

Newsletter 1

Friday 5th September 2025

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Welcome to the New School Year

A very warm welcome back to the new school year. The torrential downpour on Wednesday morning did not seem to be the most auspicious start to the year but the children's smiles and delight at seeing their friends chased away any concerns and within a matter of minutes the building was ringing with laughter and joyful chatter. It has been wonderful catching up with everyone's news and hearing about their exciting Summer holiday adventures.

On Monday we will be welcoming the newest members of the Monkfield Park family to school when our new Reception children begin their school journey. This is always an exciting time as it is full of hopes and expectations for the future.

We hope that many of you will be able to join us for our 'Meet the Teacher' evening on Monday. The teachers will be explaining the daily routines and expectations that we have for the children in addition to covering the learning and events that will be taking place in each year group. It is so important for the children's learning that we work together and learn from each other so I do hope you will join us at 4pm or 5pm for the presentations for your child's year group.

With kindest wishes
Mrs Howell.

Introducing Mrs Dodds



We are delighted to welcome Mrs Andi Dodds to the Monkfield Park family. Mrs Dodds is joining us as our new SENCO. She will be working very closely with Mrs Major and Mrs Ray as they hand over the SENCO role to her. Mrs Dodds previously worked in Suffolk and is very excited to be moving to Cambridgeshire and to Monkfield Park. Mrs Dodds will be working Monday to Wednesday each week and can be contacted via the school office. If you see her on the playground in the mornings, please do introduce yourselves.

Mrs Major and Mrs Ray will now have a different working pattern. Mrs Ray will work from Monday to Wednesday each week and Mrs Major will work Wednesday to Friday.

Emergency Alerts

On Sunday 7th September at 3pm, the government will be carrying out a national test of the Emergency Alert system. This means most mobile phones and tablets across the UK will receive a test message, accompanied by a loud siren-like sound and vibration that will last for about 10 seconds.

The message you receive will clearly state that this is a test and that no action is required on your part. The alert will come through even if your device is set to silent mode, which is an important feature of the system designed to ensure people receive warnings in genuine emergencies.

Compatible smartphones and tablets will display the alert message on screen, make the distinctive siren sound, and vibrate. The sound is designed to be attention-grabbing and will override your normal volume settings. This ensures the alert can reach you even if your phone is on silent or you're in a noisy environment.

Not all devices will receive the alert. Older phones or those not connected to 4G or 5G networks may not be compatible with the system. You can find more detailed information about device compatibility at gov.uk/alerts.

However, some people may be placed at risk by these alerts sounding on concealed phones. To switch off the alerts, follow the instructions below.

How iPhone users can switch alerts off:

1. Access your phone's 'Settings' app.
2. Scroll down and select 'Notifications'.
3. At the very bottom of the page, you'll find a section titled 'Emergency Alerts'.
4. Use the toggles to disable 'Emergency Alerts' and any other relevant alerts (if they are grey, they are already switched off).

How Android users can switch alerts off:

The steps might differ slightly depending on your phone model. However, generally, you should:

1. Navigate to the 'Settings' app on your mobile.
2. Search for 'Emergency Alerts'.
3. Deactivate 'Severe & Emergency alerts' and any other listed threat categories.

Further information about the alerts can be found on: [//www.gov.uk/alerts](http://www.gov.uk/alerts)



FORTHCOMING DATES

8th September—New Reception children start school until 12.00 noon

8th September—Meet the teacher evening

11th September—New Reception children in school until 1.00pm

15th September—New Reception children in full time until 3.30pm

22nd September—OPAL presentation for parents

22nd to 25th September—Bikeability Level 2 for Year 6 children

25th September—Flu vaccinations

26th September—Bikeability Level 1 for Year 4 children

26th September—Friends of Monkfield Park (FOMP) AGM at 3.30pm

1st October—Year 1 trip to Castle Headingham

6th October—Individual photographs

10th October—Phoenix Class Assembly

14th October—Parent consultation evening

23rd October—Parent consultation evening

20th October—Online Safety week

24th October—Break up for Half Term

27th to 31st October—HALF TERM

3rd November—Children return to school

26th to 28th November—Children's Art Gallery

9th December—Y1 and Y2 Christmas production

10th December—Y1 and Y2 Christmas production

16th December—Y4 Christmas Carol Concert

17th December—Y4 Christmas Carol Concert



If you have a child who will be three in September you can book places for the Autumn term in our pre-school now. Graded Good by Ofsted in June 2024 we can provide 15/30 hours of funded provision with a qualified Early Years teacher and dedicated and supportive Early Years staff, in a caring and nurturing learning environment. We are open from 8.00 am to 6.00 pm during term time and welcome visits from parents and carers. Please contact the school office to arrange a visit and discover the Monkfield Way. Please contact us on:01954 273377 or by e-mail: clcoffice@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk

Don't Forget Your Wellingtons

The rain has definitely returned this week but despite the inclement weather we have been using the field at lunchtime, much to the children's delight. However, it is now beginning to get very muddy again and our newly cleaned carpets are already suffering from the mud trampled in on the children's shoes. Please can you make sure your child has a pair of wellingtons, waterproof boots or a change of shoes in school for lunchtime play. These can be stored in school in the green cabinets outside the classrooms. Please can you remind your child that they need to bring a warm, waterproof coat to school each day but their wellingtons, boots or spare shoes should stay in school. It is also a good idea to make sure your child has a spare pair of socks in case their feet get very wet. If you have any spare wellingtons you no longer need, Mrs Hickmott will be happy to take these off your hands. Thank you for your help with this.



Reception 2026 Tours



We appreciate that selecting the right school for your child is not an easy decision to make. Each parent and carer is looking for a school that will make the educational experience as motivating and rewarding as possible for their child. To help you make this important decision we would like to welcome parents and carers into school to see at first hand what makes Monkfield Park such a special place to learn. We are offering a number of parent tours so that you can see the school in action and talk with the Headteacher and staff.

Please join us for one of our parent tours which can be booked by contacting the school office on 01954 273377 or by email :office@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk The tour dates are:

Thursday 11th September at 10am

Thursday 18th September at 10am

Tuesday 30th September at 2pm

Friday 10th October at 9.30am

Wednesday 22nd October at 2pm

Thursday 13th November at 5pm

Tuesday 25th November at 10am

Friday 5th December at 2pm

Thursday 11th December at 10am

We very much look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school and hope you will join us for one of the tours. If you are unable to make any of these dates, please contact the school office and we will be happy to arrange a mutually convenient date for you to visit the school and meet the Headteacher.