

# Newsletter 14

Friday 15th December 2023

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## Wishing You All A Very Merry Christmas

As this will be my last newsletter for 2023, on behalf of all the staff, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to you all for all your support throughout 2023. Every day you give us the joy of working with your children and the honour of seeing them grow and progress in their studies as well as socially and emotionally. Those moments are what makes our job the best in the world and far outweighs all the negatives that we hear about constantly in the press. Watching the children in Year 1 presenting the story of the Nativity and listening to the children in Year 3 and Year 4 continuing the ancient tradition of singing Christmas carols filled me with pride and reminded me of what an honour it is to be the headteacher of this truly remarkable school.

The coming week is already jam packed with Christmas festivities and promises to be a very busy one, but I hope I will have the chance to wish you 'Seasons Greetings' in person on the playground. However, just in case I am detained in school, I will take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas. With kindest regards.

Mrs Howell.



## Christmas Jumpers and Christmas Lunch Reminder

Just a reminder that Tuesday is Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day.

To add to the festivities, if children would like to wear a Christmas jumper on this day, instead of their school sweatshirt or cardigan, we are suggesting that they may make a voluntary donation of £1 which we will donate to our charity of the year, which is The National Heart Foundation. Children should wear their normal school trousers or skirt with their Christmas jumper.

Please note that this is just for Tuesday 19th December and children are expected to wear normal school uniform on Monday and Wednesday next week.



## Remember To Book Your Lunches

The Spring Term menu is now available on School Grid and you are able to book your child's lunches for the Spring Term. Please can we remind you to order your child's lunches before the start of the Spring term on 8th January to ensure that your child is able to have their choice of meal.

### A Christmas Concert

The children in Year 3 and Year 4 dispelled the winter chill as they raised their voices in song at their festive carol concert. The audience were treated to a rendition of traditional carols, readings and music which brought the message of Christmas of peace and goodwill to us all. Congratulations and a big thank you to all of the children for giving us a truly magical start to our Christmas celebrations.

### A Very Twinkly Nativity



Everyone loves a 'star cast' and we certainly had our own in school this week as Year 1 presented their shiny re-telling of the traditional Nativity story. Full of joy and some exceptional singing, plus the usual smattering of tea towels and lots of glitter, all the children delighted in recounting the Christmas story for their families and friends. A huge thank you to all the children for bringing some magical stardust to our Christmas celebrations.



### School Uniform Reminder

We pride ourselves on our school uniform as we believe it sets the high level expectation which we ask the children to apply to everything we do in school. As a school we aim to make our school uniform as simple and affordable as possible. The listed items are available from most supermarkets. If you would like to purchase the items with the school logo, these can be ordered online from [myclothing.com](http://myclothing.com)

A KNEE LENGTH grey skirt, grey school trousers or grey school shorts.

White shirt or polo shirt

Dark green sweatshirt or cardigan

Black school shoes

Please note that black leggings, short skirts and sweatshirts with advertising logos are not allowed to be worn as part of school uniform. Training shoes and UGG type boots are not acceptable as school shoes.

We will be checking that children are wearing their correct school uniform and kindly request that you inform us if you have any problems obtaining items of school uniform.

FOMP have a good stock of second hand uniform which can be purchased from the School Office at very reasonable prices. Please can we also remind you to name each item of clothing to enable us to reunite lost items of clothing with their owners.

### Applying for a School Place

If your child was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020, and you live in Cambridgeshire you need to apply for a Reception place for September 2024 before the **closing date of 15th January 2024. Applications received after this date will not be considered until the second round of allocations in May.**

You can apply online at <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/primary-reception-junior-or-middle-school>

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.

The next tour date is:

**Wednesday 10th January at 2pm**

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 this date, please contact the school office and we will be happy to arrange a mutually convenient date for you to visit.



# Headteacher Roll of Honour

Each week this space will provide a celebration of children who may be especially noticed for demonstrating learning or behaviour that we feel should be recognised and commended. This week I would like to congratulate some groups of children:

Adelaide and Lydia in Dorado Class: We are very proud of the amazing writing the children in our school produce every day but we are bursting with pride this week as we have been informed that Adelaide and Lydia have reached the semi-finals of the prestigious BBC 500 Words competition. This is an incredible achievement as there were over 100,000 entries! Well done to both girls who are very talented writers and have written wonderful, original stories. We wish you much luck for the next round of the competition.

All the children in Blue and Green Classes and the children in Columba, Dorado, Aquila and Cygnus Classes for their fantastic Christmas performances this week. You are all so talented and you impressed us all with your joy, energy and enthusiasm and made us all so proud. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to bring some magical Christmas stardust to us all.

## Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to tell you the steps to follow to make a jam sandwich.

Ask your Year 1 child to tell you how you can be a good friend.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you what their favourite part of their learning has been this term.

Ask your Year 3 child to tell you the features of a non-chronological report.

Ask your Year 4 child to tell you the factor pairs for 36.

Ask your Year 5 child to tell you the steps to follow to make a classic Victoria sponge.

Ask your Year 6 child to tell you the features of a newspaper report.

## Remember Your Wellingtons

We would like to open up the field all year round to allow the children to have more room to run and play. However, to allow us to do this, every child will need a pair of wellingtons which stay in school for them to change into at break and lunchtime. This will be in addition to the children's school shoes which they will need to wear inside the school buildings and when the weather is dry. If you have any spare wellingtons which your children have grown out of we will be very happy to take them off your hands if you would like to donate them to school. Any donations of wellingtons can be left at the School Office. We will be opening the field up when we return to school in January and our aim is to have every child with a pair of wellingtons in school by that date. Please speak to us if you are experiencing problems sourcing wellingtons.



## **FORTHCOMING DATES Spring Term 2024**

19th December—School Christmas Lunch (wear your Christmas Jumper)

19th December—Choir performance at Cavendish Court during the day.

20th December—LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM

21st December—3rd January 2024—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

4th & 5th January—INSET Days (school closed for children)

8th January—Children return to school for Spring term

10th January—Swimming lessons begin for Year 4

10th January—Tour for prospective parents at 2pm—spaces available

22nd to 26th January—International Week

26th January—Columba Class assembly

2nd February—NSPCC Number Day

5th to 9th February—Children’s Mental Health Week

6th February—Parent/Carer Therapeutic Thinking Workshops

8th February—Reception Come and Share

9th February—Blue Class assembly

13th February—Year 2 performance at 2pm

14th February—Year 2 performance at 2pm

16th February—Break up for half term

19th to 23rd February—Half Term

26th February—Children return to school

5th March—Dental checks for Reception and Year 1

8th March—Cygnus Class assembly

12th March—Parent consultations 5pm till 7:30pm

15th March—Violet Class assembly

18th to 22nd March—STEM week

18th to 21st March—Book Fayre

21st March—Parent consultations 4pm till 6:30pm

22nd March—Green Class assembly

26th March—Year 5 production at 2pm

27th March—Year 5 production at 6pm

28th March—Last day of Spring Term

29th March to 12th April—Easter holidays

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

### Room News

This week we have been continuing with our Christmas theme. The children have been busy making Christmas tree cards to take home to their families and also doing a great job at writing their names inside. The children have also really enjoyed playing with our wooden Nativity set, re-telling the story of Christmas in their own words. We have been practising our Christmas songs every day as well, so don't forget to come to our Christmas Song Time next week on Tuesday 19th at 9.15 am. Everyone is welcome to attend and don't forget Christmas Jumpers on that day!

All the staff at the Care and Learning Centre would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a lovely relaxing break. See you all again on 8th January!

Best wishes

JANE TURNER

