

Newsletter 16

Friday 13th January 2023

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A Penguin Huddle

I consider myself to be very lucky as I have one of the best jobs in the world. The children enrich my life in so many ways and you can never predict what is going to happen. So it was not at all unusual to find myself at the centre of a 'penguin huddle' this week! One of the highlights of my day is to spend time in the classrooms talking to children about their learning, so it was with great excitement that I joined our Reception children this week to discover what they had been learning about. The children's topic for this term is 'Amazing Animals' and this week they have been learning about how animals adapt to keep themselves warm in the extreme conditions of the Arctic and Antarctica. Before I knew it I found myself in the middle of a 'penguin huddle' being kept snug and warm by our Reception 'penguins'. The children told me that temperatures can rise to a toasty 37 degrees Celsius in the huddle and that male Emperor penguins incubate the eggs on their feet whilst the females go off to hunt for food. We had great fun moving through the huddle to make sure that the 'penguin' in the centre didn't overheat! We all agreed that penguins are rather clever creatures, just like our wonderful Reception children.

Mrs Howell

Priory Walk Car Park



We have been alarmed and dismayed this week to receive a number of reports regarding inappropriate and aggressive behaviour by parents/carers in the Priory Walk car park. I have been informed that adults have verbally abused others and have used extremely inappropriate language in front of children. These behaviours are clearly very upsetting for those who witness them and cause considerable distress.

Please can I remind parents and carers that we take all reports of violence and aggression seriously and will not tolerate this type of behaviour. As Priory Walk is a public car park which is owned and administered by the Town Council, we will register details of such incidents with the police. We would also urge anyone who is the victim of any violent and aggressive behaviours to report them to the police.

I have discussed our concerns about the car parks with both the Town Council and police and have requested that the police carry out spot checks at peak times.

I would be grateful if you could support our values of tolerance, courtesy and respect on the school grounds and in areas adjacent to the school at all times. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Reception Places 2023



The deadline for
applying for you
child's school
reception place is:

**JANUARY
15**

The deadline for making applications for a Reception place for September 2023 is fast approaching.

All applications must be made to the Admissions Team by midnight on 15th January 2023. Any applications received after this date will be entered into the second round.

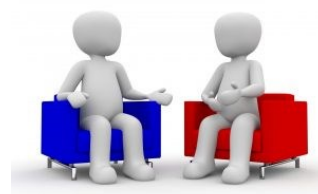
We appreciate that selecting the right school for your child is not an easy decision to make. Each parent and carer is looking for a school that will make the educational experience as motivating and rewarding as possible for their child whilst also helping them to develop as resilient, socially aware young people. To help you make this important decision we would like to welcome parents and carers to our school to see at first hand what makes Monkfield Park such a special place to learn. If you would like to arrange a visit to talk to us about what we can offer you and your child please contact the school office and we will be very happy to arrange a tour for you.

For further information you can also visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions. Alternatively, you can contact the Admissions Team by telephone on 0345 045 1370 or by e-mail on: admissions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Headteacher Parent Drop Ins

Mrs Howell, the Headteacher, will be offering parent drop ins for anyone who wishes to discuss any aspect of school life throughout the Spring term. The dates can be found below, but please remember that these are offered on a first come, first served basis and you may therefore have to wait.

20th January 9.30—10.30am	24th Feb 2.30-3.30pm
25th January 8.30—9.30am	8th March 8.30-9.30am
31st January 2.30—3.30	23rd March 9.30—10.30am
8th February 3-4pm	19th March 4.30—5.30pm



Nail Varnish

We have had a number of children returning to school after the weekend wearing nail varnish.

Please can we remind you that nail varnish is not permitted as part of the school uniform at Monkfield Park. We would be grateful if you could ensure that your child removes all makeup and nail varnish before returning to school on Monday mornings.



FORTHCOMING DATES SPRING TERM 2023

19th January—Network CB23 Public Speaking competition

19th January—Year 6 SATs information evening for parents

27th January—Cygnus Class assembly

2nd February—Year 5 and Year 6 Friendship Games

3rd February— Indigo Class assembly

7th February - Safer Internet Day

8th February—Year 1 WOW Day

9th February—Year 3 WOW Day

10th February—Dorado Class assembly

10th February—Reception children vision screening

28th February—Year 6 scooter workshops

2nd March—World Book Day

3rd March—Green Class assembly

10th March—Mid term reports sent to parents

10th—15th March—Book fair in school

13th March—Year 6 transition meeting at CVC

15th March—Reception Spring Singing performance

16th March—Reception Spring Singing performance

17th March—Red Nose day

17th March –Aquila Class assembly

21st March—Y5 and Y6 Rugby Tournament

21st March—Parent consultation evening

27th March—Healthy Lifestyles Week

27th March—Team afternoon

30th March—Parent consultation evening

31st March —LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM

17th April—INSET Day

18th April—Start of Summer term

Head Lice



We have received reports from a number of parents this week that their children have head lice. As is always the case, once these tricky little creatures are established they spread across the school very quickly. The NHS recommends that you check your child's hair every week using a fine toothed detection comb (available from pharmacies). This can be done when the hair is wet or dry. If you find live lice or eggs (nits) it is important that you treat your child's hair immediately. Your pharmacist will be able to advise you about suitable treatments. Sadly there is nothing you can do to prevent head lice but you can reduce the risk of head to head transmission by checking your child's hair thoroughly every week. Thank you for your vigilance and support in this matter.

The Friends of Monkfield Park (FOMP) Second Hand Uniform Shop

Everyone is feeling the effects of the economic crisis at the moment and so you may be interested to know that the Friends of Monkfield Park (FOMP) have a designated Facebook page where they are able to sell second hand school uniform at very reasonable prices. The items of uniform are in a very good condition and have all been washed and packaged. If you would like to purchase school uniform please visit the FOMP Facebook page on:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2556997784615436/> or simply by searching 'Monkfield Park Second Hand Uniform' on Facebook. Alternatively, please speak to the school office.

Annul Parent/Carer Questionnaires



Parent questionnaires are very important to us because they let us know how you, the parents and carers, think we are doing. We think your feedback is a crucial part of your child's education and it is vital that you have the opportunity to tell us about what we do well and where we can make improvements. The questionnaires for School and the Care & Learning Centre will be available to complete online from 10.00 am on

Monday 16th January for two weeks. All the questionnaires can be accessed using the links below.

School Parent/Carer Questionnaire 2023: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/14aXQFDqYtGbmTKynKHbPZhidYdx4Lr6UhNVwdE3yAdU>

Care and Learning Centre Parent/Carer Questionnaire 2023: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tLmn8KS4zOtqZbLnjgBuw7z476nebHC70sEfwqiITPA>

Out of School Club Parent/Carer Questionnaire 2023: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1TbVNC-8rvH-IRPK9rcOr2F2htkhs4vYz6GGawEKf7cU>

We do hope you will take the time to complete the questionnaires as we value all your feedback.

Headteacher Roll of Honour

Each week this space will provide a celebration of those 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:

Bhaves in Green Class: Bhaves takes his education and time in school very seriously by always trying his best and putting in 100% effort into everything he does in class. I have been so impressed by his focus and determination to make the most of his learning.

Lydia in Indigo Class: Lydia always demonstrates the values from our 'Monkfield Way' and tries to be the best version of herself in all circumstances. She is always kind and helpful and ready to lend a hand to anyone who needs kind words or support. Thank you Lydia.

Smayan in Pegasus Class: Smayan's work is always of the highest standard because he is determined to make it the best that it can be. I am always so impressed by the quiet, unassuming way that Smayan approaches every challenge and is such an excellent role model for everyone.

Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to tell you some facts they have learnt about penguins.

Ask your Year 1 child to tell you about the four seasons.

Ask your Year 2 child to name all the different coins and notes we can use to buy things.

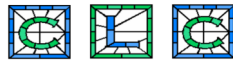
Ask your Year 3 child to tell you the steps for the expanded multiplication method.

Ask your Year 4 child to tell you about something that they feel they are good at.

Ask your Year 5 child to compare the properties of jelly and wood.

Ask your Year 6 child to convince you that Robin Hood is a hero or a villain.

Monkfield Park



Care and Learning Centre



For general queries regarding the Care and Learning Centre, please contact the school office by e-mail on: 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

Welcome

A very warm welcome to our new children and families who have started at the Care and Learning Centre this week. It has been wonderful to see how quickly the children have settled, as well as their enthusiasm to explore their new surroundings. Well done for such a great start!

Room News

This week, the children in the Rabbit Group have been learning about rhyming words. We have read the story 'Oi Frog' and had great fun thinking about which words rhyme in the book. I wonder if any of the children can remember the things that each of the animals in the story sat on? We have also learnt a funny rhyming song about cats wearing hats and ants wearing pants! Maybe your child can sing it to you at home? There will be lots more rhyming stories and games to follow over the next few weeks as the children extend this learning.

The children in the Hedgehog Group have been busy learning the new room routines as well as how to care for and tidy away their resources. They have particularly enjoyed using the super new wooden sandpit which we have recently purchased for the Hedgehog Room outdoor area.

