

Newsletter 18

Friday 2nd February 2024

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Please Check your Vaccinations

I hope you have received the information we sent out to all parents and carers on Monday concerning the rapid rise in cases of measles. Measles is a highly infectious disease that can lead to serious problems such as pneumonia and meningitis. One child with measles can infect nine out of ten of their unvaccinated close contacts. In recent years, the number of children vaccinated against measles has fallen. Please can I urge you to check that your child is fully up to date with all vaccinations, including MMR which protects against measles. It is never too late to get the MMR vaccination and two doses of the vaccine give long-lasting protection against measles, mumps and rubella. Anyone of any age who has not had the MMR vaccine is urged to contact their GP for advice.

Further information on measles can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>.

If your child has any of the following symptoms: high temperature, a blotchy red brown rash, which usually appears after the initial symptoms, a cough, spots in the mouth or sore, red, watery eyes please contact your GP.

Mrs Howell.

More Health Information

Diarrhoea and Vomiting

Norovirus or the winter vomiting bug is very prevalent at this time of the year and is highly contagious. If your child has gastroenteritis it is important that they stay away from school for 48 hours after their last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea. This allows time for the cycle to be broken and limit its spread. Please make sure your child rests and drinks lots of water to allow them time to recover.

Head Lice

We have been informed of a number of cases of head lice in school. As a mum, I appreciate what a scourge they are and how frustratingly difficult it is to break the cycle and banish these unwelcome visitors. We would appreciate your cooperation in managing this by thoroughly checking your child's hair each week carefully, and treating where necessary. There is no need to buy expensive treatments, as it is effective to apply conditioner to wet hair and use a lice comb to remove any live lice and eggs. Please don't forget that the whole family needs to be checked at the same time and that bedding should be thoroughly washed. More information and support can be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>



Year 4 Maths Challenge

This week, four of our Year 4 pupils represented Monkfield Park in the annual Mathematics Challenge held at St Faith's School, in Cambridge. Working in pairs, the children competed against 51 other teams to solve a range of maths puzzles and problems, which became increasingly tricky and challenging as the rounds progressed! All four children showed great enthusiasm and exceptional team work throughout the competition. Afterwards, the children agreed the event had been great fun and how proud they were of each other. Mr Frame was also very proud as the children were presented with certificates with one of the teams coming in 8th place overall. A huge well done to all the children, we are very proud of you.



Panathlon Challenge

Eight intrepid children from across Key Stage 2 travelled to Cambourne Village College with Mr Yates and Mrs Askew, to take part in the annual Panathlon Challenge. The children participated in a range of sporting challenges with great enthusiasm and determination. Mrs Askew was very impressed by the children's skill and their interactions with the other competitors. We are very proud of all the children and Mr Yates described the team as having boundless enthusiasm and being exemplary ambassadors for Monkfield Park. A huge well done to all the children.



New Age Curling

Mr Yates was back at Cambourne Village College on Thursday, this time with our New Age Kurling team. New Age Kurling has been developed from the original game played on ice to be played in a sports hall on a court. The players deliver their stones along the playing surface (by rolling or pushing) from one end of the court towards the target at the other end. It involves precision, a good aim and great control. The



children enjoy Kurling as a Golden Time activity so they were very pleased to be able to compete against teams from other schools. Everyone had a wonderful time and thoroughly enjoyed the event. Well done to all our New Age Kurlers.

Library Book Amnesty

The library shelves are currently looking a little depleted and we suspect that there are lots of books hiding at home in bedrooms and bags. Please could you check your children's bags and bedrooms and encourage them to return any books they have finished reading. Thank you for your help.



More Parking Issues

I am sorry to have to bring up the issue of parking for the third week running. This week I have been contacted by the Cromwell Veterinary Surgery. The car park adjacent to their premises in Priory Walk is their own private car park for clients and is not owned by the Town Council. The area of the car park which is for their sole use is clearly indicated by signs. The surgery acknowledges that parking can be difficult but they have requested that parents and carers do not park in their dedicated parking bays. It is distressing for their clients who are trying to access the surgery with ill animals if they are unable to park. The practice manager has also reported that parents and carers have been very rude and abusive when asked to move their vehicles. Please can I request that parents and carers do not park in these areas and that our neighbours are treated with courtesy and respect. Thank you for your support in this matter.

School Disco

If you haven't bought your tickets for the school disco, there is only a week to go! It is time to dust off your dancing shoes and don your sequins for the first FOMP event of 2024. There will be three discos for each key stage at the following times:

Years 1 & 2—3.30 to 4.30 pm (children will attend straight from their classes. Please send your child to school with their disco clothes in a separate bag)

Years 3 & 4 - 5.00 pm - 6.00 pm

Years 5 & 6—6.30 pm - 7.30 pm

Tickets cost £3.50 and this includes entrance fee, a drink and pop-corn as a snack. Please purchase your tickets and provide all the relevant pick-up and allergy information required via the FOMP PTA Events page www.pta-events.co.uk/fomp

Tickets can be purchased up until Thursday 8th February.

All money raised from this event will go towards purchasing new books for the school and towards the coach costs for school trips across all years.



Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to retell the story Walking through the Jungle adding sounds and actions.

Ask your Year 1 child to tell you what are the best materials for making furniture and why?

Ask your Year 2 child to explain the different ways we can save energy.

Ask your Year 3 child to tell you about who we can trust online.

Ask your Year 4 child to explain what is meant by an ABAB rhyme scheme in poetry.

Ask your Year 5 child to summarise the plot of their upcoming production.

Ask your Year 6 child to give you an example of a calculation including an algebraic equation.

Headteacher Parent Drop Ins

Do you have something you would like to talk to Mrs Howell about? If so, why not come along to one of the Headteacher's Drop In sessions this term. Mrs Howell 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.

15th February 3.00—4.00 pm

27th March 9.30—10.30 am

28th February 9.00—10.00 am

8th March 8.30-9.30 am

15th March 3.00—4.00 pm



FORTHCOMING DATES Spring Term 2024

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

6th February—Parent's Therapeutic Thinking Workshop at 2.30pm

6th February—Parent's Therapeutic Thinking Workshop at 5.30pm

8th February—Reception Come and Share

9th February—Blue Class assembly

9th February—FOMP School Disco—details to follow

13th February—Year 2 performance at 2pm

14th February—Year 2 performance at 2pm

15th February—Year 1 WOW Day—London

15th February—Headteacher Drop In 3.00 to 4.00pm

16th February—Break up for half term

19th to 23rd February—Half Term

26th February—Children return to school

28th February—SEND Coffee Morning

28th February—Headteacher Drop In 9.00 to 10.00am

5th March—Dental checks for Reception and Year 1

5th March—SEND Coffee Morning

8th March—Cygnus Class assembly

8th March—Mid-term reports to parents

12th March—Parent consultations

14th March—Year 1 trip to Church Farm

15th March—Violet Class assembly

18th to 21st March—Book Fayre from 3.40pm

21st March—Parent consultations

22nd March—Green Class assembly

26th March—Year 5 production at 2 pm

27th March—Year 5 production at 6 pm

28th March—Break up for Easter

29th March to 12th April - Easter Holiday

15th April—Children return to school for start of Summer term

22nd April— Height and Weight measurements for Reception and Year 6

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

Our Families

This week we have continued on from International Week by talking about our families; how we are different in some ways but the same in others. We have been reading a book with pictures of all sorts of different families and the children have been really keen to comment and share things about their own family. We have also continued celebrating our home languages, learning to say "hello" in Tamil, Hindi, Turkish, Arabic, Cantonese, Mandarin, Polish, Greek, French, Urdu, Filipino, Romanian, Telugu, Bangla! WOW!!



Rhyming Stories

Our rhyming story this week has been 'Hairy Maclary' by Lynley Dodd. What a lot of funny names the dogs in this story had! Can anyone remember the words that rhymed with the names in the story? Hairy Maclary from.....? Hercules Morse, big as a? Bottomley Potts, covered in?

Wishing you all a great weekend.

JANE TURNER