

Newsletter 15

**Friday 13th January
2017**

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Welcome back

Welcome back to a new term and a very happy new year to all of our families and the community. The beginning of term has started on an action packed note, with many visitors coming into school to enhance our wonderful and exciting curriculum. On Monday, the children enjoyed a 'Molly dance' performance from a team of Molly dancers who explained that the lively, jolly dances they performed were part of historical, East Anglian celebrations between Christmas and new year. 'Plough Monday' was a day upon which the dancers travelled around, performing for money since they had no farming left to do at that time of the year.



Reception were visited by Mr Kavanagh, who has been helping the children to understand life in colder climates by coming to speak to them about what people would need on an expedition to the Antarctic. This supports their current topic of 'At the top of the world and beyond'. Year 2 have travelled back in time with the help of 'History off the page' who came to help them understand why houses burnt so quickly and how people escaped from the Great Fire of London, which all began in a bakery on Pudding Lane. This has helped them understand the historical events and features of the time and they even took part in making their very own traditional, herbal medicine.



Attendance celebration

During Monday's assembly, we celebrated the 105 children who managed 100% attendance for the entire long and bug ridden Autumn term. Compared to the previous Autumn term, we were 20 children down, however we still think that we've done really very well. Congratulations also goes to Blue Class who had the best attendance for the Autumn term at 97.8%, followed by Laterta Class with 97.7%, and Aquila with 97.3% attendance. Blue Class will receive extra golden time as a reward.

During the assembly we talked about trying our best to keep healthy by eating a varied diet rich in plenty of fruit and vegetables and taking regular exercise as well as getting enough rest.

Forthcoming dates

11th January 6pm—Year 6 parents meeting for SATs	10th March 9am—Columba Class assembly
17th January—Year 4 swimming begins	22nd March 10am—Reception Spring performance
27th January—Reception & Year 6 NHS height and weight checks	22nd March—Parent consultations
27th January 9am—Lacerta Class assembly	23rd March 2pm—Reception Spring performance
	24th March 9am—Cygnus Class assembly
8th February 10am—Year 2 Spring performance	w/c 27th March—International Week
8th February 3.45pm—Reception & KS1 phonics workshop for parents	
9th February 2pm—Year 2 Spring performance	30th March—Reception come & share in the morning
w/c 13th February— HALF TERM	30th March—Parent consultations
21st—24th February—Science Week	31st March—LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM (CHILDREN RETURN ON
w/c 6th March—Book Week	18TH APRIL)

Help to keep our school healthy

After the excesses of Christmas, it's hard to get back into the swing of trying to maintain a healthy diet. Here are a few tips to help your children get started.

Snack Check—Many snacks are full of the things that are bad for us—sugar, salt, fat and calories. So try and keep a careful eye on how many the children are having.

- Keep count. Many people are surprised when they actually count up how many sweets, crisps and biscuits they get through. Keep count and you're more likely to cut down—which is good for the children and your purse too.
- Don't forget that it is sometimes kinder to say no. We all love to give children what they want, but try to find different ways to reward them—stickers or a trip to the park can be equally effective.



Community Educational Psychologist Drop-In Sessions for parents

Sure Start Children's Centres
Cambridgeshire

Cambridgeshire County Council

Community Educational Psychology Drop-In Sessions

Would you like support, information or advice with ...

Learning?  Social & Play skills?
Child Development? Behavioural issues?
Any other concerns?

30minute sessions are available for parents/carers to book with an Educational & Child Psychologist on

Date: Tuesday 7th February 2017
Time: 9am to 12pm
Setting: Monkfield Park Primary School

To book a session please speak to Mrs Howell or contact the school office on 01954 273377

Do you have concerns about aspects of your child's learning, their social and play skills or behavioural issues? Would you like some support or feel you need information and advice about a particular issue relating to one of these areas?

On Tuesday 7th February the Educational and Child Psychologist will be holding drop-in sessions at Monkfield Park from 9am in the morning until 12 noon. You will have the opportunity to speak to the Educational Psychologist in private to discuss your concerns. All sessions will last for 30 minutes but will need to be booked in advance. If you would like to book one of these sessions please speak to Mrs Howell or contact her via the school office as soon as possible as places will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis.

Parent Drop-In Sessions and Workshops – a note from Mrs Howell

I am delighted that the Locality team have once again been able to offer us a series of drop-in sessions and parenting workshops which will take place throughout this term

The Locality Team provides valuable support and advice for parents on a wide range of issues. Locality Workers will be available in school for individual 'drop-in' sessions on Tuesday 17th January, Tuesday 21st February and Tuesday 14th March from 2pm. You do not have to book these sessions, just come along and have a chat.

In addition to the 'drop-in' sessions we are also offering the following workshop on Tuesday afternoons from 2pm:

Tuesday 31st January – Understanding Challenging Behaviour

Tuesday 7th March – Labelling

Tuesday 28th March – Effective Discipline

Please do come along as these sessions will be full of tips to help you deal with some of the issues that affect children and families on a daily basis. There will even be a cup of tea and biscuits.

Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to hunt for three signs of Winter whilst outside in the garden or local area.

Ask your Year 1 child to explain what type of clothing is suitable for the Winter and why.

Ask your Year 2 child about something new that they learnt from their 'Great fire of London' day.

Ask your Year 3 child to give you three unusual facts about deserts.

Ask your Year 4 child the journey their food takes as it moves through their body.

Ask your Year 5 child about the properties of 2-D shapes using the terms 'perpendicular, parallel or diagonal'.

Ask your Year 6 child about the film festival.

Head Teacher roll of honour

Adrian in Cygnus Class—Adrian is one of the most accepting and understanding people that I know and he always has the good grace to see the positive in other people.

Euan in Blue Class—Euan's sunny personality cheers up a gloomy day for everyone at Monkfield Park.

Friends of Monkfield Park



NEW YEAR DISCO—FRIDAY 03 FEBRUARY 2017

Come along and have fun at our New Year Disco. Tickets are £2.50 which includes a drink and a popcorn cone. You should have received your letters informing you of times for each year group. Please ensure you return the cut off slip ASAP.



NEW YEAR DISCO PARENT HELPERS REQUIRED

If you can help out at the New Year Disco please let us know on PTA Social

<http://service.ptasocial.com/register/FOMP>



Search for us on Facebook "**Friends of Monkfield Park**" and keep up to date with news and forthcoming events.



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Headteacher drop ins for the Spring term

Each week, there is an opportunity to meet the Head teacher for a 1:1 meeting, with no need to make an appointment. At these meetings, parents are able to talk with the Head teacher about any aspect of school life. Please be aware that due to the nature of a 'drop in', you may have to wait to be seen if someone is already with the Head. Please note the dates and times below. Simply sign in at the school office to be seen:

17th January 8-9am

24th February 10.30am—11.30am

23rd January 2-3pm

28th February 2.30pm—3.30pm

1st February 8-9am

8th March 3-4pm

9th February 3-4pm

15th March 8-9am