

Newsletter 32

Friday 18th June 2021

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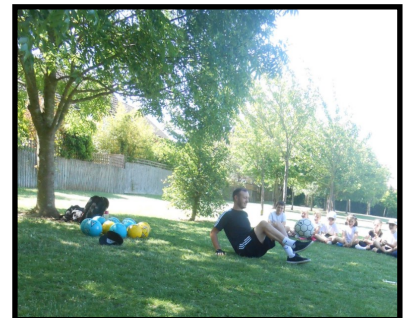
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Healthy Lifestyles Week meets Eco Week

Teaching children how to be aware of their physical and mental well-being as well as taking steps to improve and support this, is an important aspect of the work that we do with children at Monkfield Park. What better way to re-motivate children's thinking around this than by holding a dedicated 'healthy lifestyles week' in school? Following lockdown, we considered this to be a great way to remind children about life-style choices such as choosing nutritious foods, taking regular exercise and thinking about ways to relax, which are good for us. Not only that, but we took the chance to combine this with our 'Eco-week' so that we could also inspire children to think more about how our actions can have a longer term effect upon sustainability and well-being in the future.

The week began with a fast and furious workout with Tanzii TV and a crew from BBC Radio Cambridgeshire. Tanzii TV are currently putting together an active YouTube programme especially designed for children. BBC Radio Cambridgeshire were so interested in this launch that they came along to see us in action. Leah Collins, who is the delivery co-ordinator for the 'Healthy You' programme, also talked to our children about how to make healthy diet choices, including snacks, by leading sessions around the 'Eat Well Guide'.

The fun didn't stop there, as we had skipping workshops in school, with Pete Thompson who has won awards for his speed skipping. He demonstrated this to the children in the capacity of his alter ego, known as 'the skipping ninja'. During a special assembly, the children learnt about how skipping had changed Pete's life before taking part in his workshops that aimed to get children moving and motivated. The children also had the chance to see Ash Randall in action—Ash is a Freestyle Footballer, so you can only imagine how in awe our children were and how inspired they were to be more active having witnessed his ball skills. Some Year 6 children joined a first aid course in order to become 'mini medics' which very much inspired them to think about their future within the medical field.



Healthy
Lifestyle



Reflection Garden—still time to donate and an update

We have extended the time frame in which families are able to donate to the Rocketfund page in order to contribute to our plans for a school reflection garden, in memory of Dilni. If you would like to donate, then you can do so by following the link below:

<https://www.rocketfund.org/additional-funds-for-our-new-reflection-garden?tk=f19d607ef10f89297bf5293b73bc46f91763c877>



We have now been in contact with the makers of the mosaic centrepiece, and have set a time frame for a September installation, so we still have plenty of time to collect contributions and to raise money for this cause. The children in school have been busily designing features that could be included in this area, and we are hopeful that we will also have enough funds to be able to add some benches, planters, a water feature and some decorative items to enhance the design further. We do hope that you feel able to contribute in any small way to this lasting memorial for our school, particularly since the children have started to think about the artwork that will go into the mosaic feature.

Staff News

Mr Attfield, who was both a Teaching Assistant and Midday Supervisor at Monkfield Park, has left our school this week, after six years supporting children in our school. We wish Mr Attfield the very best as we know that lots of children benefitted from his kind and caring nature.

Headteacher Roll of Honour

Lucas in Lacerta Class - Over the half term Lucas took part in an inter-county chess match, playing as Rareperfectpuzzle. Lucas was the highest scoring player on the Cambridgeshire team and came first in the competition as well. What a talented boy, well done Lucas!

Anika in Aqulia Class - Anika really went to the next level in her work on prepositions this week. She really does understand how to make some significant improvements to her learning.

Sentence Starters

Ask your Reception child to pretend to be a snail and go on a journey describing what they can smell and see.

Ask your Year 1 child to recall a fact they have learnt about Japan.

Ask your Year 2 child to name and explain the different parts of a plant.

Ask your Year 3 child to tell the time to the nearest minute.

Ask your Year 4 child to do a 'show me, don't tell me'.

Ask your Year 5 child why air quality is so important.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain why tsunamis occur.



Pinpoint's Annual Special Needs Conference for Parent Carers – FREE – 17th and 18th June

If you haven't booked your place at one of the six conference presentations, it's not too late. We will receive an update on progress on the Cambridgeshire SEND Strategy which Wendi Ogle Welbourne, Executive Director for People & Communities Cambridgeshire, will introduce. Professor Sir Simon Baron Cohen from Cambridge University will talk about the new Autism Centre for Excellence which will be working with the County Council. We will hear from Dr Venkat Reddy, Consultant Neurodevelopmental Paediatrician and Lead Clinician for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust, about how an Autism diagnosis works and the new pathway. Janet Dullaghan, the lead Commissioner, will present the new draft Cambridgeshire's New Autism Strategy as it's prepared for a Summer/Autumn consultation. Dr Max Davie, from Guys and St Thomas' Hospitals, will explain everything you need to know about ADHD. Kirsten Branigan, the Principal Education Psychologist for Cambridgeshire, will explain how assessments can help identify needs and the process of applying for an ECHA and will be joined by colleagues to share the Dyslexia Guidance for schools. The Statutory Assessment Team, with SENDIASS, will explain what happens once you have and EHCP. All sessions are free of charge: book your place here: <https://www.pinpoint-cambs.org.uk/pinpoints-annual-conference-17th-and-18th-june-2021/>

Forthcoming Dates

21st June—Reception & Key Stage 1 sports day practise (children to wear PE kits)
22nd June—Year 4 Mini Olympics (children to wear PE kits)
23rd June—Reception & Key Stage 1 sports day (children to wear PE kits)
24th June—Reserve Reception & Key Stage 1 sports day
28th June—Key Stage 2 sports day practise (children to wear PE kits)
30th June—Key Stage 2 sports day (children to wear PE kits)
1st July—Reserve Key Stage 2 sports day
1st July—New Reception children come and play at 9.30am— **POSTPONED TO SEPTEMBER** (PLEASE SEE SEPARATE LETTER)
2nd July—Columba Class assembly at 9.15am(via Zoom)
7th July—New Reception children come and play at 9.30am—**POSTPONED TO SEPTEMBER** (PLEASE SEE SEPARATE LETTER)
7th July —New Reception parents' evening at 6.00pm (Via Zoom—please see separate letter)
8th & 9th July—Year 6 new intake days at Cambourne Village College (children to take packed lunches)
9th July—Reports sent home to parents
9th July—Children visit their new classrooms and teachers for next academic year (Move up afternoon)
12th July 3.45pm to 5.15pm—Reports drop in (more details to follow)
13th July—New Reception children come and play at 9.30am—**POSTPONED TO SEPTEMBER** (PLEASE SEE SEPARATE LETTER)
15th July—Year 6 production at 6pm (via Zoom and with more details to follow)
21st July—Year 6 Leavers' assembly at 10am (via Zoom)
22nd July—Last day of Summer term
23rd July—Start of Summer holidays

These dates may be subject to change if there are changes in Government and Local Authority guidance.



Show you care, park elsewhere!!!!

We know that most of our families live within a short walking or cycling distance of the school and can therefore make the journey to school without the need for a vehicle. However, we have recently noticed that where families do use a vehicle to travel, there is some very dangerous and inconsiderate parking that is happening around our school. We have noticed that some parents are even parking on the double yellow lines, which mean 'no waiting, unless there are signs that specifically indicate seasonal restrictions'. For the safety of our children, we request that all parents who choose to use a vehicle are mindful of the restrictions and that they adhere to these. The road markings have been put there to ensure that the children who attend our school can do so safely. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.



Eco Week

What is Eco Week? It is a week to raise awareness of the concerns that our environment is facing. Furthermore, this week also tackles the necessary steps the children can help with to protect the Earth. It is a great opportunity for the children to do something bigger for our planet.

As part of Eco Week, the children are taking part in a competition called Radio Two's Big Bee Challenge 2021. In school, the children will be designing a bee garden. They will bring their entry home for you to upload on the following link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/send/u79641950>. The Big Bee Challenge is Radio 2's brand new competition for children, between the ages of 6 and 12, in partnership with the Royal Horticultural Society. The winner's design will be built by the RHS at an NHS Trust site which is used by children and young people with mental health needs. For further details about the competition, please head to the website: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/2qk4dDdJJdsVFmcLhZ7RwmW/how-to-enter>.

To support awareness raising amongst the children and an appreciation of our natural world, the children focussed upon five areas of sustainability that included: energy, biodiversity, waste, clean air and marine life. Children learnt about harnessing wind and solar forms to create energy and also took part in the challenges set by the The Wildlife Trust as part of their '30 days wild' activities. We also had a visit from Dan McClure from South Cambs District Council, who introduced our 'clean air day' assembly and related activities to the children. It was terribly exciting for us to also be part of a Year 5 Facebook live event that was broadcast to tell people more about our air quality monitoring tool that is now located in our school.



Friends of Monkfield Park second hand uniform shop

You may be interested to know that the Friends of Monkfield Park have set up a designated Facebook page where they are able to sell second hand school uniform (often in a very good condition). If you would like to purchase much discounted school uniform then you are able to find their page by following: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2556997784615436/> or simply by searching 'Monkfield Park Second Hand Uniform' on Facebook.

Early Intervention Family Worker Newsletter

7th June 2021

A Message From Me

Hi my name is Sam and I am your Early Intervention family worker.
I can help support you with any general parenting issue you may be experiencing at home.

Please find my contact email address below.
I look forward to hearing from you.

Parenting Top Tip

Look after your own mental health

Be aware of what can make us stressed, anxious or depressed. Do we have a network of support - be that a partner, friends, school, or the local council's parenting classes?

Make sure there is support for yourself, that makes parenting less isolating, that there is space to offload. For working parents, it can be stressful to balance raising kids and working.

If we feel good and are calm, if we feel mentally well, we can better support our children.

Activity Idea



Another Resource

FAMILY LINKS

Family Links is a national charity and training organisation dedicated to the promotion of emotional health at home, at school, and at work.

Our vision is for every child and adult to be able to realise their individual potential, enjoy positive relationships and live healthy and fulfilled lives.

<https://www.familylinks.org.uk/what-we-do>

Does your child have, or potentially have, an additional need or disability? Pinpoint (www.pinpoint-cambs.org.uk) have lots of information, advice and tips. For Cambridgeshire's Local Offer go to www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/local-offer



Cambridgeshire
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