

# Newsletter 18

Friday 27th January 2023

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## Beating the January Blues

January can be a very long month. The bitterly cold snap of the last week had us all huddled inside so as the thaw sets in we all need a little something to look forward to. This weekend the RSPB are encouraging us all to sign up to take part in the Great Big Garden Bird Watch. Just spend one hour between Friday 27 and Sunday 29 January counting the birds, and help monitor how wild birds are faring. It's free, fun and a great way to keep an eye on your local wildlife.

To take part you just need to sign up on the RSPB website: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/birdwatch-take-part/>

Over the weekend, watch the birds around you for an hour, count how many of each species land on the patch you are watching and then record your results on the RSPB website. It couldn't be easier and you will be doing your bit to help our wildlife.



Mrs Howell

## Have You Completed the Annual Parent/Carer Questionnaires?



The annual parent/carers questionnaires will close on Monday 30th January. If you haven't already given us your views please take a few minutes to complete the surveys. The children and staff have completed their questionnaires in school so it is important that we have the views of all our stakeholders. We think your feedback is a crucial part of your child's education and it is vital that you have the opportunity to tell us about what we do well and where we can make improvements. There are separate questionnaires for School and the Care & Learning Centre so please complete both if your child attends pre-school and/or accesses the Break-

fast and After School Clubs. The questionnaires can be accessed using the links below.

School Parent/Carer Questionnaire 2023:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/14aXQFDqYtGbmTKynKHbPZhidydx4Lr6UhNVwdE3yAdU/edit>

Care and Learning Centre Parent/Carer Questionnaire 2023:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tLmn8KS4zOtqZbLnjgBuw7z476nebHC70sEfwqilTPA/edit>

Out of School Club Parent/Carer Questionnaire 2023:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1TbVNC-8rvH-IRPK9rcOr2F2htkhs4vYz6GGawEKf7cU/edit>

Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete the surveys.

## Online Safety

It is vitally important that we are all aware of how to teach our children to use the internet safely. Consequently, we have registered for the parent webinar which will be hosted by Natterhub during Safer Internet week on 9th Feb.



Thank you for registering an interest in our **FREE Online Safety Webinar for Parents of Primary-Aged Children.**

The event takes place on:  
**Thursday February 9th at 1900hrs (UK)**

Please share this access link with parents in your school newsletter:

[Webinar Access Link](#)

Viewing is through [YouTube](#), no login required, parents simply need to click the link (shared above) on Thursday evening at 7pm.

## Using Phones on the School Site

Please can we politely remind all parents and carers that for safeguarding reasons you must not take photographs of children on the school site unless you have been specifically granted permission to do so.

If you wish to take photographs on the school site you must request permission from the Headteacher via the school office.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.





### School Meals

Dolce has informed us that due to increases in the National Living Wage and the cost of food inflation the price of school meals will be increasing from 1st April 2023. The cost of a school lunch will increase from **£2.35 per day to £2.55**.

All children in Reception and Key Stage 1 will continue to receive Universal Infant Free School Meals.

In addition, Dolce have experienced a high volume of uncollected debt. Currently a pupil's account is allowed to fall into debt by 5 meals. To reduce the risk in increasing unpaid debt, Dolce will be reducing this to 3 meals from 1st April.

These increases still represent good value and, as you have seen in recent newsletters, the quality of the meals provided is excellent and are tailored to the children's tastes.

If you have any questions regarding school meals, please contact the school office.



On Friday 3rd February we will be supporting the vital work of the NSPCC by taking part in the annual NSPCC Number Day.

Number Day is a great way to make maths fun and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it. We are having a fun day of maths activities in school and we will be taking part in 'Dress up for Digits'. Children are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (football shirt, cap, netball shirt or even a onesie!). Alternatively, if children really want to challenge themselves, they could create a costume or adapt an item of clothing to feature shapes or mathematical symbols. There will be a prize on offer for the best dressed so please do get creative.

To help raise money for the NSPCC, we are asking for a minimum £1 donation per child. If you are able, a bigger donation would be greatly appreciated. It would be fantastic if our school could achieve our target of £500.

## **FORTHCOMING DATES SPRING TERM 2023**

- 2nd February—Year 5 and Year 6 Friendship Games
- 3rd February— Indigo Class assembly
- 3rd February—NSPCC Number Day
- 6th February—Year 2 Great fire of London WOW day
- 7th February - Safer Internet Day
- 8th February—Year 1 - London WOW Day
- 9th February—Year 3—Egyptian WOW day
- 9th February— Online Safety Webinar at 7pm
- 10th February—Year 5 Victorian WOW day
- 10th February—Dorado Class assembly
- 10th February—Reception children vision screening
- 22nd February—Thinking Day. Rainbows, Brownies & Guides may wear their Guiding uniforms to school.
- 28th February—Year 6 scooter workshops
- 2nd March—World Book Day
- 3rd March—Green Class assembly
- 10th March—Mid term reports sent to parents
- 10th March—Book fair in school
- 13th March—Year 6 transition meeting at CVC
- 15th March—Reception Spring Singing performance
- 16th March—Reception Spring Singing performance
- 17th March—Red Nose day
- 17th March –Aquila Class assembly
- 21st March—Y5 and Y6 Rugby Tournament
- 21st March—Parent consultation evening
- 27th March—Healthy Lifestyles Week
- 27th March—Team afternoon
- 30th March—Parent consultation evening
- 31st March —LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM
- 17th April—INSET Day
- 18th April—Start of Summer term

# Headteacher Roll of Honour

Each week this space will provide a celebration of those 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:

Phoebe in Green Class: Phoebe's confidence is going from strength to strength. She always works hard and this week she has been answering some very challenging questions in class to really push her learning on. Well done Phoebe.

Awn in Dorado Class: Awn has shown great kindness and courage this week. I witnessed him challenging some unjust behaviour by some older children this week and he must be commended for standing up for what is right. Thank you for showing everyone that the Monkfield Way is central to everything we do in school.

Sophia in Yellow Class: Sophia always sets an example for others in Yellow Class. She is kind, and considerate to all her classmates and is always ready to learn. It is clear to us all that you love learning and try your hardest in everything you do. Well done.

## Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to tell you about an animal that wouldn't make a good pet.

Ask your Year 1 child to tell you the names of the points on a compass.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you about Samuel Pepys.

Ask your Year 3 child to tell what Japanese phrases they can remember.

Ask your Year 4 child to tell you about the Viking raids on Lindisfarne.

Ask your Year 5 child to tell you what problem was solved by the invention of the light bulb.

Ask your Year 6 child to tell you which justice system they think was the fairest out of the Roman, Anglo-Saxon and Tudor systems.

### Headteacher Parent Drop Ins

Mrs Howell, the Headteacher, will be offering parent drop ins for anyone who wishes to discuss any aspect of school life throughout the Spring term. The dates can be found below, but please remember that these are offered on a first come, first served basis and you may therefore have to wait to be seen.

31st January 8.30—9.30am

8th March 8.30-9.30am

8th February 3-4pm

23rd March 9.30—10.30am

24th February 3-4pm

19th March 4.30—5.30pm







For general queries regarding the Care and Learning Centre, please contact the school office by e-mail on: [clcoffice@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk](mailto: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

### Room News

Across the Care and Learning Centre, children have been busy mark making this week. In the Hedgehog Room, the younger children have been experimenting with a variety of media such as pens, pencils, crayons, chalks and paint dabbers. They have drawn individual pictures, as well as working together to mark make on big rolls of paper.

In the Rabbit Group, the children have each been introduced to their own individual name writing cards. We have talked about how each name has a 'big letter' at the beginning called a 'capital letter', and how all the letters have a 'special way' to write them. The children have been really keen to start using their cards to practise name writing and to help them write their names onto their pictures.

Next week, Rabbit Group will be bringing home a copy of their writing name card to practise with at home, along with a letter containing tips for parents and carers on supporting early writing skills.



### Parent Survey

Your comments and feedback are very important for us as they help us improve our provision. Please make sure that you complete our online parent survey, which is open for another week. You can access the survey via the link in the newsletter or via Evidence Me. Thank you.