

Newsletter 31

Friday 19th May 2023

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A Change of Date

Unfortunately, it has been necessary to change the date of the Reception and Key Stage 1 Sports Day, due to circumstances beyond our control. Sports Day for Reception and Key Stage 1 children will now take place a day later on the morning of Thursday 22nd June. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

This week has been National Walk to School Week and we have been encouraging the children to try to walk, scoot or cycle to school if at all possible. Not only is this good for the children's physical health, it is also beneficial for their mental health and wellbeing. The other advantage is that it also reduces the number of cars using the Priory Walk Car Park, which causes so much stress each morning.

Reception and Key Stage 1 children have also enjoyed their 'Wellbeing Wednesday' for this term with a day full of exciting extra-curricular activities.

Mrs Howell

BREAK THE RULES DAY!

Are you ready for BREAK THE RULES DAY?

Do you want to wear that bright purple nail varnish without Mrs Howell telling you to take it off?

Want to show off that amazing outfit? Can't wait to try out that wacky hairstyle? Would love to wear your favourite trainers when it isn't your PE day?

WELL YOU CAN!

We are very excited to announce that next Friday, May 26th, sees the return of FOMP's hugely popular Break the Rules Day.

This is not just a day of fun for your child's inner rebel but a very important fundraising event for FOMP. Each year FOMP raises vital funds which help to subsidise the cost of coaches for school trips, purchase books for the school library and provide treats and special events for each year group throughout the year.

There is no obligation to take part in the Break the Rules Day, however if your child would like to participate then they can choose any number of rules to break from the list. There is a 'FINE' of 50p for each rule broken or for £2.50 you can break ALL the rules on the list!

We aim to make this an exciting, fun experience; however, children will be reminded that all other school rules still apply!



Year 1 Down on the Farm

The children in Year 1 visited Bury Farm this week to learn about rare breed animals. Everyone had a great time meeting lots of animals, including alpacas, sheep, piglets, goats, rats and guinea pigs. The children were able to interact with the animals and were delighted to be able to stroke some of the farm's friendliest residents. They then went on an exploration of the woods to find out about the insects that live there. All the children had a fantastic time and loved the hands on learning.



Wellbeing Wednesdays

Wellbeing Wednesday came at just the right time for Reception and Key Stage One after a busy half term. The children came off timetable for the day to try out different activities purely for enjoyment.

There was a fabulous array of workshops on offer to the children:- drawing and doodling, printing, making puff pastry pizzas, junk modelling, coding games, multi-sports, fun with stories and 'Frozen' musical theatre.

Across the key stage, there was a calm and relaxed atmosphere, with the children fully engrossed in their chosen activities. I think some of the comments from the children continue to show how beneficial Wellbeing Wednesdays continue to be for the children.

"I played dodgeball with my friends. I loved it." Archie (Orange)

"These pizzas are the most delicious I've eaten." Kameron (Yellow)

"We got to use wands and hats. My friend was Sven and it was funny." Ashley (Yellow)

Key Stage Two have their Wellbeing Wednesday coming up on Wednesday 7th June.



Heroes of Troy

The children in Year 5 brought us a truly memorable performance with their production, Heroes of Troy. Telling the story of the Trojan War, as recounted in the epic poem *The Iliad*, the children gave us some inspirational acting, wonderful singing, a smattering of dancing, lots of humour and a large wooden horse! The audience was wowed by the amount of talent on show at both performances and we were all left feeling immensely proud of all the children. Well done Year 5 and thank you for your incredible energy and enthusiasm.



Introducing the Governors

Each week I will be introducing some of the members of our governing body.

Ben Yates is our staff governor. Mr Yates has been a member of the teaching staff at Monkfield Park since 2017. During this time he has been responsible for a range of different roles which have given him a solid understanding of the challenges and decisions faced within the school.

Alongside his daily role as a class teacher, Mr Yates is also the Science, PE and extra-curricular clubs lead. Mr Yates says that he enjoys working with his colleagues across the school and organising whole school events such as STEM week and sports day, which provide him with the opportunity to create engaging and memorable experiences for the children.

Ben feels that Monkfield Park is an incredible place to work and learn and says that he is proud to be able to serve as the Staff Elected Governor on the governing body as this helps him to support both the staff and children whilst also helping to make a difference to the school at a strategic level.



Richard Walmsley is the clerk to the governing body. His role is to support the governing body of Monkfield Park Primary in its important task of providing strategic direction for the school.



Richard is now retired from full time employment but has extensive experience in school leadership. As an ex-headteacher, both of schools in this country and in those supporting the British expatriate community as far afield as Kuwait and Indonesia, he has a wide experience of school education at various levels and contrasting contexts.

Richard has also worked as a side-line in radio and television; mainly in news-reading and providing voice-overs for many documentaries and commercial advertisements. In addition to his work with Cambridgeshire's 'CamClerks' service, he is also a supervising marker for End-of Key Stage 2 Tests (SATs).

Headteacher 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 Summer 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 to be seen if there are a number of people waiting to meet with Mrs Howell.

Thursday 8th June 4.00—5.0 0pm

Wednesday 5th July 4.30—5.30pm

Tuesday 20th the June 9.30—10.30pm

Monday 17th July 2.00 —3.00pm



FORTHCOMING DATES SUMMER TERM 2023

22nd to 26th May	PGL week for Year 6
24th May	Year 3 trip to Nene Valley Railway
24th May	Reception Summer Singing Performance at 9.30 am
25th May	Reception Summer Singing Performance at 2.00 pm
26th May	Break the Rules day
26th May	Break up for Half Term
29th May—2nd June	Half Term Holiday
5th June	INSET Day
7th June	Wellbeing Wednesday (KS2)
8th June	Year 5 Bag Packing
9th June	Year 5 Bag Packing
15th June	Whole School Tudor WOW Day
16th June	Class photographs
19th June	Year 5 Harry Potter studios trip
20th June	Year 3 performance at 2.00 pm
22nd June	Reception and KS1 Sports Day (Reserve Sports day on 23rd June)
22nd June	Year 3 performance at 2.00 pm
23rd June	Phoenix Class Assembly
28th June	Key Stage 2 Sports Day (Reserve Sports Day on 4th July)
30th June	Cygnus Class assembly
5th July	Reception Come and Share
6th July	New Reception parent evening
7th July	Reports sent out to parents and carers
11th July	Year 6 performance at 6.00 pm
12th July	Year 6 reports and SATS results sent out to parents and carers
13th July	Year 6 performance at 6.00 pm
18th July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly at 10.00 am
19th July	Last day of the Summer term and school year

Headteacher Roll of Honour

This week I would like to congratulate:

Arlo in Blue Class: I was so impressed with the effort Arlo has been putting into his writing recently. He has produced some wonderful written pieces of work about dinosaurs which are bursting with facts and wonderful descriptions plus neatly formed writing. Well done Arlo.

Victoria in Columba Class: Victoria exemplifies the Monkfield Way and models it beautifully for everyone. She always tries her best in everything and treats everyone with kindness and respect. Thank you Victoria.

Lacey Mae in Aquila Class: Lacey Mae showed great resilience and bravery this week when she pushed herself outside her 'comfort zone' to take part in Kabaddi, and discovered that she really enjoyed it. Great work Lacey Mae.

Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child which part of Little City was the most fun and to explain why.

Ask your Year 1 child to tell you which was their favourite animal that they met at Church Farm.

Ask your Year 2 child to explain how to tell the time to quarter past and quarter to the hour.

Ask your Year 3 child to explain transpiration using terms such as xylem, absorb and phloem.

Ask your Year 4 child to explain how to play Kabaddi.

Ask your Year 5 child to demonstrate friction.

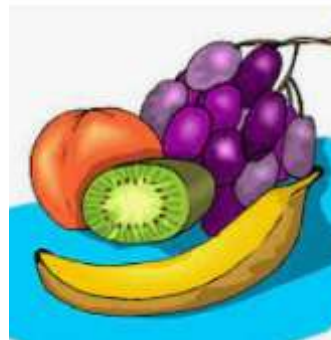
Ask your Year 6 child to explain the plot of 'Murder at Magpie Manor'.

A Healthy School

At Monkfield Park, we are committed to encouraging and developing positive attitudes towards food and a healthy lifestyle. As such we run the KS1 free fruit and vegetable scheme in school. Each pupil in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 is entitled to a piece of fruit or fresh vegetable as a break time snack each day e.g. an apple, orange or a carrot. All pupils in KS1 and KS2 are welcome to bring in their own choice of fruit or vegetable snack to eat at break time each day, should they prefer.

Children are not allowed to bring items such as crisps, biscuits, chocolate, cake and sweets for their snack.

However, we have noticed that some children have been bringing some of these items into school for their morning snack together with squash and flavoured water in their water bottles. Please can we ask that you support the school by only sending fresh fruit and fresh vegetables for snacks and ensuring your child only has plain water in their water bottles.





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

Room News

This week, all five of our butterflies have emerged from their cocoons. The children have watched in awe as they have started to move around the net, feeding and gradually learning to move their wings and fly. Today, all of the children gathered together to release the butterflies into our garden and watch them fly off into the sky! What a fantastic learning experience it has been!

The children in the Rabbit Group have also been looking more closely at butterfly's wings and learning about symmetry. They have made symmetrical paintings by folding paper in half as well as using shapes to create symmetrical patterns.

