

Newsletter 16

Friday 12th January 2018

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Appeal for Lego



Following your post-Christmas clear out do you have any unwanted Lego bricks at home? Each week Mrs Wellings runs a Lego club for the children as one of their Golden Time activities. The club is extremely popular as the children enjoy the creativity and construction opportunities it offers. Unfortunately, we do not have sufficient Lego for all the children who wish to attend.

We would be extremely grateful for any donations of Lego which will enable us to continue to run the club and to allow as many children as possible to take part. All donations of Lego can be handed into the school office.

A Donation of Dictionaries

In the week before Christmas we were thrilled to receive a visit from Mr Paul Dover of the Cambridge South branch of the Rotary Club of Great Britain. Mr Dover presented the school with some beautiful, illustrated dictionaries to help the children with their entries for the annual Rotary Club writing competition. The National Young Writer competition is a well established, successful competition which is designed to promote and support the development of children's writing skills and encourage them to write with imagination and creativity.

The theme of the competition for 2018 is: 'From a different Perspective'. All the children have been working hard on their entries in class and we have been so impressed by their wonderful, creative ideas, the high standard of the writing and the powerful vocabulary choices they have made. We hope that many of our children will receive recognition for their fantastic writing and that we will be as successful as we have been in previous years. On behalf of all the children and staff I would like to extend our thanks to the Rotary Club for their very generous gift.



Pocket Toys are Growing!



We have noticed that some of the pocket toys are becoming quite large in size and would like to remind families that they should fit into children's pockets easily. Below is a reminder of the restrictions we have put upon the toys to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all of the children.

The toy must be pocket sized i.e. able to fit into a coat pocket or trouser pocket.

The toy must not be dangerous or offensive e.g. sharp.

The toy must not be a trading or swapping card.

The toy must not be used to hurt another child.

Your child must return the toy to their tray at the end of playtime/lunchtime. It is not allowed to be used during classroom/learning time. Children bring their pocket toys to school at their own risk so please do not bring toys which are very precious or of great significance to your child. School cannot take responsibility for any toys that are lost or damaged.

Sentence Starters

Ask your Reception child to add two single digit numbers together.

Ask your Year 1 child to name the four seasons.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you what drink will have the worst effect on the egg shells.

Ask your Year 3 child to describe a character from James and the Giant peach using adventurous adjectives.

Ask your Year 4 child to explain the typical features of a comic book.

Ask your Year 5 child what expressions are used in Tudor portraits.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain what steps they needed to take to obtain a soil sample.

Head Teacher Roll of Honour

This week it has been wonderful to see many children who are working so hard and taking such great pride in everything they do.

Mia in Yellow Class— Mia is always so enthusiastic and happy. She greets everyone with her warm smile and makes them feel so welcome when they visit her class.

Sophie in Dorado Class—Sophie is determined to improve her writing. She has been working so hard on her short story and has even asked for extra writing to do at home! Well done Sophie, your hard work is paying off.

Harry in Lacerta Class—Harry is always polite, always enthusiastic and always ready with a kind word or smile, which really helps to brighten even the greyest of days. In addition he always puts 100% into everything he does.

Fabio from Delphinus Class— Fabio has been helping others, who sometimes struggle with following the Monkfield Way, to become more reflective. Thank you Fabio. Your hard work is having great results.

Forthcoming Dates

26th January 9am —Green Class assembly

27th March 2pm—Year 5 performance

2nd February 9am —Dorado Class Assembly

27th March 4pm—Parent Consultation Evening

6th February 10am—Year 2 Spring performance

28th March 6pm—Year 5 performance

7th February 2 pm—Year 2 Spring performance

29th March—last day of Spring Term

8th February 2pm— Reception Come and Share

30th March—EASTER HOLIDAYS begin

9th February—Year 1 'Come and Share afternoon

16th April—Children Return to school

w/c 12th February— HALF TERM

20th February—All children return

26th February —2nd March—Science Week

w/c 5th March—Book Week

20th March 9.30am—Reception Come and Share

22nd March 5pm—Parent Consultation Evening

23rd March 9am—Cygnus Class assembly

w/c 26th March —International Week



Following recent discussions with our Education Welfare Officer concerning the number of fixed penalty notices which have been issued to parents, I would like to bring the current rules regarding absences from school to your attention.

In September 2015, the Department of Education lowered the amount of absence in which a student is classified as being a persistent absentee from 15% to 10%. This means that any child with an attendance of less than 90% will be classed as a persistent absentee and will be monitored by the Education Welfare Officer. In these instances the Local Authority may issue a Penalty Notice. Schools will need to ensure that parents are

informed of any attendance concerns at an early stage and therefore you should expect that you will receive an initial communication from school if your child's attendance falls under 96%. The initial letter will be to simply make you aware of your child's attendance level but if concerns persist, then the school may contact you again.

Parents who take a child out of school for term time leave for 6 consecutive sessions (3 days) or more over a 4 week period which are not authorised by the school under the exceptional circumstances rule may receive a Penalty Notice, which in the first instance will be £60 per child, per adult, in the household. Failure to pay this penalty within 21 school days will result in the charge being doubled to £120. Penalty Notices will be issued for single event absences of at least 3 consecutive school days or more where these absences are unauthorised because they are deemed to be neither exceptional or unavoidable.



Each week we will be suggesting some games to help your child remember their spellings. We hope these games will be a fun way to build your child's confidence in spelling and also something that you can enjoy playing together— after all, learning should be fun.

Make Up a Mnemonic

Some children do well with this method. For example to remember the 'ough' ending for a word try: Only Ugly Giants Hitchhike. Or for 'necessary' try Never Eat Cake, Eat Salmon Sandwiches And Remain Young. Have a go at making up your own mnemonics, the more weird and wonderful the better.

Parent Drop-In Sessions and Workshops

The Locality team have once again been able to offer us a series of drop-in sessions and parenting workshops which will take place throughout this term.

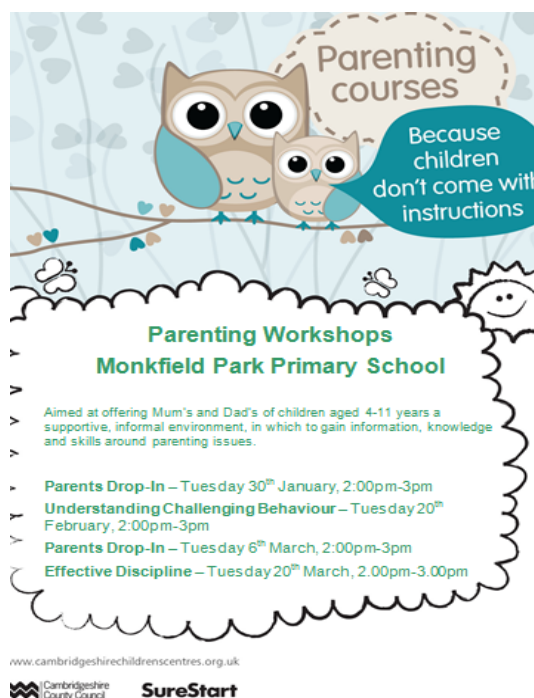
The Locality Team provides valuable support and advice for parents on a wide range of issues. Locality Workers will be available in school for the following individual 'drop-in' sessions and workshops :

Tuesday 30th January 2-3pm- Parents Drop-in

Tuesday 20th February 2-3pm – Understanding Challenging Behaviour workshop

Tuesday 6th March 2-3pm – Parents Drop-In

Tuesday 20th March 2-3pm- Effective Discipline workshop



200 Club

Our 200 club winner for December was Keiron D'Alton. Well done Keiron.

We will be drawing our January winner at the end of the month. There is still a chance to join as we will be sending out a half year subscription in the coming months.



Micro Scooters Cashback for schools

We are so excited to be part of the Micro scooters Schools Cashback. If you are ordering anything directly from Micro scooters website please enter our code at the checkout so our school receives 10% Cashback. This is for any purchases including accessories not just on scooters. Our school code is 131996.



EasyFundraising

Even though Christmas is past please don't forget you can help support the school by shopping through EasyFundraising.



Ideas

Just like last year our main fundraising aim this year is to raise funds for the Library refurb. We are after fundraising ideas that not only we can do but also that the staff and pupils can do at school. If you have any ideas no matter how BIG or small please let us know. You can either send us a message via our Facebook page or via email to friendsofmonkfieldpark@gmail.com



Year 6 leavers Celebrations

We may have just returned from the Christmas break but preparations for this year's leavers celebrations will soon start. If you are interested in helping with the planning and/or at the event then please get in touch. These are run entirely by the Year 6 parents to ensure they have the send off they deserve.

CLASS
of 2017



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