

Newsletter 9

Friday 10th November 2023

In this issue:

Anti-bullying week

Natterhub webinar

Art Gallery

Duxford trip

Improving playtimes

Reception places 2024

Headteacher's Roll of Honour

Sentence Starters

Come and Read

Forthcoming dates

Care and Learning Centre



Anti-Bullying Week

I am often asked if bullying happens at Monkfield Park. I have to be truthful and explain that sadly it does as when over 400 children are together some bullying is inevitable. However, it is what we do about bullying when we are informed about it that is really important. As a school we have a zero tolerance approach to bullying and part of that approach is to ensure that we raise awareness of bullying in school and elsewhere, and to highlight ways of preventing and responding to it.

Next week is National Anti-Bullying Week when we will be 'Making A Noise About Bullying'. The theme this year aims to empower children to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes. The children will be taking part in a range of activities and workshops across the week linked to the theme which will help them to reflect on bullying behaviours and what we can all do to stamp out bullying and keep all children safe.

If you would like to support your children at home, the Anti-Bullying Alliance has produced some excellent resources for parents and carers which can be found at

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2023-make-noise-about-bullying/parents-and-carers>

Mrs Howell.

Live event back by popular demand!

Keeping our children safe online is a modern day 'minefield' that we all have to negotiate each day. In school we use Natterhub to teach the children about how to keep themselves safe online in a fun and interactive way. In support of Anti-Bullying Week Natterhub is hosting a free webinar for parents and carers on Thursday 23rd November at 7 pm. This is a great opportunity to pick up tips and strategies for keeping your child safe online. The webinar can be accessed on : https://www.youtube.com/live/8_9mhZx8-ZE?si=Dn1wksyb1VGlgKYc

Webinar Details

Free Parent Webinar: Creating a Safe Digital Playground for Your Child

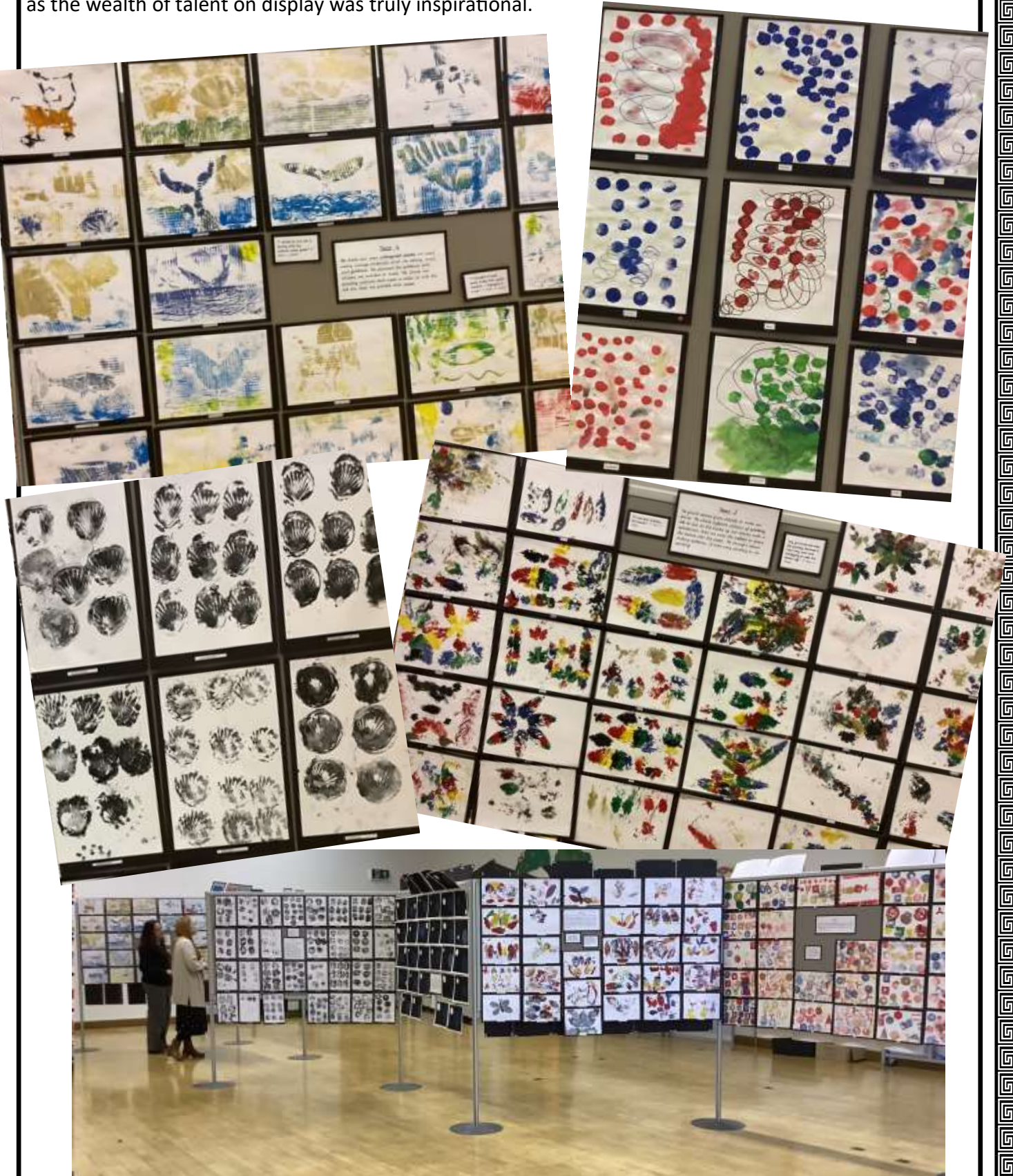
Thursday 23 November at 1900hrs (GMT)

Live stream on YouTube, no login required.

Webinar Access Link

Pop-Up Art Gallery

I am so pleased that so many of you were able to visit our latest Pop-Up Art Gallery this week. Each year we focus on a key skill which the children are developing across the school; this year our focus is printing. The children enjoyed experimenting with a range of printing techniques from using natural materials, such as leaves, to making their own lino prints and screen prints. I am sure you will agree that the gallery was a great show case for the children's skills and enormous creativity. I felt so proud of all the children as the wealth of talent on display was truly inspirational.



Year 6 Visit to Duxford

On Wednesday Year 6 visited the Imperial War Museum at Duxford to carry out some hands-on research about the First World War. In school, the children have been learning about the causes of the First World War and what life was like for soldiers in the trenches. At Duxford they were able to see so many original vehicles from WWI including the red London buses used to transport troops to the Western Front and some of the earliest planes and tanks which were employed in battle.





Applying for a School Place



If your child was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020, and you live in Cambridgeshire you need to apply for a Reception place for September 2024.

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. Please join us for one of our parent tours which can be booked by contacting the school office. The next tour dates are:

Friday 24th November at 9.30am

Wednesday 13th December at 9.30am.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school and hope you will join us for one of the tours.

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:

Vaanya in Delphinus Class; Aiyana in Pegasus Class; Leila in Phoenix Class; Jakub in Lacerta; Hamza in Cygnus Class; Zakariya in Dorado Class.

We frequently have visitors to Monkfield Park who gather pupil voice about the experiences of the children in school, what they would like to improve and what they enjoy about their education. This week we had a visit from one of the senior advisors from the Local Authority who met with the children to gather their opinions about school. I was very proud of the children as they were so eloquent, reflective and very confident in giving their views. They were all fantastic ambassadors for our school and impressed our visitor with their wonderful responses. A huge thank you and well done to them all for demonstrating what wonderful learning takes place at our school.

Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to retell the story of 'Room on the Broom' using words and actions.

Ask your Year 1 child to retell the story of 'Ocean Meets Sky'.

Ask your Year 2 child to give you an example of an AA sentence (adjective, adjective noun).

Ask your Year 3 child to describe the climate of a desert.

Ask your Year 4 child to list the things that can cause a tsunami.

Ask your Year 5 child to what would have been their least favourite job in Victorian times.

Ask your Year 6 child to tell you about the WWI aircraft they saw at Duxford.

Staff News

We are delighted to announce that Mr Ben Yates (Lacerta Class teacher) and his wife Hannah are expecting their first child in February. We look forward to meeting Baby Yates in the Spring term and welcoming them into the Monkfield Park family. I hope you will join me in sending many congratulations and good wishes to Mr and Mrs Yates.

FORTHCOMING DATES Autumn Term 2023

w/c 13th November—Anti bullying week

17th November—Children in Need Day

22nd November—Flu vaccinations for all children

23rd November—2.30pm to 3.30pm — Headteacher's Drop In

Change of date for Indigo Class Assembly. This will now take place on 24th November at 9.15am

24th November—Tour for prospective parents at 9.30am—this is now full

30th November—Whole school Tudor WOW Day

4th December —Tour for prospective parents at 2.00pm—this is now full

5th December—Reception pantomime trip

12th December at 2pm—Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Carol Concert

13th December —Tour for prospective parents at 9.30am—space available still

13th December at 2pm—Year 1 Nativity Play

13th December at 6pm—Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Carol Concert

14th December—9.00am to 10.00am—Headteacher's Drop In

14th December at 2pm—Year 1 Nativity Play

14th December at 6pm—Year 3 and Year 4 Carol Concert

20th December—LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM

21st December—3rd January 2024—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

4th & 5th January—INSET Days (school closed for children)

8th January—Children return to school for Spring term

22nd to 26th January—International Week

26th January—Violet Class assembly

2nd February - Columba Class assembly

5th to 9th February—Children's Mental Health Week

8th February—Reception Come and Share

9th February—Blue Class assembly

13th February—Year 2 performance at 2pm

14th February—Year 2 performance at 2pm

16th February—Break up for half term

19th to 23rd February—Half Term

26th February—Children return to school

8th March—Cygnus Class Assembly

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 News

This week the children have been captivated by our learning about Diwali. First, we watched some short CBeebies programmes from the 'Let's Celebrate' series, which showed us how one little girl prepared for, and celebrated Diwali with her family. The children then had a go at making colourful rangoli patterns to decorate our pre-school doorstep, as well as decorating their hands with some beautiful Mehndi patterns. We have also been learning a great song about Diwali which both the children and adults can't stop singing all around the setting!

Today, we have had an exciting visit from an Indian dancer who we watched perform, before having a go at some dancing ourselves. Look out for photos and videos of this on Evidence Me. We have also been so lucky to try some traditional Indian sweets which our own Mrs Govender has very kindly made for all the children. Thank you so much Mrs Govender!

Happy Diwali to all of our families celebrating this weekend. Please bring in or post some photographs of your celebrations for us to share with the class and display.

Best wishes

Mrs Turner

