



Robert Ferguson Primary School

Hall and Kitchen Extension in the Pipeline for 2016

We are delighted that Cumbria County Council have given the green light for Robert Ferguson Primary School to have an extension to the downstairs hall, and the creation of a new kitchen. Our pupil school council have been instrumental in making this happen, writing letters to gain the support of Denton Holme councillor, Hugh McDevitt.

The improved facilities will mean that pupils have improved dining facilities, kitchen staff have a safer working environment, and whole school assemblies remain possible as the school continues to grow towards full subscription following our intake being increased from 45 to 60 per year group from September 2013. Our Nursery, Reception and Year 1 are already fully subscribed, with waiting lists.

Plans will be on display in school after the Easter break. Subject to planning permission, it is hoped that work will commence on the extension in June with completion by October.



School Council sharing their ideas with Mr Frost



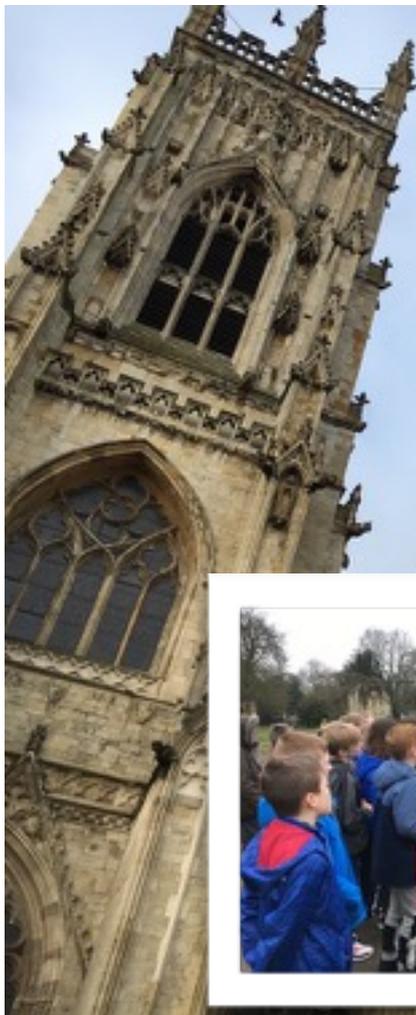
The building now, and as proposed



Sport Relief - Raising Money and Awareness of Good Causes

The pupils and parents of Robert Ferguson have been continuing our reputation as a top charitable fund-raising school. Thank you for all your support for the great causes in the UK and abroad served by Sport Relief.

Our water carrying relay was an excellent way to be reminded that there are countries in which running water is a luxury and people have to travel great distances to fetch fresh water. Thanks to Mr Pearson, Miss O'Brien and School Council for organising.



The Residential Trip to York earlier this month was a great experience for Year 6, including a tour of York Minster, Yorkshire Museum, and National Railway Museum.



Reading and Writing for all the Right Reasons

Our teachers and pupils are getting to grips with the demanding requirements of the new SATs tests which inevitably influence what and how we are expected to teach and learn. We are making sure that writing does not become a purely technical, test-orientated process, and that the craft and enjoyment of writing for different audiences continues to be just as high a priority. I have had the pleasure of reading some fantastic pieces of writing by some of our budding authors this week.



World Book Day 2016



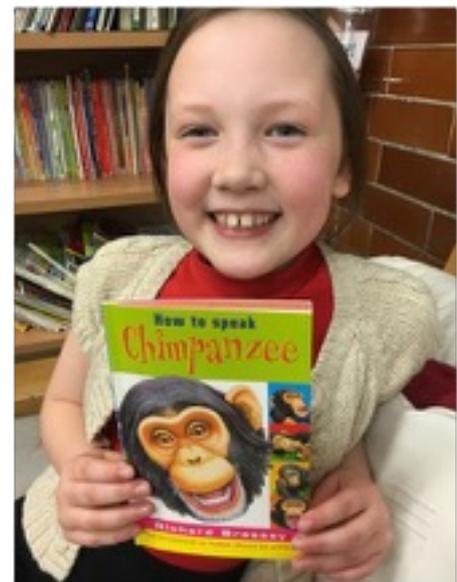
Why not take the opportunity, this Easter, to visit the local library or bookshop with your children to choose some great books to read? By making reading important and pleasurable you will be doing more for your children than any amount of cramming for tests can achieve.

Recommended Reading

Louis recommends *Airlock* by Simon Chester - "An exciting, mysterious book for 9+".

Maddison enjoyed *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* - "An exciting book with scary bits."

Olivia found *The Twits* by Roald Dahl amazing and Funny.



How to Speak Chimpanzee by Richard Brassey.

Other news from the Spring Term...



Earlier in the term:

Gist brought an articulated wagon to school to teach about road safety.

Reception and Nursery had a mud kitchen, and played The Three Billy Goats Gruff.

Year 3 had a trip to Whinlatter Forest Park.

School Meals

Please remember that the cost of school dinners next term will be £2 per meal/ £10 per week.

Easter Assemblies

Years 1 and 2 have a special Easter Assembly at St James Church on Tuesday 22nd March in the afternoon. Years 3 to 6 will be having their Easter Assembly at St James on Thursday 24th March in the morning. The children will be walking to the church and back.

This week the choir sang for residents at Blackwell Vale Residential Care Home, Year 5 pupils attended a Children's University Science Week event held at Carlisle College and Reception visited Carlisle Castle and children from Year 1

were fabulous when dancing at the Sands Centre in the Udance Festival.



School Uniform

Black shoes, please.

Internet Safety

If you were unable to attend our very important Safer Internet Information Evening for Parents and would like us to repeat this at another, convenient time, please contact the school office.

Term Dates

We finish this term at the normal time, Thursday 24th March.

Summer term begins Monday 11th April.