

# Newsletter 6

Friday 18th October 2024

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## Money Fortnight

Last week was the culmination of Money Fortnight in school. Having spent the first week in a hive of activity planning and making their products, the children couldn't wait to get out onto the playgrounds to sell their wares. From doughnuts and pebble pets to Christmas decorations and popcorn, our budding entrepreneurs had come up with some really interesting ideas to make money. I am absolutely delighted to announce that the total amount of money made by all the classes from Years 1 to 6 was an enormous £919.75! Of course we always like to have an element of competition and the year group who made the most profit was Year 5 who made a huge £181.79. The other awards for the most eco-friendly products and the best accounting will be announced in assembly on Monday. A huge well done to all the children for their inventiveness and hard work

With best wishes MRS HOWELL.



## OPAL—Can you Help?

After half term we will be launching our exciting new project to make our playtimes even better, in conjunction with Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL). In 2018, OPAL won the best active schools' programme in Europe award and has been cited in two parliamentary reports as delivering outstanding practice. OPAL is working closely with Sport England to promote more active childhoods, which is one of the many reasons we are improving our playtime, as well as to improve opportunities for socialisation, cooperation, coordination, resilience, creativity, imagination and enjoyment for your child.

Mrs Hickmott is our OPAL Play Coordinator and following an audit of our current play resources she is starting to request donations of items for our OPAL 'Quick Win ideas' as the initial stage of the scheme. If you have any of the following items that you no longer use/need then we would be really grateful for any donations:

**Chalk - any colour/size**

**Bubble machines/Bubble accessories**

**Lego and Duplo**

**Clean Brooms/Dustpan Brushes (Brush only please)**

**Small World Toys - Including vehicles, animals, dinosaurs, people (e.g. playmobil or similar small figures)**

Any donations can be dropped at the school office marked for OPAL or Mrs Hickmott. Can we please ask that all donations are clean and of a good quality with no missing pieces or broken parts.

Thank you.

## Well Done Eco Club

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Eco Club, Monkfield Park has been awarded the prestigious Eco Schools' Green Flag.

Each year the elected Eco-Club representatives work with Mrs McCarthy to formulate an action plan to raise everyone's awareness of sustainability and to make our school a better place to learn. As part of last year's winning action plan, the children came up with a number of initiatives which have included carrying out frequent litter picks on the school grounds, promoting recycling in the classrooms by collecting paper and cardboard, coordinating walk to school week to promote healthier and more sustainable modes of travel, and encouraging everyone in school to think about conserving water, heat and electricity, in addition to introducing more plants to the school grounds..

We are all incredibly proud of the children's efforts and are grateful to them for leading the way in helping us become a more sustainable school. Mrs McCarthy commented, "applying for Eco-Schools accreditation has been the perfect way to acknowledge, reward and celebrate the ecological achievements of our children. The Green Flag demonstrates that their hard work is appreciated, and it provides them with the confidence and motivation to continue actively working to protect our planet."

The children are already thinking about new initiatives to tackle this year and have been discussing their ideas with Mrs McCarthy in their meetings. One thing is certain, with the energy and determination of such an incredible group of young people we are sure that their initiatives will certainly make a difference to our school and local environment.





## The Rotten Romans

Do you know what a testudo, a wedge or an orb formation are? Year 4 would be very happy to demonstrate them for you as they had a fantastic WOW day completing lots of fun historical activities and putting their learning about the Romans into action. The children constructed edible Roman roads, practised Roman numerals, designed clay coins of different denominations, created mosaics and practised their marching and battle formations, before re-enacting a classic Roman battle.



## Keeping Children Safe Online

The online world gives us access to a huge amount of information and services, but the scale of information available also means that there is content that is inappropriate for children to view. Recently, we have been made aware that some children have been accessing inappropriate films and other content on YouTube which does raise safeguarding concerns for us. What is or isn't appropriate could be based on things like age, ability, beliefs and family values. Parental controls will allow you to block and filter upsetting or inappropriate content but it is also important that you monitor your children when they are using phones, tablets and other devices as children are always one step ahead of us! The NSPCC advises parents and carers to: plan what time of day your child can go online and for how long so that you can supervise them, create content filters to block apps that may have inappropriate content, and to manage the content different family members can see by having good, strong passwords.



## Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to go on a texture hunt around your home.

Ask your Year 1 child to tell you about the animals Safari Stu brought to show us.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you a set of numbers (number bonds) they can add to make ten.

Ask your Year 3 child to explain why the festival of Yom Kippur is important for followers of Judaism.

Ask your Year 4 child to describe the Roman battle formations and why they think they were effective.

Ask your Year 5 child to explain how using an inverse operation can be useful.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain a written method for multiplication.

## Mrs Walsh is Here to Help

Many of you will have seen Mrs Walsh, our Family Support Worker, on the playground every morning.



Mrs Walsh works closely with families and children to offer a wide range of support, including providing safeguarding advice and guidance, preventing needs escalating so that intervention by specialist services is not required, tackling underachievement, and enabling children to have full access to educational opportunities by overcoming barriers to attendance. Please do speak to Mrs Walsh if you would like to know more about her role and how she can help and support you and your child.



## FORTHCOMING DATES Autumn Term 2024

21st to 25th October—Art Week

24th October 4pm —6.30pm—Parent consultation evening via zoom

28th October—1st November —HALF TERM

4th November—Children return to school

5th to 7th November—Children’s Art Gallery

w/c 11th November—Anti bullying week

14th November—Open Evening and Tour for prospective parents at 5.30pm

15th November—Children in Need Day

22nd November at 9.15am—Indigo Class assembly

26th November at 9.30am—Reception 2025 tour

26th November—Trunk Theatre visiting Year 2

4th December at 2.00pm—Reception 2025 tour

10th December at 2pm—Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Carol Concert

12th December at 2.00pm—Reception 2025 tour

12th December at 6pm—Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Carol Concert

16th December—Reception theatre trip

17th December at 2pm—Year 1 Nativity Play

18th December at 10am—Year 1 Nativity Play

18th December—Team afternoon

19th December—Christmas Lunch

20th December—LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM

23rd December—3rd January 2025—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

6th and 7th January—INSET Days (school closed for children)

8th January—Children return to school

24th January—Columba Class assembly

3rd to 7th February—Children’s Mental Health week

3rd February—Reception and Year 6 height and weight measuring

5th February—KS1 Wellbeing Wednesday

## Applying for a School Place for September 2025

If your child will  
be aged 4 by  
**31<sup>st</sup> August  
2025**

You need to  
apply **NOW**  
for a School  
place



**SCAN ME**

**Apply by  
15<sup>th</sup> January  
2025**

For further information please visit  
[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions)  
or contact your local School

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 and staff. Please join us for one of our parent tours which can be booked by contacting the school office on 01954 273377 or by email :[office@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk)

The current tour dates are:

Thursday 14th November 5.30pm

Tuesday 26th November 9.30am Now Full

Wednesday 4th December 2.00pm

Thursday 12th December 2.00pm

We very much look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school and hope you will join us for one of the tours. If you are unable to make this date, please contact the school office and we will be happy to arrange a mutually convenient date for you to visit the school and meet the Headteacher.



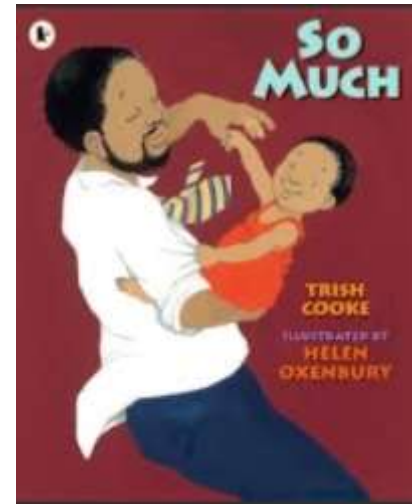
For general queries regarding the Care and Learning Centre, please contact the school office by e-mail on: [clcoffice@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:clcoffice@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk) or by telephoning 01954 273377.

To speak with a member of the Care and Learning Centre staff please telephone 01954 273301

### Story Time

This week we have been reading the fantastic story, 'So Much' by Trish Cooke.

The children have loved joining in with the refrains, doing so with great gusto! We have also been learning the words 'title' and 'author' and the meaning of these words.



### New Resources

The children have had a wonderful time using our new circular bike in the garden this week. It is fantastic for collaborative and social play, as children can chat and laugh together as they push themselves around.



Have a great weekend everyone  
*JANE TURNER*