



# Robert Ferguson Primary School

## Onwards and Upwards for Year 6



To all our leavers, best wishes for the future from all the staff!

Once again we say a fond farewell to a unique group of individuals, many of whom have been with us for 7 or 8 years.

Robyn, Bethany and Lucy.

“My favourite memories are from Year 6 - all the teachers helping you when you need support.” -

Emily

“Leaving Year 6 is a roller-coaster of emotions. We are sad, happy, excited and nervous.” - Rosie and Ellie.

“My favourite memories are all the school trips, especially the York residential.”

“Our memories from when we first started right up to Year 6 will always stay with us.” -



## Growing Talents

Several of our classes have been making use of the recently developed school garden. Vegetables, shrubs and flowers have been planted or sown, watered and cared for by our green-fingered children.



Next year we will be providing you with more information about our curriculum which we continually shape and enrich to ensure that our pupils have a wide range of interests and enthusiasms catered for.

If there is a particular topic or interest you would like us to include or do more of, please see Mr Frost or Mrs Murdoch.



**NATIONAL LAUNCH AT THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT** Mr Frost attended the launch of The National Teacher Enquiry Network (NTEN) on 11th July. We were one of the first schools nationally to sign up to NTEN and will be working closely with the founders to improve the effectiveness of continuous professional

development, making sure that we stay at the cutting edge of educational research and best practice in teaching and learning!



**OUR SCHOOL PLAYGROUND** and playing fields are used throughout the school day in this beautiful sunny weather. Here you can see Reception enjoying some whacky races on the trikes and scooters.



**TENNIS** has proven to be a popular sport in the past month (I wonder why). As we have great space for tennis, we are planning to increase the opportunities for it next year.

# Yeehaa!

"We had so much fun performing the play and were laughing our heads off at the end." - Rosie.

The Year 5 and 6 production was a rootin' tootin', humdinger of a show which had us laughing, cheering and clapping as our Year 6's told the story of Splodge City. The acting, singing, comedy, costumes, and overall performance by all were first class!



GENERAL STORE



## GIRLS' CRICKET TEAM COUNTY CHAMPIONS



Congratulations to our girls' cricket team who are County Champions - a fabulous achievement!

The girls went on to play at the regional finals at Headingley.



"The stadium and grounds were massive! We were all very excited. It was a very tough competition. We won one match out of 3 and came 9th overall." - Jodie.

Autumn Term	05.09.13
Half Term	28.10.13
End of Term	18.12.13
Spring Term	06.01.14
Half Term	17.02.14
End of Term	09.04.14
Summer Term	23.04.14
Half Term	26.05.14
End of Term	18.07.14



# AROUND THE WORLD WEEK

During the week beginning Monday 1st July our children travelled around the world! In our special topic they learned about countries and cultures from around the world as far flung as the Solomon Islands, China, Australia and America, with each class studying a different country. Excited children clutched their passports and set off on their journeys to taste exotic food, learn traditional dances (including live bagpipe music), enjoy art and craft activities and learn a few words of a foreign language. Of course, even the staff dressed up!



We love any excuse to dress up! The costume ideas were amazingly creative!



Staff who leave us this term:



As we reported in our May newsletter, Mrs Carol Rutherford retires this week after 25 years at the school.

Also leaving this week is Mrs Irene Irwin who has been a senior midday supervisor at the school for 31 years and has seen very many changes to the school during that time...

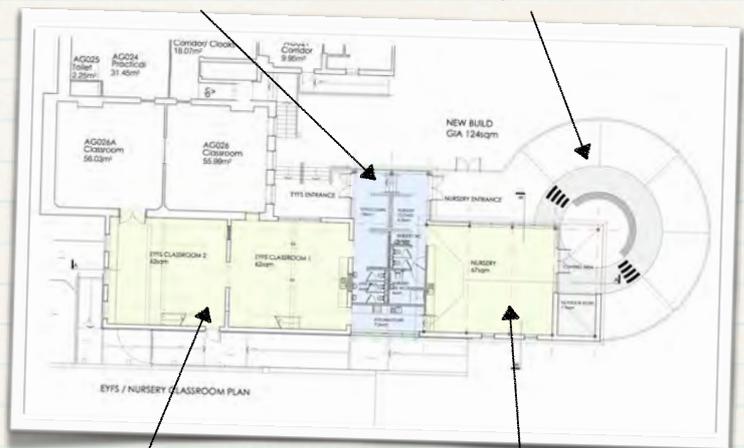
We wish them both every happiness in the future.

## NURSERY EXTENSION: WORK COMMENCES

Work will begin on our new Nursery extension on Monday 22nd July. The existing Nursery space will be refitted to become two Reception classrooms. The project has come about due to Robert Ferguson Primary School changing its intake from 45 to 60 per year since September 2012. The extended building will enable the school to accommodate the greater number of pupils as they move through school.

The section marked in blue will provide the Reception and Nursery classrooms with plenty of cloakroom and toilet facilities.

A fantastic new Early Years outdoor learning space is being created as part of the extension.



Reception classrooms - what was Nursery will become two Reception classrooms, ready for September.

The new Nursery classroom will be completed by late November. In the meantime, Nursery has been relocated to the Jigsaw Room where After School Club usually takes place. After School and Breakfast Clubs have been relocated to the Annexe.



# Robert Ferguson Primary School

## The Value of the Summer Holidays

There have been suggestions by the government and within the media that summer school holidays are too long. I believe the real value of the summer break for our children is a difficult thing to measure. It is important for children to relax, develop new interests and hobbies, enjoy sporting activity and spending time with friends and family. While it is possible they may have a dip in what they remember from the lessons of the previous year, they can and should return to school, having broadened their learning, refreshed and ready for another school year.

At Robert Ferguson Primary School, we believe that learning is not limited to the classroom. This is why we celebrate "outside achievements" every Friday in assembly. We look forward to hearing about the summer's outside achievements at the start of the new term.

## Summer Challenges

To help the children avoid a dip in their learning of key subjects, we recommend you keep up the reading practice and do some summer maths practice during the summer. Many who encouraged this last summer helped their children tremendously to hit the ground running in September.

## On the School Website

The school website contains many learning activities, including Purple Mash - a complete set of educational software. The children can create and learn, saving their

work on the website to revisit or share. We also have MyMaths - a complete programme of maths lessons and activities. Children can see their teacher if they have forgotten their username or password.

THE READING AGENCY  
AND LIBRARIES PRESENT

## CREEPY HOUSE

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2013



## What is the Summer Reading Challenge?

The Summer Reading Challenge takes place every year during the summer holidays. You can sign up at your local library, then read six library books of your choice, collecting stickers and other rewards along the way - all FREE.

The Summer Reading Challenge website (<http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>) is where you can follow your progress online, find new books to read, take part in a story writing competition and play games.



## Summer Maths Challenge

School Year just ended	What to practise
Reception	Adding 1 to numbers (counting on) Taking away 1 from numbers (counting back) Counting forwards and backwards
Year 1	Numbers which go together to make 5: 1+4, 2+3, 3+2, 4+1, 5+0 Numbers which go together to make 10: 10+0, 9+1, 8+2, 7+3, 6+4, 5+5, etc. Adding numbers less than 10: e.g. 6 is 5 and 1 more.
Year 2	Numbers which go together to make 20 Counting in 2s Counting in 10s 2x 5x and 10x tables Doubling and halving numbers
Year 3	2x 5x 10x 3x and 4x tables
Year 4	2x 5x 10x 3x 4x 6x 8x tables

If children are keen to challenge themselves further they can practise skills from the next age bracket.

Also, there is nothing to stop the super-keen from learning their 11x, 12x, 13x, 14x, 15x, 16x ...

There will be prizes for the most improved.

There are also great maths games (e.g. board games, sudoku, computer games) which help promote an interest in maths learning.