

Newsletter 8

Friday 6th November 2020

In this issue:

Business as Usual

Children in Need 2020

Staff news

Team Afternoon

Rocket Fuel Reward Morning

Sentence starters

Headteacher's Roll of Honour

Forthcoming dates

Early Intervention Family

Worker Virtual Drop Ins

Business as Usual



As we are placed in to a second national lockdown I want to take this opportunity to assure you all that it is business as usual at Monkfield Park. We are very fortunate that the government has recognised the detrimental impact closing schools can have on our children and young people and they have no plans to ask children to remain at home. We will endeavour to keep school functioning as normal, however, if staff are required to shield or to self-isolate this may involve some changes to the staff working with your child's pod. If children are instructed to self-isolate we have plans in place to enable them to access their learning via Seesaw and Office 365 Teams. In the meantime we will continue to offer a full and rich curriculum in school and ensure that the children have a wonderful term.

Children in Need 2020

This year the annual Children in Need day falls next week on **Friday 13th November**. Despite the lockdown we would like to raise everyone's spirits and, hopefully, a lot of money for children who, more than ever, need our help in these challenging times.

We would like to invite the children to leave their school uniform at home on Friday 13th and come to school in any combination of the Children in Need colours worn by the mascot, Pudsey Bear, which include red, yellow, blue and green. We are suggesting a donation of £1 if your child would like to take part. This year we will arrange for the collection of donations to take place in each class. Please can we ask you to send your child to school with their donation in a sealed envelope on Friday 13th November.



Staff News

I am delighted to be able to bring everyone some very good news in these rather gloomy times.

Mrs O'Rourke, who is currently the Acting Deputy Headteacher and SENDCO, is expecting her first baby in April.

I am sure you will all join me in wishing Mrs O'Rourke a happy and healthy pregnancy.



Team Afternoon

It was not the usual affair when the children got together in their teams on Thursday 22nd October, but it was a fun filled afternoon all the same. Usually, the children meet with their team mates from across the school, however due to pod restrictions the children had a year group team afternoon instead.

The children split into their teams and took part in action-packed challenges in a bid to earn some last minute rocket fuel for their house team. From group art, to wacky races, to paper chain contests; the children loved spending some time off timetable and competing against one another.

At the end of the afternoon, rocket fuel collected across the duration of the half term was calculated by each class and then totalled with other classes before the winning house team was announced by Mrs Howell during special assembly on Friday 23rd October.



Rocket Fuel Reward Morning

Enterprise had an immense 100+ point lead at the end of the 7 week term. The children from the Enterprise house team were rewarded with a morning of outdoor creativity and hot chocolate. They worked in their house teams within their year group to design a leaf garment for a member of their team within a five minute time limit. The imagination and originality was clear to see with finished products of crowns, belts and brooches. Afterwards, the children tucked into a warm cup of hot chocolate. Needless to say, this went down a treat!

The children across the school have come back to school this half term, eager to earn rocket fuel for their house team and be the winning team in 6 weeks' time!



Sentence Starters

Ask your Reception child to show you how to move in different ways pretending to be a firework.

Ask your Year 1 child to use objects to show you what happens when you subtract numbers.

Ask your Year 2 child to name and describe five different materials.

Ask your Year 3 child to describe the characters of Aunt Spiker and Aunt Sponge.

Ask your Year 4 child to tell you where we find water on earth.

Ask your Year 5 child to explain the ways in which different materials can be classified.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain the difference between a multiple and a factor.

Headteacher Roll of Honour

Lydia in Yellow class—Lydia has shown herself to be such a kind, thoughtful and helpful girl. She is always looking out for others inside the classroom and when out at playtime. It is wonderful how settled Lydia is at Monkfield considering she only started school last half term.

Oskar in Blue class—Oskar has impressed Mrs O'Rourke this week with his kind and caring nature towards a new member of his class. It is fair to say that Oskar has well and truly demonstrated 'The Monkfield Way' in his mannerisms and behaviours.

FORTHCOMING DATES 2020 to 2021

These dates may be subject to change if there are changes in Government and Local Authority guidance over the coming months. We hope to be able to produce a more extensive list as the term progresses. Currently it is planned to hold meetings and events via zoom.

13th November at 9am—Indigo Class assembly

w/c 16th November—Anti bullying week

16th November—Flu vaccinations

8th December —Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert

9th December —Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert

10th December —Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert

18th December—LAST DAY OF TERM

19th December—1st January 2021—CHRISTMAS BREAK

4th January Children return to school



Your Early Intervention Family Worker

Virtual Drop in's
Mon/Tue/Wednesdays
2:30-3:30pm
Booking essential.

Early Intervention Family Workers offer you an opportunity to ask for information, advice and support on any issue affecting your family life in a relaxed and confidential environment. These areas include:

- Challenging behaviour
- Routines
- Supporting emotions and wellbeing
- School transitions
- Parenting strategies
- Building resilience and confidence
- Any other family challenges you might be facing

As Early Intervention Family Workers we offer support in various ways:

- 1:1 sessions
- Workshops on specific topics
- Attending school events
- Group sessions on areas of need
- Signposting to other services

During the coronavirus pandemic we are still offering support, however this is currently on a virtual basis.

For more information speak to your school office or contact us directly on:
✉ Samantha.stacey@cambridgeshire.gov.uk ☎ 01954 284604

