 9am — Year 6 Class Assembly

Wednesday 30th January — Year 4 Educational Visitor to school on Roman Archology.

Friday 1st February 9am — Year 5 Class Assembly

Friday 8th February 9am — Year 1 Class Assembly

Friday 15th February - School closed for INSET Day

Wednesday 27th February 10.15—Year 6 Assembly with the Rotary Club

Thursday 14th March —Visitor from Leeds Mosque Year 2

Friday 15th March 9.00am—Year 3 Educational visit to Murton Park

Friday 15th March 9.00am—Year 6 Educational visit to St Johns University

Friday 22nd March 9.00am—Early Years Foundation Stage Class Assembly

Wednesday 27th March—Year 1 Educational visit to Manchester Airport

Friday 29th March 9.00am—Year 4 Class Assembly

Thursday 28th March—Year 5 Educational visit to The Hepworth

Thursday 4th April 1.30pm —Lower & Upper Foundation Stage educational visit to St James Church for Easter Egg Hunt

### Residential Visits

Year 4, 5 & 6 Robinwood —Wednesday 6th to Friday 8th February

Year 2 & 3 Herd Farm—Wednesday 13th to Friday 15th February

### **Magic Breakfast**

#### **The National School Breakfast Programme**

Mackie Hill has joined the government's National School Breakfast Programme (NSBP), which is being delivered by the charities Family Action and Magic Breakfast. As a NSBP School we are pleased to offer breakfast bagels, available to all, and enjoy the benefits that brings, with children settled and ready to learn at the start of the school day.



#### **Where is it?**

The Magic Breakfast Bagels will be served outside in the pagoda and by Breakfast Monitors walking around the school playground.

#### **How Much is it ?**

The Magic Breakfast Bagels are free!

### **Playtime Updates**

Last half term, we have spent a long time listening to children's ideas of how to improve lunchtimes. Mrs Purser, Mrs Elliott and the School Council are going to be working together to plan a range of activities for children to access, if they wish. Once the equipment has arrived I shall write to inform you of the ideas the children have developed. For now, I can tell you that we have been able to book a sports coach to lead 2 lunchtime football sessions for the children in **Years 3 & 4 on a Tuesday** and **Years 5 & 6 on a Wednesday**. If your child would like to play football during this session they will need to change into an outdoor P.E. kit and trainers as they will be playing on the school field. I anticipate the field will be very muddy during the coming months so only children who have a kit to change into will be allowed to participate. This will prevent school uniform become muddy for the remainder of the day.

I look forward to sharing our other exciting plans in the coming weeks!

### **Staffing updates**

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Miss Botfield all the best on her new adventures as she leaves Mackie Hill School. Miss Botfield has contributed greatly to the progress we have made over the past year and we shall miss her.

We also welcome new staff to our school this year. Miss Hartshorne has taken up the position of Year 3 class teacher and Mrs Rogerson and Mrs Adamson have joined us as class teaching assistants.

### **Staff Vacancies**

In school, we currently have a vacancy for a Lunchtime Supervisor for 5 hours a week to start as soon as possible.

We are looking for someone who can promote safe and happy lunchtimes and engage with children to enhance play and relationships.

Should you require any additional information please contact the school office.

### **Before and After School Club**

Parents can book places for children via the school office and complete the necessary paperwork. We aim to provide engaging, fun and reliable childcare for families of our school.

**The Before School Club will run from**

**7:30am—8:45am**

**and the After School Club is from**

**3:15pm—6pm.**

Thank you for your continued support.

*Mrs J Elliott*