

Newsletter 14

Friday 20th December
2024

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Sending Christmas Greetings

As the term draws to a close it has been a very busy week of Christmas festivities which have included a delicious Christmas lunch, the Year 1 Nativity play, carol singing, Team afternoon and the staff pantomime! It has also been a time to reflect on all the wonderful things we have enjoyed this term and to celebrate the many incredible efforts and achievements of the children.

With the end of the year approaching, I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all our staff and volunteers for their hard work throughout 2024, and to also thank you, our Monkfield Park parents and families, for your ongoing support. On behalf of the staff I would like to thank you all for your very generous gifts and cards and send you all good wishes for a joyful Christmas and a happy and prosperous 2025.

Mrs Howell.



Born in a Barn

I have to admit to being very fond of a Nativity play and when reflecting on the amazing Year 1 performance of Born in a Barn I realised this was the 40th Nativity play I have been fortunate to watch here at Monkfield Park! This year, the children recounted the Christmas story from the point of view of the cows, sheep, pigs, cat and cockerel as they learnt from the donkeys about the special baby who had arrived in their midst. Full of very catchy songs, great costumes and some inspirational acting which captivated everyone, the children sprinkled some much needed star dust into our week.



Christingles

Year 3 have been feeling blessed in the making of their Christingles, as they have been helped along in this project by several friends. We are very grateful to Morrison's supermarket who kindly donated two large boxes of oranges following a request by Ms Deegan's son for us. Mrs Wifa's order of



Christingle candles from Amazon was delayed due to the Christmas rush on deliveries, but our friends at the Vine School kindly gave us an advance from their supply. It has really felt like there was some true Christmas magic in the air and we would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has helped.

Santa Dash

Everyone feels the need to do some exercise at Christmas so, in preparation for our Christmas lunch, the children took part in the Santa Dash organised by National School Games. Every class completed an obstacle course which got pulses racing and left us all feeling ready to enjoy our lunch with no guilty feelings at all. Santa's elves were on hand to keep everyone motivated.



School Uniform Reminder

The children seem to be shooting up so I am aware that many of you will be purchasing new items of school uniform in preparation for the return to school on 8th January 2025. We pride ourselves on our school uniform as we believe it sets the high level expectation which we ask the children to apply to everything we do in school. However, we are aware of the financial implications for our families and therefore we aim to make our school uniform as simple and affordable as possible. The listed items are available from most supermarkets but if you would like to purchase the items with the school logo, these can be ordered online from: <https://myclothing.com>

- A KNEE LENGTH grey skirt
- Grey school trousers or grey school shorts
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Dark green sweatshirt or cardigan
- Black school shoes

Please note that short skirts and sweatshirts with advertising logos are not allowed to be worn as part of school uniform. Leggings are only permitted as part of PE kit. We will be checking that children are wearing their correct school uniform and kindly request that you inform us if you have any problems obtaining items of school uniform.

FOMP have a good stock of second hand uniform which can be purchased from the School Office at very reasonable prices or by e-mailing: sh.uniform.monkfieldpark@gmail.com.

Please can we also remind you to name each item of clothing to enable us to reunite lost items with their owners.

In preparation for our return to the field children will also need a pair of wellingtons or boots to change into at lunchtimes. Please do speak to us or e-mail into the School Office if you are having difficulties sourcing wellingtons. We do have some spare pairs in school.



Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to tell you an interesting fact about reindeers.

Ask your Year 1 child to tell you about their Team afternoon.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you 3 things they learnt from Hayley - the Olympic sprint coach's visit.

Ask your Year 3 child to tell you what the different parts of a Christingle represent.

Ask your Year 4 child to tell you what they can do to be extra environmentally friendly this Christmas.

Ask your Year 5 child to describe their rainforest animal including their appearance, diet and habitat.

Ask your Year 6 child to tell you the most interesting thing they have learnt about the First World War.

Thank you

After each of the Christmas performances we have been collecting all your spare change to support HOPE Against Poverty CIC, our local charity here in Cambourne which does so much to support those who are less fortunate.

Thanks to your generosity we have raised an amazing £218.74

All of the funds raised will be passed to Mahesh Hettiarachchi to support the ongoing food projects both in Cambourne and the surrounding villages.



A Very Special Visitor

Our Reception children were delighted to find they had a very special visitor on Wednesday afternoon. Peppermint, one of Santa's trusted elves, popped by to check that the children were being kind and trying their hardest to be good before the 'big day'. The children were rewarded with a special gift from Santa for working so hard and being role models for everyone in school.



Cambourne Scouts Christmas Tree Recycling



When the decorations come down there is always the conundrum of how to dispose of the Christmas tree. Many of our children belong to the local Scout group in Cambourne and they are offering a recycling service for a small fee and will even collect your tree.

This service will be available on **4th and 5th January** for a very reasonable minimum donation of £5 per tree.

Just scan the QR code here to register or e-mail

kate.carlisle@cambournescoutgroup.org.uk



FORTHCOMING DATES Spring Term 2025

23rd December—3rd January 2025—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

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

8th January—Children return to school

9th January at 2pm—Reception 2025 tour

15th January—Last date for applications for Reception places for September 2025

15th January—Swimming lessons begin for Year 4

23rd January—Public Speaking competition

24th January—Columba Class assembly

30th January—Friendship Games at Cambourne Village College

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

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

5th February—KS1 Wellbeing Wednesday

6th February—Y4 Viking WOW Day

7th February—NSPCC Number Day

7th February—Y1 visit to Cambourne Library

10th February—Year 4 Network CB23 Maths competition

11th February—Year 2 production at 2pm

12th February—Year 2 production at 2pm

12th February—Year 3 Life in Ancient Egypt Day with History off the Page

13th February—Reception Come and Share

17th to 21st February—Half Term Holiday from 9.30am

24th February—Children return to school

5th March—Year 1 Kenya WOW Day

6th March—World Book Day

7th March—Cygnus Class assembly

12th March—Reception vision screening

13th to 18th March—Book Fair in Main Hall

14th March—Red Nose Day

14th March—Violet Class assembly

21st March—Green Class assembly

Applying for a School Place for September 2025

If your child will
be aged 4 by
**31st August
2025**

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



SCAN ME

**Apply by
15th January
2025**

For further information please visit
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

The last tour date is:

Thursday 9th January at 2.00 pm

We very much look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school and hope you will join us for one of the tours. We are aware that time is if you are unable to make either of the remaining dates, please contact the school office and we will be happy to arrange a mutually convenient time 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 or by telephoning 01954 273377.

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

An Elf Visit!

We had such an exciting surprise this week when one of Santa's elves came to visit the Care and Learning Centre. She gave us all a present to take home and then we sang one of our Christmas songs to her. The children were really brave going up to collect their presents!

It's been another week full of celebrations and special activities and I know that both the children and the staff are ready for good rest over the Christmas holidays. The Care and Learning Centre team would like to wish all of our families a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you back at pre-school on Wednesday 8th January.

**Best wishes,
Jane Turner**

