

Newsletter 10

Friday 14th November 2025

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Celebrating A Year of OPAL

Time certainly seems to fly by in school as there is always so much going on. This week we have celebrated Remembrance Day, odd Socks Day, Anti-Bullying Week, BBC Children in Need and Wellbeing Wednesday for Key Stage 1 children. However, looking back through the newsletters for this time last year I was amazed to discover that it was exactly twelve months ago this week that we launched the OPAL project in school. The photographs in the newsletter show it was sunny and warm and the children were enjoying many of the activities, that they now have every day, for the first time.

We have been blessed by dry weather for such a long time now that, as a result, many of the children have fallen out of the habit of changing into their wellingtons or spare shoes. Many claim that their wellingtons are now too small or that they have left them at home. However, the rainy weather returned this week and there are further downpours promised for next week. In order to save the carpets in the classrooms please can you check that your children have their wellingtons or a spare pair of boots or shoes in school and that they also bring a waterproof coat each day? Thanking you for your help with this.

With kindest wishes
Mrs Howell.

BBC Children in Need 2025

If you missed the bucket collection this morning there is still time to make a very worthwhile donation to Children in Need via JustGiving. Just scan the QR code to go directly to the page.

PLEASE NOTE— The Minimum Donation allowed on JustGiving is £2.

A promotional graphic for BBC Children in Need 2025. It features a large, stylized yellow bear on the left. To the right of the bear, the text "SCAN TO DONATE ONLINE (MIN £2 DONATION)" is written in white. Below this text is a QR code with a purple 'G' logo in the center. At the bottom left, the text "Bucket collections will be available in the morning on the 14th November for Non Uniform day" is written in white. At the bottom right, the text "Thank you!" is written in a large, white, cursive font. The background is a mix of orange and red with some colorful circles.

Cross Country Running

We love being active at Monkfield Park but 32 of our amazing Key Stage 2 runners took their running to a whole new level when they participated in the South Cambs Sports Partnership's Cross Country Running competition at Wimpole Hall. The competition has grown massively over the years with approximately 1,000 children taking part each year. We are so proud of all the children who, despite the rain, competed with great energy and determination and, throughout the event, were fantastic ambassadors for our school. Well done to all the children who competed and a special well done to Abdulrahman who came 12th over all and Tolu who claimed 15th place in the boys' races.



Community Litter Pick

This Saturday, 15th November, the Town Council and Cambourne Village College are organising the annual community litter pick between 10.00 am and 1.00 pm. If you would like to take part in this very worthwhile event please meet at the Performance Hall at Cambourne Village College at 10.00 am. Refreshments and equipment will be provided so just bring yourself along if you would like to be part of making a big difference to our community here in Cambourne.

Head Lice

We have been informed of a number of cases of head lice in school this week. As a mum, I appreciate what a scourge they are and how frustratingly difficult it is to break the cycle and banish these unwelcome visitors. We would appreciate your co-operation in managing this by thoroughly checking your child's hair each week and treating where necessary. There is no need to buy expensive treatments, as it is just as effective to apply conditioner to wet hair and use a lice comb to remove any live lice and eggs. Please don't forget that the whole family needs to be checked at the same time and that bedding should be thoroughly washed. More information and support can be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>



Sentence starters

- Ask your Reception child to tell you about the Big Bad Wolf.
- Ask your Year 1 child to show you the May Pole dance.
- Ask your Year 2 child to tell you their lines for the Year 2 Christmas performance.
- Ask your Year 3 child to explain the difference between climate and weather.
- Ask your Year 4 child to explain how to calculate the area of a shape.
- Ask your Year 5 child to explain what a thermal conductor is.
- Ask your Year 6 child to explain how light travels.

FORTHCOMING DATES

17th—21st November —Art Week

21st November—Indigo Class Assembly

25th November—Reception 2026 parent tour at 10am

25th November—Y3 WOW Day

26th to 28th November—Children's Art Gallery

3rd December—Computers Down day

5th December— Reception 2026 parent tour at 2pm

9th December—Y1 and Y2 Christmas production at 2pm

11th December—Reception tour for Reception 2026

10th December—Y1 and Y2 Christmas production at 9.30am

11th December—Y1 and Y2 Christmas production at 2pm

12th December—Pantomime performance in school

15th December—FOMP Christmas Raffle draw

16th December—Y4 Christmas Carol Concert at 2pm

17th December—Y4 Christmas Carol Concert at 5.30pm

18th December—Christmas lunch

18th December—Christmas Jumper Day

19th December—School breaks up for Christmas.

5th January—INSET Day (school closed for children)

6th January—Children return for Spring term

8th January—Team afternoon

23rd January—Columba Class assembly

28th January—Reception and Y6 height and weight checks

28th January—Y6 English Challenge

4th February—Y4 WOW Day

5th February—Y1 WOW Day



OPEN MORNING

We are holding an open morning on Saturday 22nd November between 9.30 am and 1.00 pm.

If you have a child who will be three in September you can book places for the Autumn term in our pre-school now. Graded Good by Ofsted in June 2024 we can provide 15/30 hours of funded provision with a qualified Early Years teacher and dedicated and supportive Early Years staff, in a caring and nurturing learning environment. We are open from 8.00 am to 6.00 pm during term time and welcome visits from parents and carers.

Why not join us at our open morning to see our excellent setting for yourself and meet our wonderful team? Please contact us on: 01954 273377 or by e-mail: clcoffice@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk for more information or to arrange a visit to discover the Monkfield Way.

Reception 2026 Tours



We appreciate that selecting the right school for your child is not an easy decision to make. Each parent and carer is looking for a school that will make the educational experience as motivating and rewarding as possible for their child. To help you make this important decision we would like to welcome parents and carers into school to see at first hand what makes Monkfield Park such a special place to learn. We are offering a number of parent tours so that you can see the school in action and talk with the Headteacher and staff.

Please join us for one of our parent tours which can be booked by contacting the school office on 01954 273377 or by email :office@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk The tour dates are:

Tuesday 25th November at 10am

Friday 5th December at 2pm

Thursday 11th December at 10am

We very much look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school and hope you will join us for one of the tours. If you are unable to make any of these dates, please contact the school office and we will be happy to arrange a mutually convenient date for you to visit the school and meet Mrs Howell, the Headteacher.



For general queries regarding the Care and Learning Centre, please contact the school office by e-mail on: 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 on the Broom

Over the last couple of weeks the children have been transfixed by the story, 'Room on the Broom', by Julia Donaldson. Many of them have dressed up as witches and pretended to mix their own spells in the cauldron, reciting the words from the story, "Iggerty, Ziggerty, Zaggerty Zoom!" Ms Turner made a spell to turn the children into animals and it got very noisy in the classroom when we suddenly had some lions, monkeys and dinosaurs!

Parent Consultations

Over the next couple of weeks, Ms Turner and Mrs Brown will be holding Parent Consultations. If you have not yet made an appointment to speak to us about how your child is getting on at pre-school, please book through the main school office.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Best wishes,

Jane Turner

Early Years Teacher and Pre-School Manager