

Newsletter 3

Friday 24th September 2021

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Recycling Week

This week we have been celebrating Recycling Week in school.

As part of their activities the children have been holding elections for Eco Club. There was much competition as children presented their election campaign speeches to their fellow class members in a very professional manner. It was a pleasure to hear the children using such persuasive language and emotive imagery to persuade their classmates to vote for them.

The successful candidates will be holding their first meeting in the coming week and will be working with Miss Simpson to help us to improve our green credentials further. Listening to some of the ideas that were presented in their election speeches I am certain that the children of Monkfield Park are really going to work together to tackle many of the little things that we can do as a school to make our environment a better and more sustainable place. In addition, I know that they are already thinking about some bigger projects which will help us to gain the next level of the Eco-Award.

Mrs Howell

Harvest Festival

Next week we will be celebrating Harvest Festival in school. This traditional festival gives us the opportunity to celebrate the safe gathering in of the harvest and to give thanks for all the things that we have. As part of our assembly on 1st October we will be collecting gifts of dried food and other essential items during the week to donate to the Cambridge and Cambourne Food Banks. Throughout the pandemic, our local food banks have been a vital lifeline for many families who find themselves in very difficult circumstances by providing a balanced and nutritious supply of food. If you would like to donate items for our harvest festival assembly we would welcome:

Noodles and rice

Olive oil

Long life juices and cordials

Stock cubes

Tinned tomatoes

Puddings e.g. rice pudding, custard, Angel Delight, jelly and sponge puddings

Instant coffee and tea bags

Long life milk or milk powder

Nappies

Please do not send fresh or perishable goods.

Soap and hand soap

Toilet rolls and toiletry items

Dried and tinned goods

Pasta sauces

Cleaning products



Investigating Our Local Wildlife

This week the children in Year 2 have been investigating our local habitats! Our children have very enquiring minds and they had a lot of questions about the local wildlife that needed answers. Fortunately, Rebecca Neal from the Wildlife Trust was on hand to help. Even though she couldn't visit us in person, Rebecca was able to join us via zoom to answer some of those questions. Rebecca was very impressed with the questions that the children came up with. You can see some of the questions below.



Do you feed the wild animals?

Are there snakes in the nature reserve?

How many types of bird are in the reserve?

We then went on a walk around the nature reserve in the beautiful Autumn sunshine to see if we could spot some of the wildlife Rebecca had told us about. We observed wildlife in the community orchard, the lake and in the bushes surrounding the reserve.

Brimming with ideas, the children wrote some wonderful recounts of their walk when they returned to school.



in

Staff News

We are delighted to announce some exciting staff news.

Ms Deegan, who teaches in Columba Class, is expecting a baby in January.

Mrs Martin, who teaches in Blue Class, is expecting her second baby in March.

We wish Ms Deegan and Mrs Martin very happy and healthy pregnancies and send many congratulations to them and their families.



Headteacher Roll of Honour

Each week this space will provide a celebration of children who may be especially noticed for demonstrating learning or behaviour that we feel should be recognised and commended. This week I would like to congratulate:

Sebastian in Columba Class: Delivering my weekly assembly on Teams instead of being with the children in the hall is rather difficult. So, I would like to thank Sebastian for his enthusiastic contributions and encouragement. It is always so reassuring to see Sebastian's cheering smile and eagerness to join in with every task. Thank you .

Kabir in Orange Class: Kabir has settled into school life with such ease. He is always polite and kind and shows excellent table manners in the dining hall, finishing everything on his plate.

Leila in Columba Class: Leila really embodies the values of the Monkfield Way. She is always kind and supportive to anyone who needs help and is a good friend to everyone. Thank you for bringing more kindness to each day Leila.

Sentence Starters

Ask your Reception child to use their new vocabulary to describe something they see on their journey to school.

Ask your Year 1 child to describe a jungle animal to you. Now see if you can identify what it is.

Ask your Year 2 child to name two living things they saw on their visit to the Nature Reserve.

Ask your Year 3 child which human and physical features are found in the Cambourne area.

Ask your Year 4 child to sing you some lines from the song Pompeii.

Ask your Year 5 child to explain the strategies they would use to round a number to the nearest 10,000.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain how fossils are formed.

Singing Assembly

As we are continuing to be very cautious in school we are still having our assemblies via Microsoft Teams each week. However, as the weather has been kind we have been able to hold our usual Friday singing assembly outside for the last two weeks. If you are passing Monkfield Park on Friday mornings and the sun is shining, we hope you will enjoy the sound of our collective voices raised in song, led by our very own Mrs Evans. It has certainly given us all a much needed lift to be able to sing together once more.



Our Reflection Garden

Following on from our fundraising last term, we were very excited to be able to begin work on making our reflection garden a reality. David, from Mosaic Madness, drove from Bristol to help the children bring their designs for the mosaic to life. The children spent two days working with David to produce the eight stunning mosaic panels which will make up the centre piece of the garden.

It was Mrs Jarman's wish that the reflection garden would be a lasting memorial for Dilni, one of our pupils. By providing children with an enchanting space in which to gather their thoughts, feel safe and calm, we really hope to allow the children the opportunity to escape from the sensory overload of modern daily life.

If you would like to make a donation towards the reflection garden there is still time. Please contact the Friends of Monkfield Park (FOMP) via the school office .



FORTHCOMING DATES 2021 to 2022

The arrangements for all these events may be subject to change if there are changes in Government and Local Authority guidance. Until further notice, most of the large events will take place virtually via Zoom.

w/c 27th September—Harvest Festival week

w/c 27th September—Year 6 Bikeability

1st October—Year 4 Bikeability

11th October—Individual school photographs

12th October 5pm -7.30pm—Parent consultation evening

15th October at 9:15am— Indigo Class Assembly

21st October 4pm —7pm—Parent consultation evening

25th—29th October—HALF TERM

1st November—Children return to school

12th November at 9:15am—Blue Class assembly

w/c 15th November—Anti bullying week

16th November at 2pm—Year 2 Production

18th November at 2pm—Year 2 Production

19th November—Children in Need Day

14th December at 2pm—Year 4 Carol Concert

15th December at 2pm—Year 1 Nativity Play

16th December at 2pm—Year 1 Nativity Play

16th December at 6pm—Year 4 Carol Concert

17th December—LAST DAY OF TERM

20th December—3rd January 2022—CHRISTMAS BREAK

4th January—INSET Day (school closed for children)

5th January—Children return to school

Parent Carer Drop Ins

This half term, we are able to offer parents/carers the opportunity to drop in to see the Acting Head Teacher (Mrs Howell) about any aspect of school life. The dates and times are listed below for this half term. Please note, however, that there is no appointment system and that parents will be seen on a first come, first served basis during a 1:1 meeting:

29th September 8.30 am to 9.30 am

6th October 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm

18th October 10 am to 11 am

