

Newsletter 38

Friday 10th July 2026

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What a week!

Whew, we made it to Friday! Between the sizzling heatwave melting everything in sight, Move Up Morning, England's triumphant victory over Mexico and the final tallies rolling in from our spectacular school fete, it has been an absolute whirlwind of a week.

A massive thank you to everyone who came out to support the fete. Seeing our community gather in the sunshine was truly special —braving the soaring temperatures for a turn on the Fompbola or a round of crazy golf. Huge thanks go to the members of FOMP who worked so hard to make the fete happen and to raise an incredible amount of money to support the children in our school. They are all truly wonderful.

The absolute highlight of the week has to be the incredible whole-school drone photograph to mark my retirement. Standing together on the field was a hot and sweaty challenge, but the aerial result looks absolutely magnificent and captures our school spirit perfectly. Thank you to Mr Brackley from the Cambridge Independent for arranging this for us. It will be a very special memento of a very special school.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Howell

Shakespeare Rocks!

Our Year 6 children blew the roof off the hall this week with their spectacular production of Shakespeare Rocks!

This hilarious, high-energy musical brought the life and times of William Shakespeare to the stage with a modern, rock-and-roll twist. Undeterred by the latest heatwave, the children completely embraced their inner historical figures, delivering witty punchlines and some powerful chorus numbers with immense confidence. From managing complex stage directions to supporting one another behind the scenes, the children showed incredible teamwork, courage and maturity. It was the perfect, showstopping extravaganza to mark the end of their time at primary school.

Thank you Year 6, you were fantastic and we are immensely proud of you all.

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

Staff News

Last week I was able to introduce Miss Lowe to you as our new Year 4 , Cygnus Class teacher. Miss Lowe will be getting married over the Summer so when she joins us in September she will be Mrs Lyall. Over the May half term, Mrs Dodds (our SENCO) celebrated her marriage to Mr Day. From September Mrs Dodds will be adopting her married name and will be known as Mrs Day.

We send them both many congratulations from us all at Monkfield Park.

Head Lice!

Although the term is drawing to a close, head lice have not taken a break and we have been informed of a number of cases of head lice in school this week. 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 co-operation in managing this by thoroughly checking your child's hair each week and treating where necessary. There is no need to buy expensive treatments, as it is just as 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/>



Sentence starters

- Ask your Reception child to tell you about the ice cream they made in a bag.
- Ask your Year 1 child to explain how to find a half and quarter of a shape.
- Ask your Year 2 to explain how a postcard differs from a letter.
- Ask your Year 3 child to list the ingredients needed to make a margherita pizza.
- Ask your Year 4 child to explain how co-ordinates work.
- Ask your Year 5 child to describe your family coat of arms.
- Ask your Year 6 child to tell you what William Shakespeare promised to his wife in his Will.

Staying Sun Ready

According to the weather forecast, the sunshine is set to remain with us next week with the temperatures remaining high. Please can you make sure that your child brings a named, re-fillable water bottle to school each day as it is very important that they keep hydrated. It is particularly important that your child brings a sun hat and sun cream to school each day. We are unable to apply sun cream for your child so please apply some before coming to school in the morning and encourage your child to practise applying it themselves on exposed skin. Please can you check the ingredients before sending creams in to school as many of them contain nut oils.



FORTHCOMING DATES SUMMER AND AUTUMN TERM 2026

- 14th July—Reception park trip
- 15th July—OPAL event
- 16th July—Year 6 Leavers' Assembly at 10.00 am
- 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
- 28th September to 1st October—Year 6 Bikeability

Don't Forget to Book Your Child's Lunch

Please can we politely remind you to book your child's school lunches, if you haven't already done so. Booking in advance helps to avoid children becoming upset when they may not be able to have the full choice of meals if you haven't pre-booked. The kitchen staff will always try to accommodate everyone but this week they had to provide a meal for an extra 32 children who had not pre-ordered. This does have repercussions for the kitchen as, with rising food costs and to prevent food wastage, the staff only order sufficient ingredients to prepare the meals for the orders they have on the system.

The full menu for the Summer term is available on School Grid with a wide range of delicious options for everyone. Please can we also ask that you discuss the choices on the menu with your child and order meals that they would like to eat. The kitchen staff are unable to provide replacement meals if your child does not like what you have ordered for them as the kitchen can only cook according to the orders made.

If you have any problems accessing your account or placing orders please speak to the office staff who will be happy to help you.





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

Fred Talk

This week the children in the Rabbit Group have started learning to speak in Fred Talk! Fred is a toy frog from the Read Write Inc phonics scheme who comes to join us for our phonics sessions. Fred doesn't speak like us! Fred splits up the sounds in words and then puts them back together again. For example, he doesn't say, "Cat," like we do, he says, "C-a-t cat!" The children have loved meeting Fred this week and have had great fun waking him up when he's been asleep in his bag! Look out for a video on Evidence Me to help you practise at home.

Happy Fred Talking

Best wishes

Jane Turner

Early Years Teacher and Pre-School Manager