

Newsletter 25

Friday 20th March 2026

In this issue:

Eid Mubarak

Football victory

Big Walk and Wheel

Florence Nightingale

Considerate parking

Parent Consultation Evening

Sentence starters

Ed Psych Workshops

Head Lice

Forthcoming dates

Care and Learning Centre



Eid Mubarak!

I must begin by wishing Eid Mubarak to all our families who are celebrating Eid Al-Fitr today.

The weather has certainly taken a change for the better this week and it has been wonderful to see the children taking the opportunity to cast off their Winter coats and enjoy the opportunity to run and jump and have fun in the beautiful Spring sunshine.

On Tuesday staff were delighted to accept an invitation from the Cambourne branch of The Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh for their annual Shikshak Vandan Diwas (Teacher Appreciation Day). It was a huge honour to be able to spend the evening with many of our families sharing dialogue and discussion about education together with a very delicious dinner. For me personally, it was humbling to spend time with many of our ex-pupils who are truly wonderful young people and are achieving great things in their chosen fields. Many of them were kind enough to say that their thirst for knowledge was ignited during their formative years at Monkfield Park and that they are still adhering to the 'Monkfield Way' as they recognise that our school values have helped them to forge their paths with kindness, tolerance and respect.

With best wishes,
Mrs Howell

Girls' Football Team Triumph!

Huge congratulations to our girls' football team on their fantastic victory in the Network CB23 Football Tournament this week! The team showed incredible determination and teamwork throughout all their matches, demonstrating the values we hold dear at Monkfield Park. The girls went through the whole competition undefeated, only drawing two matches. Every player gave their all on the pitch, supporting each other and working together brilliantly to secure the 1-0 win in the final and claim the cup.

We are so proud of their achievement and the positive way they represented our school. Well done, girls – you were amazing!

The Big Walk and Wheel Challenge



We are now coming to the end of the first week of the Big Walk and Wheel Challenge, the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking, wheeling and scooting challenge. The challenge will be running for another week until 27th March and we would love everyone to be involved. All you need to do is encourage your child to walk, scoot or cycle to school on as many days as possible during the two week event. The event is free to take part in and is a great way to build physical activity into children's daily routines, which is so important for their physical health and mental wellbeing. The benefits of active school runs are many as they help to reduce

congestion and air pollution outside school. A YouGov study has shown that children worry about air pollution near their school and that they think active travel is the best away to bring down these pollution levels.

As it is a challenge there are some great prizes to be won for our school if enough children take part! I know how busy the school run is when you are rushing to work so even if you can't walk the whole way to school, why not park a little way from the school and walk or scoot the last bit of the journey? Every active journey we make is helping to change our world for the better for our children.

Celebrating The History of Nursing

This week Year 2 were transported back in time to 1854 where they found themselves in the middle of the Crimean War. Visiting Scutari Hospital they joined 'the Lady with the lamp', Florence Nightingale, in her mission to treat many of the injured and sick casualties. Having made their own authentic lamps, the children set to making medicines and caring for the wounded soldiers, providing clean and hygienic wards, learning basic First Aid and bandaging techniques. The children learned about Mary Seacole, another inspirational woman pioneer in the field of medicine and health care. She was a contemporary of Florence Nightingale who did amazing work caring for the injured soldiers on the front line in the Crimean War. Everyone had a great time in their role-play, learning many new facts and developing a better understanding of the important role Florence Nightingale played in developing the country's health service and the modern standards of nursing we have come to expect today.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT PARKING



I am saddened to have to raise the issue of parking again. I have received a further complaint from one of our neighbours in Priory Walk about inconsiderate parking. Although the car park in Priory Walk is a public car park there are some areas where parking is prohibited i.e. in the paved

areas adjacent to the private properties at the top of Priory Walk. Please can I urge everyone to be considerate when dropping off and collecting children. Please make sure that you are not blocking private driveways or trespassing on private property. We are very aware that more families than ever before are travelling to school by car which has exacerbated the problems with parking in Priory Walk. However, it is very important that our neighbours' access to their properties is respected.

In addition I have received complaints from parents about some parents and carers showing aggressive and disrespectful behaviours to others when using the car park in Priory Walk. Such behaviours are not acceptable as this is not modelling the values and ethos of our school to the children. Please can I urge everyone to show restraint and good manners when on the playgrounds and in the vicinity of the school.



Thank you to everyone who came to parent consultation evenings on Tuesday. The next consultation evening will be taking place in school this week on **Thursday 26th March from 4.00 pm to 6.30 pm.**

If you haven't booked an appointment yet, there are still spaces available. All appointments will last for 10 minutes and we politely ask that you keep to those timings. Bookings can be made using the electronic booking system, details of which have been e-mailed to you by the school office. If you have any problems with booking an appointment please contact Mrs Cox or Mrs Taylor in the school office who will be happy to help. Mrs Horton will be running a crèche for the children to allow you to gain the maximum from your appointment.

Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to count backwards from 10.

Ask your Year 1 child to compare two objects using the vocabulary 'heavier' and 'lighter'.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you two things they learnt during the WOW Day this week.

Ask your Year 3 child to explain who Quentin Blake is and what his job is.

Ask your Year 4 child to name and locate different mountains around the world.

Ask your Year 5 child to explain what a compound shape is and draw some examples.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain how to calculate the perimeter of a shape from the area.

Supporting Your Child with Worries

We are holding a parent information session in school to help support your child with their worries.

Please join us in school on Tuesday 24th March 9.15 am -10.30 am.

This is being hosted by our link school Educational Psychologist Joanne Withers. This will be a short informal presentation from Jo, with then a chance to ask questions and chat with Jo. She is unable to give individual consultations about a child. Please email the office to sign up.

Supporting Your Child with Their Worries

Do they sometimes find it tricky to get into school in the morning due to their worries?

Would you like some further support or advice on this?

If so, please join us in school on :

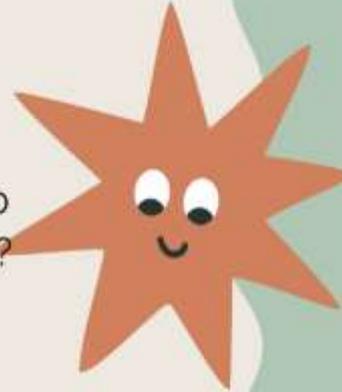
Tuesday 24th March

9:15am -10:30am

This parent session is being hosted by our link school Educational Psychologist Joanne Withers.

Please email the office to sign up for a place by 12pm Monday 23rd March

There will be a short informal presentation from Jo for about 40 minutes and then a chance to ask questions. Jo is unable to give individual consultations about a child



Head Lice Are Still About!

I am sorry to have to inform you that head lice are still very much in school and we have been informed of a growing number of cases across the 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. Unfortunately, they are very tricky little creatures so it is important to be vigilant. 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/>. Thank you for all your support.



FORTHCOMING DATES Spring Term 2026

19th to 24th March— Book Fair in Main Hall

24th March— Reception singing performance at 10am

25th March—Reception singing performance at 10am

25th March—FOMP Easter egg hunt

26th March—Parent Consultation evening

27th March—School breaks up for Easter holiday

30th March to 10th April— Easter Holiday

13th April—Children return to school for Summer term

13th to 17th April— STEM week

15th April— Year 3 School trip

21st—22nd April—Year 4 Residential to Burwell House

22nd April—Year 1 WOW Day

28th April—Year 2 Nature Reserve visit

1st May—Dorado Class assembly

4th May—May Day Holiday

6th May—KS1 Wellbeing Wednesday

11th to 14th May—Key Stage 2 SATS week

12th May—Reception Come and Share pm

15th May—FOMP Break the Rules Day

20th May—KS2 Wellbeing Wednesday

20th—22nd May—Year 6 PGL residential trip

22nd May—break up for half term

25th to 29th May—Half term holiday

1st June—INSET Day (school closed for children)

2nd June—Children return to school

2nd to 12th June—Year 4 Multiplication Checks

8th to 12th June—Phonic check for Year 1

10th June—New Reception 2026 Come and Play

12th June—Lacerta Class assembly

12th June—Class photographs

15th—19th June—Healthy Lifestyles Week

16th June—New Reception 2026 Come and Play



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

The Joys of Spring!

The children have been really enjoying the wonderful Spring weather this week and have had so much fun playing out in the preschool garden together. Outdoor play is a really important part of the Care and Learning Centre approach and we play outside every day, in all weathers. However, the recent warm sunshine has certainly encouraged out even our most hesitant, fair weather pupils! The children have been very interested in the ladybirds that have begun to appear in large numbers in the garden, and also had a fantastic time exploring the mud kitchen, wheelbarrows and balancing equipment.

Eid Mubarak

We would like to wish Eid Mubarak to all of our families who are celebrating today and this weekend. We will be talking about Eid at preschool on Monday, so it would be great if you could share any photos of your celebrations with us on Evidence Me.

Best wishes,
Jane Turner
Early Years Teacher & Pre-School Manager