

Newsletter 2

Friday 17th September 2021

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A Fast Paced Week

Have we only been back in school for two weeks? I do know the old adage that 'time flies by when you are enjoying yourself' is certainly true as my days move at such a tremendous pace because we are all enjoying learning together.

I do hope you have enjoyed browsing the exhibits in our online art gallery. If you haven't already had a peek, then I would highly recommend a virtual visit. All the art work was produced around the theme of journeys, to mark the strange journey we have all been on over the past year.

Everyone loves an award, and I am thrilled to announce that Monkfield Park has gained two further accolades to add to our collection. Miss Simpson and Eco-Club have continued to work very hard over the past year to encourage us all to be more conscious of the impact we are having on our incredible planet. Their hard work has been rewarded with the award of the prestigious Eco-Schools Green Flag. In addition our passionate belief in inclusivity has earned us the British Council's International School Award. More about these two awards later in this newsletter.

Mrs Howell

Name Those Jumpers!

Please ensure that all items of your child's school uniform are clearly named. It makes re-uniting lost/ misplaced items with their owner much easier and causes parents and carers less stress when brand new items go missing. Thank you.

The School Day

The staggered system for starting the school day has now been removed with the lifting of Covid 19 restrictions for schools. We have now returned to our usual timetable:

8.40 am—School grounds are open but parents and carers remain responsible for their child.

8.50 am—Classroom doors are open and teaching staff become responsible for children.

9:00 am—Gates and classroom doors are locked.

9:10 am—Registers close for all children

12.00—12.55 pm—Lunch for Reception and Key Stage 1

12.25—1.20 pm—Lunch for Key Stage 2

3.05 pm—School grounds are open

3.15 pm - End of school day for Reception and Key Stage 1

3.30 pm— End of school day for Key Stage 2

Please can we urge you to be punctual for school as minutes of lost learning soon accumulate. The school grounds must be secured for safeguarding reasons at 9.10 am and our registers for the whole school close at 9.10 am to allow the office staff to carry out first response calls.



Eco-Schools



Eco Club has exciting news! We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award to acknowledge, reward and celebrate the ecological achievements of the children at Monkfield Park. This year we will continue to work hard to ensure that the forward-thinking children of Monkfield Park are actively engaged in protecting our planet. This starts with our Eco Club elections

which will be held over the next week.

We are also launching our Eco Club work for this academic year by entering a local competition. Crafty Monkey has launched an engaging plate painting competition designed to get us thinking and discussing current environmental issues. The competition, which is free to enter, is asking everyone, young and old, of any artistic ability, to design a plate with the theme 'Save our Planet'.

The children will be bringing their entry home and all age groups can enter online **at:**

www.mycraftymonkey.com/competition. The lucky winners will get to paint their plate in the Crafty Monkey Studio on Moores Walk, St Neots!



International School Award



We were delighted during the Summer holidays to receive the exciting news that we have been awarded the British Council's prestigious International School Award. Ms Deegan submitted a very impressive portfolio and application which clearly impressed the assessors. The report we received from the British Council praised everyone at Monkfield Park for developing our provision to 'broaden both the experiences and self-assured aspirations of the young people, to be the best they can possibly be to develop as well-rounded, informed global citizens.'

We were very pleased that the assessors noted that, 'it is evident that the school is committed to developing enquiring young learners who are keen to take action to bring about a better, more informed world.' The award has encouraged us to seek further collaborations with schools across the world to further our knowledge and understanding and to make Monkfield Park a centre of global learning.

Headteacher Roll of Honour

Each week this space will provide a celebration of 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:

Caleb in Cygnus Class: Caleb, your writing has impressed me so much this week. Your piece of work about the Romans and Pompeii was AMAZING. It was so pleasing to see you using some conjunctions to join your ideas and some great sentence starters.

Preston in Indigo Class: I would like to thank Preston for being such a hard worker and a fantastic role model for everyone. Preston gives 100% to his work in class and is determined to always do the best he can. You have really impressed everyone with your determination and 'can do' attitude.

Can in Blue Class: Can has really stepped up to the mark in Year 1 and has shown us all what a fantastic writer he is. It is a pleasure to see him getting so many ideas down on paper and enjoying the creative writing process.

Sentence Starters

Ask your Reception child to name some 2D shapes they have found this week.

Ask your Year 1 child to retell the story of the Little Red Hen.

Ask your Year 2 child to explain the rules for moving gymnastics equipment safely in the hall for gymnastics lessons.

Ask your Year 3 child to show you an example of a part whole model.

Ask your Year 4 child to explain how Roman numerals work. Can you write your house number in Roman numerals?

Ask your Year 5 child to list the features of a formal letter.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain why and how earthquakes occur.

A Safe Playground

Staff become responsible for the children at 8.50 am. It is very important that all children stay with their accompanying adult and do not wander off. Please can we request that parents and carers do not allow their child to climb the trees, onto the storage containers, the walls or benches. It is also important that parents and carers do not permit children to use any of the outdoor play equipment that is located in the grounds of the school such as the gym equipment, tractor slide or trim trail. For the safety of the children, only staff supervision enables such activities to take place.

Additionally, we would appreciate adults and children dismounting from scooters and cycles when they enter the school grounds, to avoid the possibility of collisions with pedestrians.

Ball games are not permitted before or after school, to ensure the safety of all those who access the site with small children at these busy times. Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

In School This Week

Steel Bones Visit Year 3

We were delighted to be able to welcome Steel Bones back to Monkfield Park this week. Steel Bones is a charity which supports amputees and their families. A big part of their work is in education, raising awareness amongst children of the challenges amputees face and how individuals have overcome the barriers to lead active lives.

The Steel Bones Team, led by Steve, gave Year 3 children the chance to experience a range of inclusive sports suitable for all abilities and for those with physical impairments. The children were able to participate in seated Boccia, a precision ball game similar to bowls or petanque led by Marc, who has taken up this sport since losing his leg to cancer.

Brian, who is a wheelchair user, led a game of seated volleyball and Ian, who has a visual impairment, taught the children how to play VI football using a bell ball and blindfolds.



FORTHCOMING DATES 2021 to 2022

The arrangements for all these events may be subject to change if there are changes in Government and Local Authority guidance. Until further notice, most of the large events will take place virtually via Zoom.

20th September at 6pm—ReadWrite Inc. information evening for Reception parents via Zoom

w/c 20th September—Recycling week

w/c 27th September—Harvest Festival week

w/c 27th September—Year 6 Bikeability

1st October—Year 4 Bikeability

11th October—Individual school photographs

12th October 5pm -7.30pm—Parent consultation evening

15th October at 9am— Indigo Class Assembly

21st October 4pm —7pm—Parent consultation evening

25th—29th October—HALF TERM

1st November—Children return to school

12th November at 9am—Blue Class assembly

w/c 15th November—Anti bullying week

16th November at 2pm—Year 2 Production

18th November at 2pm—Year 2 Production

19th November—Children in Need Day

14th December at 2pm—Year 4 Carol Concert

15th December at 2pm—Year 1 Nativity Play

16th December at 2pm—Year 1 Nativity Play

16th December at 6pm—Year 4 Carol Concert

17th December—LAST DAY OF TERM

20th December—3rd January 2022—CHRISTMAS BREAK

4th January—INSET Day (school closed for children)

5th January—Children return to school

Parent Carer Drop Ins

This half term, we are able to offer parents/carers the opportunity to drop in to see the Acting Head Teacher (Mrs Howell) about any aspect of school life. The dates and times are listed below for this half term. Please note, however, that there is no appointment system and that parents will be seen on a first come, first served basis during a 1:1 meeting:

29th September 8.30 am to 9.30 am

6th October 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm