

Newsletter 6

Friday 14th October 2016

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Year 6 English challenge

A group of specially selected children from Year 6 took part in the first ever Year 6 English Challenge, held for Cambridgeshire schools at The Vine School last week. Each team was required to answer some rather tricky questions from well known children's books such as Private Peaceful and works by Michael Morpurgo. Whilst the children didn't manage to go any further in their heat, they did receive a special commendation which quoted their good work with different text types. Well done team!

Pocket toys

We recently wrote to families advising that after the half term break, children will be invited to bring in 'pocket toys' for play at school. Some children have been so eager that they've already been bringing these in, however we'd like to point out that they shouldn't be brought in until after the half term break.

Monkfield Park marks Harvest Festival

Last week, Monkfield Park celebrated harvest festival and we would like to thank you all for your generous donations. The school started the week singing a harvest samba and thought about the reasons why we collect food at this time of year. At the end of the week, we finished with a Key Stage 1 class assembly celebration. We collected a huge amount of products, ranging from tea bags to toothpaste; which will be collected by the Cambridge Food Bank and given to families in need throughout our local area. Last year, 4552 three-day emergency food supplies were given to people in crisis, so thank you for contributing towards this worthy local cause.



Paralympian visits her old school at Monkfield Park



Children across the school were in awe this week as they received a special visitor who they had been in preparation for meeting all week. Harriet Lee, who won a Silver medal in the Paralympic games in Rio this year, came to see us all at Monkfield Park where she used to learn as a pupil. Children were permitted to hold her special medal and had prepared questions about her life and achievements for her to answer. Year 6 had even made their own biography for her to take away. The children learnt so many facts and even learnt that each colour medal makes a different sound so that blind competitors can tell the difference between each medal. The excitement and anticipation at Monkfield Park was tangible as Harriet shared her Olympic experiences with each class—what a fantastic, memorable day for all of us which was a real opportunity to think about reaching our goals in light of Harriet's aspirational talks.



Head Teacher roll of honour

The theme of my assembly this week was about 'caring' and therefore I have been keeping a keen eye out for children who have demonstrated care and compassion for others this week:

- Amanda in Cygnus Class—Amanda cares about her class achieving the very best. She can always be seen encouraging others to do their utmost to put in the maximum effort as well as doing this herself.
- Alfie in Dorado Class—Alfie has a real sense of compassion for other people. He understands that others can make mistakes and helps them to make better choices by giving great advice.
- Swetha in Phoenix Class—Swetha has an understated way of helping her friends and showing them that she cares about them.

Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to show you a number of actions up to 20 e.g. 10 star jumps.

Ask your Year 1 child who Harriet Lee is.

Ask your Year 2 child how seaside holidays were different 100 years ago.

Ask your Year 3 child how to bond any two numbers to 100.

Ask your Year 4 child what they would be willing to give up for a belief.

Ask your Year 5 child how they solved maths problems this week using 'RUCSAC'.

Ask your Year 6 child one fact that they learnt about Harriet Lee this week.

Forthcoming dates

17th October—Individual children's photographs

18th October—Flu vaccinations for Years 1, 2 and 3 children (more details to follow)

20th October from 4pm—Parent consultations (more details to follow)

w/c 24th October—half term (children return on 31st October)

11th November 9am—Phoenix Class assembly

18th November at 9am—Indigo Class assembly

13th December 10am—Year 3/4 carol concert

14th December 9.30am—Reception 'come and share' event

14th December 2pm—Year 3/4 carol concert

15th December 2pm—Year 1 nativity

15th December 6pm—Year 3/4 carol concert

16th December 10am—Year 1 nativity

19th December—Christmas lunch

20th December—Christmas parties

20th December—Last day of term

21st December—Christmas holidays begin

4th January—INSET day (school closed to children)

5th January—All children return

Individual photographs

Don't forget to send your child into school with their jumper or cardigan next Monday, looking smart and cheerful for their annual individual and/or sibling photograph. Pre-school siblings should be taken with older siblings to the Main Hall at 8.30 am, where you may have to wait. School sibling photos will be arranged by the school later in the day. Please ensure that you have returned the school photographs letter (sent out on 5th October) if you wish for your child to be photographed.

'Creepy clown'

Following media coverage of the recent 'creepy clown' events up and down the country, some children have been discussing this in school with their peers. On some occasions, this has caused upset for individuals. We would appreciate your support in encouraging your child/ren to be mindful about the type of conversations that they have around this matter.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Friends of Monkfield Park

AGM

Your child's school needs you!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Just a reminder the deadline is this Monday 17th 3.30pm to get nominations in for the Friends of Monkfield Park.

If you would like to know any more info on any of the roles or even just helping out please let us know.

If we don't get enough nominations for the key roles and ordinary members then the Friends of Monkfield Park will no longer continue. What this would mean for you and your children is no longer any school events such as Christmas fairs, Summer fetes or school discos. Increased cost for school trips (as we pay towards coach fees) no leavers celebrations or joiners gifts. Plus no additional resources supplied to the school in addition to school's budget. No financial support for improvements to the school and no longer an additional means of school/home communication. Our AGM will take place on **Friday 21st October at 9.15am**. Refreshments will be served and there will be quiet activities for younger siblings you may have with you.



CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENING

Friday 2nd December 7pm – 9pm

Lots of wonderful independent and individual stalls, refreshments and raffle. £1 entry. We still need some help. Here is the link to volunteer

<http://service.ptasocial.com/register/FOMP>



<http://www.bag2school.com/u/>

BAG2SCHOOL

Thank you to everyone who brought in their bags yesterday, every penny raised really matters. The next collection will take place in the Spring, usually in April.



CONTACT US

Via email friendsofmonkfieldpark@gmail.com, via our Facebook page or via the school office.