

Newsletter 6

Friday 10th October 2025

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No More Wet Playtimes

This week we saw the first substantial rain of the Autumn. Normally this would have resulted in a wet playtime with the children being confined to the classrooms for their break and lunchtime. However, with OPAL these have become a thing of the past as we are committed to the principle that every child should have an amazing hour of outside playtime every day without exceptions as this leads to happier, healthier children. The only weather conditions that would cause us to play inside are dangerous conditions such as thunderstorms or very high winds. However, it is vitally important that the children have the correct clothing to keep them warm and dry. It was rather concerning that many children had come to school without a coat or waterproof jacket this week! Please can you make sure that your child has a waterproof coat and wellingtons in school every day —the wellingtons can be left in school in the green wellington cabinets. If you don't have wellingtons a spare pair of trainers or boots will be fine but it's also a good idea to send a spare pair of socks in your child's bag. Thank you for your help with this.

With kindest wishes
Mrs Howell.

Wet Weather Gear

We do have some spare pairs of wellingtons which have been donated so please speak to the school office or Mrs Hickmott, our OPAL Play Coordinator, if you are struggling to find wellingtons to fit your child as they may be able to help. We would also be very happy to receive any donations of wellingtons that you no longer need and these will be gratefully received by the school office. We are currently short on bigger sizes if you have any spares hiding at home. We would also be very grateful for any spare waterproof coats and trousers you may have gathering dust at home. Again, please speak to the office or to Mrs Hickmott if you need waterproof clothing. FOMP may also be able to help as they have a great supply of pre-loved clothing. They can be contacted via the QR codes which you can now find on the posters which are being displayed in the classroom windows.



Year 4 Roman WOW Day

Year 4 had a fantastic WOW day this week completing lots of fun historical activities and putting their learning about the Romans into action. The children constructed edible Roman roads, practised Roman numerals, designed clay coins of different denominations, created mosaics and practised their marching and battle formations. They completed their learning with the re-enactment of a classic Roman battle on the playground using the amazing shields that they have been creating over the last few weeks. Do you know what a testudo, a wedge or an orb formation are? Year 4 do and would be very happy to demonstrate them for you if you are feeling brave enough! The children told me it was their best WOW day ever because they had the opportunity to practise being real Roman legionaries.

Year 6 Buddies

This academic year, we have introduced a Year 6 buddy system. Our new Reception children have each been allocated a Year 6 buddy who will support them throughout their first year at school. The Year 6 children wrote their named children a postcard to introduce themselves and to welcome them to the Monkfield Park family. This was greatly received by the Reception children and they couldn't wait to meet their buddies.

Over their first weeks at school, the Year 6 buddies have had lunch with the children and visited the Reception classrooms for play sessions. The Year 6 children have taken on their mentoring role with great enthusiasm and have proved to be supportive, patient and nurturing. The Reception children often ask after their buddies and look forward to seeing and playing with them on the field at lunchtime. We can see the positive impact this new system has had on both sets of children and over the coming months plan to develop the role of the buddy further with reading and cooking sessions.

Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to tell you about the listening walk they went on around school.

Ask your Year 1 child to describe the tiger who came to tea.

Ask your Year 2 child to explain why it is important to exercise every day

Ask your Year 3 child to tell you what we can do to build strong friendships.

Ask your Year 4 child to describe the different Roman battle formations.

Ask your Year 5 child to explain what life is like on the International Space Station.

Ask your Year 6 child to tell you what we can learn from fossils.

FORTHCOMING DATES

6th to 17th October—Money Fortnight

13th October—Y5 Astronomer visit

14th October—Parent consultation evening

16th October—Y5 Careers Fair at Cambourne Village College

PLEASE NOTE WE HAVE CHANGED THE DATE OF THE PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING FOR CHILDREN IN Y6 TO WEDNESDAY 22ND OCTOBER DUE TO THE CAMBOURNE VILLAGE COLLEGE OPEN EVENING.

22nd October—Reception 2026 parent tour at 2pm

23rd October—Parent consultation evening

20th October—Online Safety week

24th October—Break up for Half Term

27th to 31st October—HALF TERM

3rd November—Children return to school

4th November—Y6 trip to Great Huts

5th November—Reception Come and Share from 9.30am

12th November—Wellbeing Wednesday for KS1

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

17th—21st November —Art Week

21st November—Indigo Class Assembly

25th November—Reception 2026 parent tour at 10am

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

5th December— Reception 2026 parent tour at 2pm

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

10th 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

16th December—Y4 Christmas Carol Concert at 2pm

17th December—Y4 Christmas Carol Concert at 5.30pm

19th December—School breaks up for Christmas.

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

6th January—Children return for Spring term



OPEN MORNING

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.

We are holding an open morning on Saturday 22nd November between 9.30 am and 1.00 pm. Why not join us 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:

Wednesday 22nd October at 2pm

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.

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

Feelings

This week, at 'Together Time', we have been talking about our feelings. We read the story of 'The Colour Monster' by Anna Llenas, in which the colour monster is feeling all mixed up inside, and so his friend helps him to sort out and identify his different feelings. We have had some really fantastic discussions about how the children are feeling and what makes them feel different emotions. We also thought about different ways we could deal with difficult emotions, such as finding a friend or grown-up if we felt scared, or saying, 'Stop!' to our friends if they were doing something which made us feel angry or sad. We looked at a 'feelings fan' to help us identify different feelings and learnt the Makaton signs for each of them. I wonder if any of the children can sign the words 'happy', 'sad', 'cross/angry' and 'scared/frightened' for you at home? You could also talk about the different feelings you and your child are experiencing at home too. It's a great way to help children begin to learn to regulate their behaviour and emotions.

Song Time

During this half term the children have been busy learning new songs and rhymes. We would like to invite all parents and carers to come and listen to our wonderful singing on Thursday 23rd October at 9.10 am. If your child does not normally attend preschool at this time, you are very welcome to bring them along for this event, which will last around 20 mins.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend!

Jane Turner

Early Years Teacher and Pre-School Manager