

Newsletter 32

Friday 22nd May 2026

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Greetings from PGL.

You may have noticed my absence from the playground over the last couple of days so I would just like to assure you that I haven't been abducted by aliens and I am definitely not unwell! The truth is I am away at PGL with our Year 6 children, enjoying their amazing residential trip. As a result, the newsletter is going to be slightly shorter this week.

I have to admit to loving the PGL experience. There is something wonderful about the adrenalin rush you get when launching yourself from the top of a high tower and abseiling to the ground or when you pluck up the courage to pull the cord which releases the giant swing, hurling you into the air. I suppose it is rather like teaching—lots of adrenalin and facing the unknown every day but pure exhilaration and so rewarding.

Back in school I know that Mrs Major, Mrs Ray and the staff have been doing a wonderful job holding the fort in my absence. I am very grateful to them for allowing me to share this very special experience with the children. I am sorry to miss Blue Class assembly as it is always wonderful to see the children sharing their learning with their families, but I look forward to hearing all about it when I get back.

With very best wishes for a wonderful half-term break.

Mrs Howell

Eco Club Map the School Grounds

Eco Club were delighted to welcome Genna Gilmore from the National Education Nature Park to their meeting this week. Genna worked with the children to identify and categorise the different habitats around the school site as part of a data collection programme which allows us to measure and track the gains we achieve for nature at our school. We all know how important nature is for our wellbeing and so this is a priority for Eco Club who want to ensure that our school site is biodiverse and benefits our entire school community.

A Wonderful Response

Last week we featured the beautiful book full of work the children produced to celebrate the 100th birthday of Sir David Attenborough. Mrs Dutton gathered all the work together and posted the book to Sir David in time for his 100th birthday celebrations on 8th May. We were absolutely delighted to receive a letter of thanks from Susan Attenborough, Sir David's daughter. The letter was shared with the children in assembly on Monday.



Sentence starters

- Ask your Reception child to tell you about the lifecycle of a ladybird.
- Ask your Year 1 child to explain why planting flowers is beneficial for wildlife.
- Ask your Year 2 child to tell you the different fractions they know (e.g. $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$) and to explain which ones are equivalent.
- Ask your Year 3 child to explain what jobs children had to do during the Industrial Revolution.
- Ask your Year 4 child to give some examples of time conjunctions which might be used in recipes.
- Ask your Year 5 child to explain the process of pollination.
- Ask your Year 6 child to describe the work of the artist Jean Paul Basquiat.

FORTHCOMING DATES SPRING TERM 2026

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

3rd June—OPAL afternoon

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

10th June—New Reception 2026 Come and Play

10th June—Monkfield's Got Talent (KS2)

12th June—Lacerta Class assembly 9:15am

12th June—Class photographs

15th—19th June—Healthy Lifestyles Week

16th June—New Reception 2026 Come and Play

18th June—Year 5 trip to Warner Brothers' Studio

19th June—Aquila Class Assembly 9:15am

24th June—Reception and KS1 Sports Day

24th June - New Reception 2026 Parents' Evening

25th June—New Reception 2026 Come and Play

26th June—Reserve Reception and KS1 Sports Day

1st July—KS2 Sports Day

2nd July—KS2 Reserve Sports Day

3rd July—Move Up Morning

3rd July—End of year reports sent to parents

3rd July—FOMP Summer Fete

7th July—Year 6 production at 6pm

9th July—Year 6 production at 6pm

16th July—Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 10am

17th July—Last day of the academic year.

20th July to 31st August—Summer holiday

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

2nd September—INSET Day (school closed for children)

3rd September—Children return to school for Autumn term



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 Butterflies Have Emerged!

On Monday, the children were thrilled to see that all of our butterflies had emerged from their cocoons over the weekend. At Together Time this week, we have observed the butterflies for some time, watching as they gradually started to open their wings and fly around in the net. The children were also very interested to see the empty, crispy cocoon shells that the butterflies had left behind. We talked about the colours and patterns on the butterflies' wings and noticed that both of the wings had the same colours and patterns. Following on from this, the children in the Rabbit Group have started to learn about symmetry, making their own symmetrical patterns during play. On Thursday, we released the butterflies into our garden. We all went outside together and watched in awe and wonder as the butterflies flew off one by one into the sky. What a wonderful learning experience this has been!

Next week is half-term and the preschool will be closed. Monday June 1st is a whole school training day, so the preschool will also be closed on this day. We look forward to seeing everyone back at the Care and Learning Centre on Tuesday June 2nd.

Wishing you all a wonderful break!

Best wishes

Jane Turner,
Early Years Teacher and Pre-School Manager