

Newsletter 4

Friday 27th September 2019

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Apple pressing

Children's understanding of where food comes from and its production was well supported in school this week, as each year group had a turn in using an apple press. Whilst turning the apples into pulp and apple juice, Year 2 learnt about forces and pressure, using apples which they had collected from the school grounds and from their visit to the community orchard. This also assisted their half term learning focus on Isaac Newton.



Monkfield Park celebrates becoming 20!

We have all taken a journey through history this week, as we learnt all about the humble beginnings of Monkfield Park Primary School and its prominent role in the growing Cambourne community. The week began with a special assembly, aimed at talking about the growth of Monkfield Park and how it emerged from empty fields into what it has become today. The children compared photos and video footage from 20 years ago to their current surroundings and found that whilst much has changed, a huge amount has stayed the same. They learnt about the first pupils who attended the school and the first teachers and staff who led them on their journey at Monkfield Park. We also heard about what their lives have entailed since leaving us.

We wanted to use our week of celebrations to 'give back' to the local community, so despite the regular downpours across the week, the children completed activities such as litter picking around Cambourne, placing 'Cambourne rocks', crafts and games at Cavendish Court, and a Macmillan coffee morning. Year 2 also made wildlife habitats to put in local gardens. Below you are able to see some of the activities that children took part in.

Last week, we used our Autumn fete as an opportunity to showcase our 20th year celebratory song, which was sung to the audience whilst they enjoyed the wide range of family themed stalls. We hope that you enjoyed their 'Monkfield Park is 20 song', which we have recorded as an everlasting tribute to the week. Of course, we mustn't forget the party that we had on the playing field, during which all children from the school enjoyed a picnic together alongside former pupils, staff, and to which key members of the 'Monkfield Park story' were invited to come along to. The party rounded off the merriments. Unfortunately, we had to postpone our 20 year 'human symbol' taken by a drone to next week.

The bake off competition was certainly an activity that many of our families felt that they could contribute to and thanks to the wealth of entries that were submitted, Mrs Howell, Mrs O'Rourke and I had the tough job of judging each category, but we would like to say that we were overwhelmed by the support for this event.



Headteacher Roll of Honour

Noah Q in Columba Class— I noticed Noah working very hard in maths, when he had to compare numbers in size, using the correct mathematical vocabulary and symbols. Great work Noah.

Seren in Indigo Class—Seren has a beautiful singing voice and has been practising and polishing her performance of 'Monkfield Park is 20' song this week. It has been lovely to hear her.

Sentence Starters

Ask your Reception child to find objects around the home, which begin with 'd' and 't'.

Ask your Year 1 child about their 'reading' visit to Cavendish Court.

Ask your Year 2 child to recount their trip to the nature reserve (ensuring use of past tense verbs).

Ask your Year 3 child how they celebrated Monkfield Park's birthday.

Ask your Year 4 child what the artefact they have made is for.

Ask your Year 5 child to explain different ways of resolving conflicts.

Ask your Year 6 child to describe the use of personal pronouns and describe as many as they can.

Harvest Festival

As per our letter last week, don't forget that on Thursday 3rd October we will be celebrating Harvest Festival as a school. We welcome any donations in the afore sent letter, which will be donated to the night shelter in Cambridge, which is known as 'Jimmy's'. You can find out more about the work that they do at www.jimmyscambridge.org.uk. Please be reminded not to send out of date, fresh or perishable food.



FORTHCOMING DATES

w/c 30th September—Harvest Festival week

30th September—Indigo Class to visit Woolsthorpe Manor

1st October—Violet Class to visit Woolsthorpe Manor

w/c 30th September—Year 6 Bikeability

3rd October—KS2 Talent show

4th October at 9am—Lacerta Class assembly

10th October 5-7.30pm—Parent consultation evening

11th October at 9am—Green Class assembly

14th October—Individual photographs (date change)

15th October 4-6pm—Parent consultation evening (new date added)

21st—25th October—HALF TERM

28th October—Children return to school

8th November at 9am—Indigo Class assembly

w/c 11th November—Anti bullying week

14th November—Year 3 visit the Saatchi Gallery

14th November at 4.30pm—Reception Maths evening

9th December—Flu vaccinations

10th December at 2pm—Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert

11th December at 10am—Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert

12th December at 2pm—Year 1 Nativity (corrected)

12th December at 6pm—Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert

13th December at 10am—Year 1 Nativity

16th December—Christmas Crafternoon

17th December—Christmas lunch

18th December—LAST DAY OF TERM

19th December—2nd January 2020—CHRISTMAS BREAK

3rd January 2020—INSET day (SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN)

6th January 2020—Children return

Monkfield Park Bake Off!

We had an amazing 44 bakes enter the Bake Off competition which we held last week. Mrs Howell, Mrs O'Rourke and I had the tough job of tasting and commenting on each bake. As wonderful as it was to taste so many cakes, buns and biscuits, it is fair to say that we didn't want or need to eat our lunch last Thursday! The winning entries for each category are listed below:-

Cakes

Reception & Key Stage 1- Mae with her shiny chocolate mirror cake.

Key Stage 2- Aimee with her simple but delicious carrot cake.

Buns

Reception & Key Stage 1- Charlotte with her velvety iced cupcakes.

Key Stage 2- Amelia with her alternative ice cream cupcakes.

Biscuits

Reception & Key Stage 1- Aurora with her crunchy giant rainbow cookie.

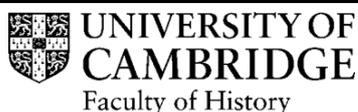
Key Stage 2- Uliana with her flavoursome gingerbread fish.

Other bakes

Reception & Key Stage 1- Ella with her mini apple tarts.

Key Stage 2- Theo with his gooey white chocolate and raspberry blondies.

The bakes were sold off at 20p a piece at the school fete last Friday. The stall proved very popular and we finished the evening with lots of empty boxes and tins. We will let you know the amount of money raised in next week's newsletter.



On Saturday 9th November, Cambridge History for Schools is again offering two exciting, hands-on history workshops for pupils in key stages 2 and 3. The workshops are free, but bookings are required – previous workshops have booked out, so we strongly recommend booking early. The workshops coming up on Saturday 9th November are:

Be your own Doctor! Practising Medicine in Early Modern England

Philippa Carter

"What do you do when you get sick? You might stay in bed, take some paracetamol, or go to see your GP. You wouldn't be charged if you did, because today the costs are covered by the NHS. Six hundred years ago, there was no NHS! Doctors' fees could be very expensive, and most medical care was provided in the home.

In this workshop, we will explore the different kinds of medicine practised in medieval England, and then imagine what it was like being a doctor. Medieval medicine can seem weird (and even disgusting!), but if we pay attention it can reveal important clues about how people in the past understood themselves and their bodies." **Key Stage 2 (ages 7-11)**

The workshops will be held at the Faculty of History building, West Rd, Cambridge, CB3 9EF, and will be led by Cambridge University History Faculty members and doctoral researchers. The sessions start at 11am and finish at 12.30pm

For more details on the workshops, please go to <https://www.hist.cam.ac.uk/schools/introduction> and please find a copy of our leaflet attached to this email. To book, email admin@hist.cam.ac.uk.

Additionally, we would like to draw your attention to the kick-off event we are holding as part of the Festival of Ideas on Saturday 19th October. The topic is '**Changing Clothes: Fashion, Power, and Control in Tudor England**'. More information can be found here: <https://www.festivalofideas.cam.ac.uk/events/changing-clothes-fashion-power-and-control-tudor-england> For this event only please book through the Festival's website.

Upcoming workshops.

Facilitated by your Early Intervention Family Workers.

Aimed at offering parents and carers of children aged 4-16 years a supportive and informal environment in which to talk about different parenting and behaviour topics.

Screen time Battles – Comberton Village College

Monday 7^h October 6pm-7:30pm.

Screen time Battles – Cambourne Village College

Monday 28th October 6pm-7:30pm.

Understanding Challenging Behaviour – Comberton Village College

Monday 4th November 6-7:30pm.

Understanding Challenging Behaviour – Cambourne Village College

Monday 18th November 6-7:30pm.

Effective Discipline – Comberton Village College

Monday 25th November 6-7:30pm.

Building resilience and increasing confidence – Comberton Village College

Monday 2nd December 6-7:30pm.

Building resilience and increasing confidence – Cambourne Village College

Monday 9th December 6-7:30pm

For more information please contact Samantha Stacey 01954 284604 or

Clare Merrington 01954 286008.