

Newsletter 16

Friday 17th January 2020

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Year 6 SAW Project

This week we were fortunate enough to welcome back the SAW project (science, art and writing) into Year 6 to put all of our learning about micro-organisms from last half term into practise. After completing our own investigations a week earlier, we were able to witness which bacteria grew in the soil around the school. We then went on to look at helpful pathogens and how leaf cutter ants were revolutionising antibiotics. Using the science as inspiration, we created poems and artwork on bacteria. We enjoyed expressing ourselves using inks and wax to create artwork in the style of Jasper Johns. This has given us an insight into the world of science, art and writing and inspired many of us to follow in their footsteps!



Website links

We have now added some easily located website links to our school web page. If you visit www.monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk you will see an area on the front page, named 'Links and Downloads'. In this section, you will see two links, one of which takes you to the School Grid website and allows you to access the school menu and payments for school meals to Dolce. The other takes you to our online booking system for school events. We hope that you find these useful.

Public Speaking Competition

Monkfield Park children brought home the CB23 Public Speaking competition trophy this week, as our team of 4 children from Key Stage 2 won the event for the second year running. Sophie, Tejas, Gopika and Soha were asked to prepare and present speeches at the prestigious Peterhouse College Lecture theatre to an audience of adults, children and judges. The Year 3 and 4 children were asked to consider a speech based around 'Is it better to give or receive?' whilst Year 5 and 6 children were asked to link their speech to 'The leader I admire most is.....'. There was stiff competition amongst the competitors and with 7 school's competing, our team had to demonstrate their flair for stage presence as well as their ability to hold the attention of the audience through interesting content in their timed speeches. All of the children who participated did incredibly well and Monkfield Park really held their own. They certainly didn't let their nerves get the better of them, and despite the grand surroundings, they performed with confidence and competence. We are so proud of all of you and cannot wait to show off our engraved trophy, which will take pride of place within our trophy collection. Not only were the children recognised as the winning team by the judges, but Tejas was judged as the best speaker in the Year 3 and 4 category. A great achievement for us all.



Unwanted Top Trumps Cards

Do you have any unwanted, complete sets of Top Trumps cards that would be suitable for children from Reception to Year 6? Our children enjoy playing Top Trumps during golden time and we would like very much to increase our sets of cards. If you would like to help and can donate any sets then please do pass them on to the class teacher or to the school office. Thank you.

Headteacher Roll of Honour

Emil in Lacerta Class—On several occasions this week, a number of staff members have passed on how polite and courteous you have been around school. It is great to hear that we have children who can set a good example others.

Keira in Violet Class—I noticed Keira working incredibly hard on her number bonds this week. It has been wonderful to hear her reciting her number bond rhymes to help her with these.

Sentence Starters

Ask your Reception child to show you how they can move or dance like a snowflake.

Ask your Year 1 child to retell the story of 'Katie Morag delivers the mail'.

Ask your Year 2 child what a 'call and response' song is.

Ask your Year 3 child who built Stonehenge.

Ask your Year 4 child to describe the safest way of getting into a swimming pool.

Ask your Year 5 child to recite a Chinese folk tale and to tell you its moral.

Ask your Year 6 child to describe the role of the leaf cutter ant.

FORTHCOMING DATES

21st January at 6pm—Y6 SATs meeting for parents of children in Year 6 only

23rd January—Year 3 WoW day with Stone Age theme

24th January at 9am—Violet Class assembly

27th January—Vision screening for Reception children

31st January at 9am—Columba Class assembly

10th February at 6pm—Key Stage 2 'Reading Revealed' meeting for parents

11th February at 10am—Year 2 performance

12th February at 2pm—Year 2 performance

13th February (am) - Reception Come and Share

14th February—Friends 'break the rules day

17TH—21ST FEBRUARY—HALF TERM

6th March—Mid year reports sent home

9th March—Book Week

18th March at 2pm—Year 5 performance

18th March—Reception Come and Share event (PM)

19th March at 6pm—Year 5 performance

20th March at 9am—Blue Class assembly

24th March—Height and weight checks for Reception & Year 6

26th March—Parents' evening

31st March—Parents' evening

1st April—LAST DAY OF TERM

2ND APRIL –16TH APRIL—EASTER HOLIDAY

17TH APRIL—INSET DAY (SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN)

18TH APRIL—CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL

Key Stage 2 Reading Revealed Event

KEY STAGE 2 READING REVEALED EVENT

We know that children in Key Stage 2 can easily mask their reading ability and knowledge through 'silent' reading. Do you want to find out more about how much your child actually understands from reading a book? How to ask the right questions and how to choose the right types of reading books for them? All parents of Key Stage 2 are warmly invited to our 'Reading Revealed' event that is taking place on 10th February at 6pm. There is a crèche available for school aged children. Please return the form that was circulated about this event last week. If you need another copy, please contact the school office, who will be able to e-mail one to you. We look forward to revealing more about the lifelong skills of reading comprehension.

Recommended Reads

Key Stage 2: The Hodgehog by Dick King Smith

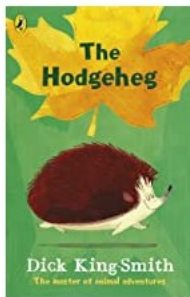
A thought provoking read for any lower Key Stage 2 child.

Max is a hedgehog who lives with his family in a nice little home, but it's on the wrong side of the road from the Park where there's a beautiful lily pond and plenty of juicy slugs, worms and snails!

The busy road is dangerous but Max is determined to make his way across. If humans can do it, why can't hedgehogs?

His first attempt ends in a nasty bump on the head and, when Max tries to speak, he realises his words are all mixed up. He is no longer a hedgehog but a hodge-heg!

Still determined to fulfil his mission, Max discovers the best way to cross the road - with the help of the lollipop lady and some careful detective work . . .



Key Stage 1: The Twits by Roald Dahl

Mr Twit is a foul and smelly man with bits of cornflake and sardine in his beard.

Mrs Twit is a horrible old hag with a glass eye.

Together they make the nastiest couple you could ever hope **not** to meet.

Down in their garden, the Twits keep Muggle-Wump the monkey and his family locked in a cage. But not for much longer, because the monkeys are planning to trick the terrible Twits and make their escape, once and for all . . .

