

Newsletter 39

Friday 17th July 2026

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Heartfelt Thanks and Farewell

Well we have made it to the end of another year with so much to celebrate. As I prepare to retire and begin a new chapter, I would like to take a moment to thank everyone who has been part of my journey at Monkfield Park over the last 21 years. It has been an absolute privilege to work alongside such dedicated colleagues, wonderful children, supportive families, governors, and members of our wider school community. The memories we have created together, the challenges we have overcome, and the achievements we have celebrated will stay with me forever.

I have been truly overwhelmed by the kindness shown to me through your thoughtful messages, your incredibly generous gifts, cards, and warm wishes. Your words have meant so much and have made this farewell incredibly special. I feel very fortunate to have been part of such a caring and supportive community.

While it is difficult to say goodbye, I leave with a heart full of gratitude and pride for all that we have accomplished together. Thank you for the friendship, laughter, encouragement, and support you have given me over the years. I am truly grateful and the Monkfield Park Family will always be very special to me.

As I sign off for the final time, I wish you all every success and happiness for the future.

With sincere thanks and best wishes,

Mrs Howell

The Children's Commissioner

Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner for England, wants children to take part in her Big Future Survey. Dame Rachel wants young people to reflect on their experiences, share what matters most to them, and tell her about their hopes and ambitions for the future in their own words. The Big Future Survey asks children about the things they enjoy, the challenges they face, the changes they would like to see in their communities, and what they believe a good childhood should look like today. It is very important that children know that they have a voice and that their views and opinions are listened to and represented when policies are formulated that will have a direct impact on their futures. Please do encourage your child to take part and share their views. The survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete and your child can access the survey using the link below:

<http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>



Help Your Child to Discover the Joy of Reading This Summer

This Summer, give your child the chance to fall in love with reading! The Summer Reading Challenge, created by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with public libraries, is a FREE, fun-packed way to keep kids reading and learning all Summer long. This year's theme, Read to the Beat, is powered by Universal Music Group UK. The Challenge will celebrate the joy of music and the power it has to move, inspire, and connect us – all through the magic of reading. The Challenge is being brought to life with illustrations by award-winning author and illustrator, Harry Woodgate. Why not pop into the library and register for free now or scan the QR code below for more exciting information.



2026 Summer Reading Challenge

READ to the BEAT

Explore music and sound this summer through amazing books and activities.

Complete this year's challenge and receive your very own 'Read to the Beat' medal and certificate!

Sign up for free at your local library from Saturday 4th July

SCAN ME



Find out more here

Collect your special 'Read to the Beat' stickers from Sat 18th July



Cambridgeshire Libraries

THE READING Summer Reading Challenge

Cambridgeshire County Council

FORTHCOMING DATES SUMMER AND AUTUMN TERM 2026

- 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**
- 7th September—New Reception children begin school until 12 noon**
- 8th September—New Reception children begin school until 12 noon
- 8th September—Meet the teacher evening**
- 9th September—New Reception children begin school until 12 noon
- 10th September—New Reception children in school until 1.00 pm
- 11th September—New Reception children in school until 1.00 pm
- 14th September—New Reception children in school full time
- 25th September—Reception 2027 parent and child session
- 28th September to 1st October—Year 6 Bikeability
- 5th October—Individual and sibling photographs
- 16th October—Reception 2027 parent and child session
- 23rd October—Break up for half term
- 26th October to 30th October—Half term
- 2nd November—Children return to school
- 5th November—Reception Come and Share
- 13th November—Reception 2027 parent and child session

Sentence starters

- Ask your Reception child to explain how they won the Golden Welly award.
- Ask your Year 1 child to explain how they designed and made their box.
- Ask your Year 2 to explain what an algorithm is.
- Ask your Year 3 child to tell you what they have enjoyed learning about this year.
- Ask your Year 4 child to tell you what their favourite writing style is and why.
- Ask your Year 5 child to tell you about an England football player they are proud of and why.
- Ask your Year 6 child to tell you what their favourite memory of Monkfield Park will be.



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

Leavers' Celebration

Yesterday morning we held our Care and Learning Centre Leavers' Celebration. The classroom was packed out with family members who came to help celebrate the wonderful Rabbit Group children who are leaving Pre-School tomorrow. Each child was presented with a personalised Learning Book which contained pictures and writing about the amazing experiences and learning that has taken place during their time with us. We also entertained our families with some wonderful singing. We are so proud of each and every one of the children and the progress they have made during their time at C&LC. It has been a privilege to be part of their individual learning journeys and to watch them grow and blossom.

The staff team would like to wish you all a very happy and restful Summer holiday!

Best wishes

Jane Turner

Early Years Teacher and Pre-School Manager