

# Newsletter 33

Friday 5th June 2026

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## Welcome Back to Summer!

I hope you all had a wonderful half-term break and managed to take advantage of the glorious weather. It has been a bit of a shock to the system to find temperatures returning to normal this week with the arrival of some very welcome downpours. We were a little worried that the heavy rain would deter everyone from attending our OPAL afternoon but we were delighted that so many of you were able to join us for a wonderful afternoon of play, creativity and fun. The children were so happy to have the opportunity to show everyone our new sandpit. When my husband and Mr Hall were building the sandpit, my husband questioned whether I thought it was perhaps a little too big. I did think he might have had a point, but when I saw so many of the children enjoying the sand, I knew it was the right size!

Thank you to everyone who sent such kind and supportive e-mails following the OPAL afternoon. It is always good to know when we get things right and your kind words were very much appreciated by the staff who had worked hard to make sure the afternoon was a success. We are still collecting items for OPAL so if you have any items from the OPAL Bingo Cards you would like to donate we would be very glad to receive them.

With very best wishes

*Mrs Howell*

## Learning About Democracy

On Wednesday, KS2 enjoyed an assembly from Kelly Stroud, an Education and Engagement Outreach Officer from UK Parliament. The children gained valuable insights into the workings of the Houses of Parliament, including the roles of the House of Commons and the House of Lords. They also enjoyed learning interesting facts about the history of Parliament and how laws are made. A highlight of the session was the opportunity to simulate the process of passing a bill, providing a hands-on experience of democratic decision-making. Kelly stressed how important it is to use our vote to ensure that our voices are heard as part of the democratic process.

# OPAL

A huge thank you to the Friends of Monkfield Park for donating our magnificent sandpit. Thanks also go to Mr Hall and Mr Howell for building it and to Mrs Hall, Ms Batten and Mrs Howell for helping to shovel the 20 tons of sand into it! I hope you all agree that it is a truly amazing addition to our OPAL provision.



## Break Time Snacks

Unfortunately, we have noticed a number of children bringing snacks in to school which fall outside our school rules. The government provides all children in Reception and KS1 with free fruit each day but in KS2 children are able to bring in a snack for their mid-morning break. As we pride ourselves on promoting healthy eating habits we have clear guidelines about the types of snacks children are allowed to bring to school. These are limited to any variety of raw fruit or raw vegetables.

Children are not allowed to bring the following as snacks:

- Crisps
- Chocolate
- Cereal bars and biscuits
- Pastries and muffins
- Fizzy or sugary drinks
- Sandwiches



If these items are included in lunch boxes they **MUST NOT** be eaten at morning break.

Thank you for your ongoing support in this matter.

# Raising Kids in a Smartphone Era



## SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

Welcome Cambourne Parents EYFS, KS1, KS2, KS3  
Jeavon's Wood Primary, Monkfield Primary,  
The Vine Primary, Hardwick & Cambourne Primary,  
Cambourne VC and surrounding villages

### Parent Talk: Raising Kids in the Smartphone Era

Practical ideas and friendly conversation about helping kids thrive in the age of smartphones. We'll look at what's working for families right now — from first phones to healthy habits at home. No judgement, just real talk and small steps that make a difference.

When	Where
 Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June  7pm	Cambourne Village College



RSVP by scanning the QR code to secure a seat >>>

## Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to tell you about their class snails.

Ask your Year 1 child to describe Jack's house from Jack and the Beanstalk.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you the time at o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past.

Ask your Year 3 child to explain what is special about a leap year.

Ask your Year 4 child to find the totals for some different amounts of money and change.

Ask your Year 5 child to explain an important tip to remember when adding or subtracting decimals.

Ask your Year 6 child to talk to you about what they discovered in their first RSE lesson.

## FORTHCOMING DATES SPRING TERM 2026

2nd to 12th June—Year 4 Multiplication Checks

8th to 12th June—Phonic check for Year 1

9th and 10th June—Year 6 SAW Project

10th June—New Reception 2026 Come and Play

10th June—Monkfield's Got Talent (KS2)

12th June—Lacerta Class assembly 9.15 am

12th June—Class photographs

12th June—Top Up Swimming sessions begin for Year 6

15th—19th June—Healthy Lifestyles Week

16th June—New Reception 2026 Come and Play

17th June—Final OPAL Audit

18th June—Year 5 trip to Warner Brothers' Studio

19th June—Aquila Class Assembly 9.15 am

24th June—Reception and KS1 Sports Day

24th June - New Reception 2026 Parents' Evening

25th June—New Reception 2026 Come and Play

26th June—Reserve Reception and KS1 Sports Day

26th June—Primary cricket tournament

30th June—Year 2 Beach Trip

1st July—KS2 Sports Day

2nd July—KS2 Reserve Sports Day

**6th July—Move Up Morning**

**6th July—End of year reports sent to parents**

**Please note the change of date**

3rd July—FOMP Summer Fete

7th July—Year 6 production at 6pm

9th July—Year 6 production at 6pm

16th July—Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 10am

17th July—Last day of the academic year.

20th July to 31st August—Summer holiday

1st September—INSET Day (school closed for children)

2nd September—INSET Day (school closed for children)

**3rd September—Children return to school for Autumn term**



For general queries regarding the Care and Learning Centre, please contact the school office by e-mail on: [clcoffice@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:clcoffice@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk) or by telephoning 01954 273377.

To speak with a member of the Care and Learning Centre staff please telephone 01954 273301

### Planting Seeds

This week the children have been planting sunflower seeds and learning about the things seeds and plants need to grow - soil, water and sunshine. They are now waiting excitedly for their seeds to shoot. We have also been reading stories and Information Books about seeds and plants, as well as learning new vocabulary such as 'soil', 'trowel', 'root', 'shoot', 'stem', 'bud' and 'petal'.

### Class Photos

Just a reminder that we will be having our class photograph taken next Friday 12th June, at 9:15am.

If you would like you child to be included and haven't yet given permission, please email giving consent to [Clcoffice@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:Clcoffice@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk). It would be lovely to have as many of the children in the photo as possible, so please ensure that you arrive promptly at 9am on this day, so that your child can be in the photo. If your child does not normally attend on Fridays, and you would like them to be in the photo, please bring them along to Pre-School at 9am.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes

Jane Turner

Early Years Teacher and Pre-School Manager