

Newsletter 11

Friday 27th November 2020

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Communications with Staff

Staff have been working extremely hard throughout the pandemic to ensure the school runs effectively, efficiently and safely for everyone and that every child continues to receive a first class education. We are aware that these are stressful times for all our parents, carers and families but would ask, that when communicating with our staff, you remember that they are also facing the same levels of stress. If you wish to speak with any member of the school staff we politely request that you do so respectfully and courteously. At times the staff are operating under significant time restraints, but we will endeavour to respond to any requests or enquiries as quickly as we possibly can. We always welcome visitors to our school and we will act to ensure it remains a safe place for pupils, staff and other members of our community.

Mrs Howell

Tis the Season—Christmas Guidelines

Many of you have been asking about arrangements for Christmas as the festive season is almost upon us. The Local Authority has issued us with further guidance which will allow everyone to share some seasonal good cheer whilst keeping everyone safe.

Christmas Cards

Children will be able to bring Christmas cards to school to send to their friends and members of staff. However, to ensure this is done safely, all cards will need to be quarantined for 72 hours before they can be distributed. Cards can be brought to school from **Monday 7th December** and each class will have post boxes in which to post the cards. Following quarantine the cards will be distributed to the children. We will not be able to accept any cards after **3.30 pm on Monday 14th December** in order to ensure delivery by Friday 18th December.

Christmas Jumpers

The annual Christmas lunch will be served on Thursday **17th December**. Although it will be a little different to previous years, children can still enter in to the Christmas spirit by wearing their Christmas jumpers instead of their usual school sweatshirts or cardigans on this day, if they would like to. We are suggesting that if children would like to wear a Christmas jumper they may make a voluntary donation of £1 to Blue Smile—the local charity we are supporting this year. Blue Smile provides therapy and support in schools across Cambridgeshire to help children to be happier and emotionally healthy following a crisis.



Year 2 Rewinding Time

Leaving Cambourne in the year 2020 firmly behind them, Year 2 were transported back in time to London in the year 1666. Their mission—to investigate what really took place at the infamous bakery in Pudding Lane. Dressed in authentic costumes from the Stuart period, the children fully immersed themselves in a wide range of activities which gave them an insight into what life was like for the people

of the capital city at this time. The children baked bread, made models of Tudor houses, created fire pictures and rounded off the day with the story of Sammy, the

Street Dog, who became trapped in St Paul's Cathedral

during the fire.



School Admissions September 2021



It may seem that September 2021 is a long way off. However, the closing date for applications for primary school places for September 2021 is approaching very quickly. All applications must be made online via the

Citizen Portal and received by midnight on 15th January 2021. Applications received by this date will receive the offer of a place in April 2021. Applications received after this date will not be considered until the second round of applications.

Families in Cambourne have a very difficult task as they have four primary schools to choose from. At this time of year we would normally be welcoming prospective parents to visit the school and see our vibrant learning community in action. As we are unable to welcome visitors into school at the moment for everyone's safety, we are offering zoom tours and meetings with Mrs Howell to assist prospective parents in making this important decision.

If you know of any families who would like to find out more about the exciting educational opportunities we offer at Monkfield Park, please do encourage them to contact the school office on 01954 273377 or by e-mail on: office@monkfielpark.cambs.sch.uk to arrange a virtual visit to our school.

A Very Kind Gift

We are so very grateful to the Sewa Day Charity for their extremely kind donation to our school funds. The charity is inspired by the concept of selfless service, which involves performing an act of kindness without expectation of reward. Previously, Sewa Day has organised volunteering projects in old people's homes, homeless shelters, schools in disadvantaged areas, hospitals and hospices, with the aim of making a positive difference to someone else's happiness and prosperity. During the recent Diwali celebrations, local members of this wonderful charity decided to fundraise in order to give a cash donation to local schools to bring some light and excitement to the children during these difficult times. We will ensure that their donation brings joy and light to the pupils at Monkfield Park over the coming weeks.

Thank you from The Poppy Appeal

Thanks to everyone who supported the annual Poppy Appeal this year. Despite the restrictions placed on us by the Covid-19 pandemic, Monkfield Park managed to raise an amazing £314. 98. The Poppy Appeal wrote to us this week to express their gratitude for making the appeal such a success.



Headteacher Roll of Honour

Finley in Columba Class—Finley really has got the ‘reading bug’ and has set himself a target of reading 17 books this week. This is an amazing achievement Finley and we are all super impressed by your dedication and new-found love of books.

Eden in Blue Class—Eden has taught herself to skip and is now helping other children in her year group to develop this skill. She didn’t find it easy, but she persevered and kept practising until she mastered it. Thank you Eden for showing everyone how beneficial active playtimes are for our wellbeing.

Zain in Green Class—Zain has impressed us all with his love of learning and determination to succeed. He has really pushed himself to produce the very best work that he can across the curriculum. Well done Zain, you should feel very proud of your achievements.

Sentence Starters

Ask your Reception child to describe three things they would put in a magic potion.

Ask your Year 1 child to tell you about two things they are thankful for.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you about their favourite activity from The Great Fire of London WOW day .

Ask your Year 3 child to tell you how shadows are formed.

Ask your Year 4 child at what temperature will ice begin to melt?

Ask your Year 5 child to explain how we make a science investigation a fair test.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain how living creatures are classified.

FORTHCOMING DATES 2020 to 2021

These dates may be subject to change if there are changes in Government and Local Authority guidance over the coming weeks.

10th December —Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert zoom at 5pm and 6pm

11th December—Y1 Nativity zoom at 5pm and 6pm

17th December—Christmas lunch

18th December—LAST DAY OF TERM

19th December—1st January 2021—CHRISTMAS BREAK

4th January INSET Day

5th January - Children return to school.

