



# Robert Ferguson Primary School

## Official Opening of New Extension

To mark the completion of the nursery extension, cutting the ribbon was Councillor Alan Barry, Chairman of Cumbria County Council, lead architect (and former pupil) Raymond Whittaker, and Headteacher, Graham Frost.

Making the event more memorable and appealing for our youngest pupils, we were privileged to be joined by Peppa Pig who inevitably stole the show!



After the ribbon cutting, there was tea and a celebration cake for dignitaries including former members of staff, the construction workers, the Friends of Robert Ferguson Primary School and School Governors. Councillor Alan Barry said: "The revamped Robert Ferguson Primary looks fantastic and I'm sure pupils and staff are really going to feel the benefits of their new surroundings. "The Transforming Learning project highlights the council's commitment to delivering the best education facilities possible and I'm delighted to see the scheme coming to fruition."

Raymond Whittaker said: "As a former pupil it's been a real honour to play a role in transforming my old school and to be asked to take part in the ribbon-cutting to mark completion of the project."

This is exactly the kind of nursery facility Robert Ferguson Primary School has been desperate for. At their last visit Ofsted said that for us to be outstanding, the outdoor early years provision had to be as good as the excellent indoor provision. Well now it is - with many fantastic additions to what we can provide throughout.



Expanding the school will ultimately boost its capacity by 105 with the reception in-take already having increased from 45 to 60.

## Sports Relief

On 21st March, the pupils, led by their School Council raised a colossal £1,855 for Sports Relief.

The children could come to school dressed as a favourite sports person or wearing sports clothes. There was a prize for the best effort in each class. They then took part in a sponsored run, enjoyed a fun obstacle course, including a penalty shoot-out. All the activities were set up and run by school council. There were refreshments and a bouncy castle, too.



## World Book Day

We love World Book Day at Robert Ferguson! Staff and pupils don't take much persuading to wear fancy dress.

The range of costumes was impressive as usual, including characters from many favourite books such as Alice in Wonderland, The Wizard of Oz and Harry Potter.

Particularly memorable was our little swan from The Ugly Duckling. The children spent the day talking about their reading recommendations as well as reading, and a range of book-themed activities.



## New App

We have just launched our very own app to help parents keep up to date with goings on at RFPS. Our app will bring news and events straight to your portable devices. It can be downloaded from iTunes and Google Play, and is completely free. You will also find diary dates on our website's News Page.



While we will continue to send newsletters, we will be updating the app and website much more frequently, with news and events.



iTunes App



## Follow us on Twitter

Our Tweets go straight to the new app and also appear on the school website. Follow @RFPrimary.



Google App

@RFPrimary

## Music and Dance

On Thursday 18th March our Reception and Year 5 pupils represented the school on stage in front of a packed Sands Centre in a countywide celebration of dance, UDance. Our school's dance was based on the book "Whatever Next" and saw the children choreographing how they thought Little Bear would move on the moon.



This term has been a term for making music. Year 3 have been having djembe drumming lessons with, specialist teacher, Zozo Shuaibu, Year 4 have had tin-whistle lessons with Mr Frost, children from Year 6 have been taking part in "Robert Ferguson School of Rock", learning a group piece to accompany singing in assembly. In addition, a number of children in Years 4 and 5 have begun guitar lessons. And all this in addition to music lessons in class as part of the curriculum. Later next term we will be inviting parents to come to special assemblies to provide the children with an audience for their music and singing.

## York Residential Trip

Some of you will have followed the progress of our Year 6 trip to York on the website/twitter. We had an excellent trip following a well established itinerary including York Minster and Jorvik. New this year was a lesson on "Law and Order in Victorian Times" in which the children got to know a street trader before he was arrested for stealing and not having a licence to trade. The children then had to decide whether or not he should be found guilty.



## Investing in ICT

The children are enjoying their new iPads and computers across the school. Nursery and Reception love using their iPads and classes around school are being equipped with new PCs this year as part of a significant investment for the coming year. This means that the children will have better access to the broad range of learning software available to them.



Earlier this year we had a new server installed, ensuring that pupils have good storage for all their files. You may not realise that through PurpleMash - the software available by logging into our website - pupils can access a wealth of activities and save files to work on at home, too.

April 2014

mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat	sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

**Next events:**  
 8/4/2014 10:00  
**Easter Service**  
 Location: St James Church  
 Our pupils in classes 2 to 14 will be attending a special Easter Service at St James Church. Some of the children will be taking part in readings, with all joining in for songs. This is not a performance, but a celebration of Easter as part of our annual programme of community activities and part of the children's Religious Education curriculum. Parents/carers are welcome to join us. Please be aware that seating may be limited.

Screen Shot from the School Website News Page

School Term finishes  
Wednesday 9th April at 3:15pm

Summer Term begins  
Wednesday 23rd April