

Newsletter 9

Friday 7th November 2025

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Stand Up to Bullying with Odd Socks Day

We have a zero tolerance approach to bullying in school and will always challenge it and take steps to prevent bullying as soon as we are made aware of it. Anti-bullying is core to many of the units of work the children study in their PSHE lessons across the year and as part of this we always mark National Anti-Bullying week with activities and discussions to remind us that we always have to be prepared to stand up to those who bully. Next week is National Anti-Bullying Week 2025 and we will be starting the week with 'Odd Socks' Day' on Monday 10th November. By wearing odd socks we are symbolising that everyone is different and that children should never be afraid to be themselves. We always stress to the children how we celebrate our differences as a strength at Monkfield Park and how important it is to be accepting of one another. So, on Monday 10th November, we invite you and the children to join children across the UK in wearing odd socks to school, celebrating what makes us all different and special.

With kindest wishes
Mrs Howell.

Attendance

Mrs Walsh, our Family Support Worker, has designed an Attendance Roadmap which explains the steps we have to take as a school to address concerns about attendance. The Roadmap explains each step of the process which is designed to be supportive and to ensure we work with our families to remove all barriers to school attendance.

A full sized version of the roadmap is available on the school website in the Attendance section of Statutory Information.



Monkfield Park Primary School Attendance Roadmap



1. Identify & Prevent

To prevent absences and understand any problems.

We will:

- Check daily: If your child is absent, we'll call or email you right away. We may also visit your home to check they are safe and well.
- Look for warning signs: If your child is at risk of missing 10 half-days (5 full days) in 10 school weeks, we'll contact you to talk about why and offer support.

2. Early Support

Provide support to stop absences continuing.

If your child has missed 10 half-days (5 full days) in 10 school weeks

We will:

- Invite you into school, to discuss concerns and agree on a plan.
- Offer additional support which may include: support from our school Family Support Worker and/or an Early Help Assessment.

3. Formal Support

An Attendance Contract will be offered to formalise our support.

We will:

- Send you a Formal Warning Letter.
- We will ask you to sign a formal Attendance Contract that lasts 3-6 months.

This contract is a nurturing plan with small, achievable goals, which will be regularly reviewed.

4. Warnings

When an Attendance Contract has failed and/or been declined, further actions will be taken.

We will:

- Issue a Formal Warning and/or a 'Notice to Improve' letter.
- Support from the Local Authority will be gained, to reinforce the need for immediate attendance improvement.

5. Legal Action

Legal Action, is a very last resort.

If you take your child out of school without permission (unauthorised term-time absence), or if overall absence continues to be too high despite Steps 1-4, the Local Authority MAY take legal action (like a fine/penalty notice or court action).

Statutory Guidance states that a referral to Children's Social Care for children with 'severe absence' should be considered for intensive support.

PENALTY NOTICE & LEGAL ACTION

1st Offence

Term Time Leave and/or Irregular attendance (10 sessions of Unauthorised Absence or more = Fine of £160 per child, per parent if paid within 28 days. If paid within 21 days this is reduced to £80 per child, per parent.

2nd Offence within 3 years
£160 per child, per parent if paid within 28 days, no reduction available.

3rd Offence within 3 years
NO PENALTY NOTICE considered. The case will be presented to the Magistrates Court under s444 (1) or (1a) of the Education Act.

If found guilty, a fine of up to £2500 per child, per parent can be issued. Convictions for s444 (1a) offences will show up on DBS records.

Tel. 01954 273377

E-mail: office@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk Please talk to us about how we can support you and your child at any time

Year 6 Visit to the Great War Huts

Year 6 have been learning about life in World War I with a visit to the Great War Huts near Bury St Edmunds. They were all inspired by the visit as it brought their learning to life.

The bit that stood out the most for me was holding the rifle, which was really heavy. I also liked exploring the trenches.

Oskar

Exploring the trenches was absolutely amazing, it made me feel like a real soldier in WW1. We found the soldier's rooms where they lived and even the toilets.

I really enjoyed our school trip to the Great War huts. It was all interesting and we learned a lot. The best part was when we went into the trenches with all the green smoke billowing out. It was very muddy but I would love to go again. *Bella*

BBC Children in Need 2025

It's time to dust off your Pudsey Bear ears and start planning your outfit as we will be fundraising for BBC Children in Need next Friday, 14th November. We will be holding our very popular non-uniform day and asking for donations to support this wonderful charity. You can donate by scanning the QR code below—minimum of a £2 donation, or the amazing FOMP committee will be holding a bucket collection on the day

Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to draw some firework patterns in the air.

Ask your Year 1 child to describe fireworks using exciting vocabulary.

Ask your Year 2 child to explain what was different about London in 1666.

Ask your Year 3 child to name a desert.

Ask your Year 4 child to explain how the seasons differ around the world.

Ask your Year 5 child to tell you who Frida Kahlo was.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain how soldiers' uniforms developed in WWI.

FORTHCOMING DATES

10th to 15th November—Anti-Bullying Week

10th November—Odd Socks' Day

12th November—Cross Country Running competition at Wimpole Hall

12th November—Wellbeing Wednesday for KS1

13th November—Reception tour and open evening for Reception 2026 parents

14th November—Children in Need

17th—21st November —Art Week

21st November—Indigo Class Assembly

25th November—Reception 2026 parent tour at 10am

25th November—Y3 WOW Day

26th to 28th November—Children's Art Gallery

3rd December—Computers Down day

5th December— Reception 2026 parent tour at 2pm

9th December—Y1 and Y2 Christmas production at 2pm

11th December—Reception tour for Reception 2026

10th December—Y1 and Y2 Christmas production at 9.30am

11th December—Y1 and Y2 Christmas production at 2pm

12th December—Pantomime performance in school

15th December—FOMP Christmas Raffle draw

16th December—Y4 Christmas Carol Concert at 2pm

17th December—Y4 Christmas Carol Concert at 5.30pm

18th December—Christmas lunch

19th December—School breaks up for Christmas.

5th January—INSET Day (school closed for children)

6th January—Children return for Spring term

8th January—Team afternoon

23rd January—Columba Class assembly

28th January—Reception and Y6 height and weight checks

28th January—Y6 English Challenge

4th February—Y4 WOW Day

5th February—Y1 WOW Day



OPEN MORNING

We are holding an open morning on Saturday 22nd November between 9.30 am and 1.00 pm.

If you have a child who will be three in September you can book places for the Autumn term in our pre-school now. Graded Good by Ofsted in June 2024 we can provide 15/30 hours of funded provision with a qualified Early Years teacher and dedicated and supportive Early Years staff, in a caring and nurturing learning environment. We are open from 8.00 am to 6.00 pm during term time and welcome visits from parents and carers.

Why not join us at our open morning to see our excellent setting for yourself and meet our wonderful team? Please contact us on: 01954 273377 or by e-mail: clcoffice@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk for more information or to arrange a visit to discover the Monkfield Way.

Reception 2026 Tours



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. To help you make this important decision we would like to welcome parents and carers into school to see at first hand what makes Monkfield Park such a special place to learn. We are offering a number of parent tours so that you can see the school in action and talk with the Headteacher and staff.

Please join us for one of our parent tours which can be booked by contacting the school office on 01954 273377 or by email :office@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk The tour dates are:

Thursday 13th November at 5pm

Tuesday 25th November at 10am

Friday 5th December at 2pm

Thursday 11th December at 10am

We very much look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school and hope you will join us for one of the tours. If you are unable to make any of these dates, please contact the school office and we will be happy to arrange a mutually convenient date for you to visit the school and meet Mrs Howell, the Headteacher.