

Newsletter 25

Friday 19th April 2024

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Welcome Back to the Summer Term!

With the temperatures plunging back to single figures it seems very strange to be welcoming you all back to the summer term. School drop off on Monday saw torrential rain, thunder, strong, chilly winds and hail in the space of 15 minutes! However, this changeable weather hasn't dampened the children's spirits and it has been a pleasure to have the school full of their joyful chatter and laughter.

As the term begins, I would like to welcome Mrs Rawlins and Mrs Brady to the staff team as the new teachers for Phoenix Class. They are already getting to know the children and are settling into life at Monkfield Park. It is also good to welcome Mrs Dutton back to our staff team.

There is so much happening across the school already and it promises to be a busy term ahead as staff have many exciting activities planned for the children. Please check the diary dates and the newsletter for information about the many events which will be taking place across the term.

With very best wishes

Mrs Howell.

Annual Parent/Carer Questionnaires



On Monday 22nd April we will be launching our annual stakeholder questionnaires. These questionnaires are very important to us because they let us know how you, the parents and carers, think we are doing. We think your feedback is a crucial part of your child's education and it is vital that you have the opportunity to tell us about what we do well and where we can make improvements. The children will also have the opportunity to complete their surveys in school so that we have their views too. There are separate questionnaires for

School and the Care & Learning Centre and these will be available for two weeks from 10.00 am On Monday 22nd April until Monday 6th May. The questionnaires can be accessed using the links below.

School Parent/Carer Questionnaire 2024: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/14aXQFDqYtGbmTKynKHbPZhidydX4Lr6UhNVwdE3yAdU/edit?pli=1>

Care and Learning Centre Parent/Carer Questionnaire 2024: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tLmn8KS4zOtqZbLnjgBuw7z476nebHC70sEfwqiITPA/edit>

Out of School Club Parent/Carer Questionnaire 2024: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1TbVNC-8rvH-IRPK9rcOr2F2htkhs4vYz6GGawEKf7cU/edit>

We do hope you will take the time to complete the questionnaires as we value all your feedback.

Library Book Amnesty



The library shelves are currently looking rather depleted and we have an inkling that there are lots of books which may be hiding at home in bedrooms and bags. Please could you check your children's bags and bedrooms and encourage them to return any books they have finished reading.? We will be very glad to have the books back for others to borrow. Thank you for your help.

SMART PHONE SAFETY



It has come to our notice this week that some children are posting intimidating and threatening messages on the online social media platform WhatsApp. We understand that these messages are being posted by individuals who have been allowed access to a WhatsApp group used by children from Monkfield Park. If you have enabled your child to use such social media platforms, it is recommended advice that you should monitor the way your child is using

this to communicate with others e.g. are you aware of who your child is talking to and the nature of the conversations they are having?

The current age limit for WhatsApp has recently been reduced from 16 to 13 which is in line with most other social media platforms. Children who are under the age limit for these apps should not be using them but if you have allowed your child to have an account, a trusted adult should carefully monitor the content of 'chat' to ensure that children are not using inappropriate language with one another and that the nature of the conversation is appropriate. Keeping our children safe both physically and online is of the utmost importance and we must work together to ensure our children are using any online platforms appropriately and safely. We value your support and co-operation in this and we would recommend that all families have an open and frank discussion about the use of social media platforms.

Where we are made aware of threatening or intimidating postings being made on social media, we will always inform the police and would urge you to do the same .

Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to tell you about a journey they would like to go on.

Ask your Year 1 child to explain what a timeline is.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you when you might use a map.

Ask your Year 3 child to tell you who led the Industrial Revolution.

Ask your Year 4 child to explain why the River Ganges is so important for Hindus in India.

Ask your Year 5 child to explain the difference between the perimeter and area of a shape.

Ask your Year 6 child to describe how light travels.

A Reminder About School Uniform

Spring is upon us and everything is growing, including the children who all seem to be having a growth spurt. Consequently, I know many of you are already in the process of purchasing new uniform for your child/children so I just want to clarify what items are needed. Our uniform is very important to us as it instils a sense of pride and sets the same high level of expectation we ask the children to apply to their work. As a school we aim to make our school uniform as simple and affordable as possible. The required items are:

- Knee length grey skirt, grey school trousers or grey school shorts.
- Or a green and white check summer dress
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Dark green sweatshirt or cardigan
- Black school shoes—not trainers

Trousers and skirts should be **GREY** and not black. **Black leggings are not acceptable items of school uniform.** Children will need sensible black school shoes (not Ugg style boots or shoes) and additionally a spare pair of shoes, boots or wellingtons to change into when playing on the field at lunchtimes.

We will be reminding children of our expectations regarding school uniform and would ask you to support us in reinforcing these expectations.

FOMP have an excellent stock of nearly new and second hand uniform which can be purchased from the School Office at very reasonable prices. Please do contact the office and they will be happy to pass on FOMP's contact details to you.



Naming Uniform

Please can you ensure that all items of school uniform and equipment are clearly named. This does not have to be a sewn in name tape but can simply be your child's name written in pen on the label. It makes it almost impossible to reunite lost/misplaced items with their owners without this. Thank you for your support in this matter.

FORTHCOMING DATES Summer Term 2024

22nd April— Height and Weight measurements for Reception and Year 6

26th April—Dorado Class assembly

29th April to 3rd May— Healthy Lifestyles Week

10th May—Lacerta Class assembly

13th to 16th May—End of KS2 SATS for Year 6

14th May —Reception Come and Share

16th May—Vision Screening for Reception children

20th to 24th May—Walk To School Week

21st May—Reception singing performance at 9.30am

22nd May—Reception singing performance at 2pm

24th May—Break up for Half Term

27th to 31st May—Half term holiday

3rd June—INSET Day (school closed to children)

4th June—Children return to school

14th June—Class photographs

19th June—Reception and KS1 Sports Day

26th June—KS2 Sports Day

27th June—Reserve KS2 Sports Day

28th June— Year 4 Residential Trip to Burwell House

3rd July—Key Stage 2 Wellbeing Wednesday

5th July—Aquila Class Assembly

10th July—Reception summer celebration

18th July—Year 6 Leavers' Assembly

Headteacher Parent Drop Ins

Do you have something you would like to talk to Mrs Howell about? If so, why not come along to one of the Headteacher's Drop In sessions this term. Mrs Howell will be offering parent drop ins for anyone who wishes to discuss any aspect of school life throughout the Summer term. The dates can be found below, but please remember that these are offered on a first come, first served basis and you may therefore have to wait.

25th April 3.00—4.00 pm

18th June 9.30—9.30 am

23rd May 9.00—10.00 am

4th July - 3.00—4.00 pm

7th June 2.00 –3.00 pm



Could you spot the signs that a young person in your life may be the victim of drug exploitation?

Parent & Community Session County Lines in Cambridgeshire

Hosted by

Ivison Trust,
a parent with lived experience,
a local safeguarding officer.

**In person - Cambourne Soul
18+ event**

8th May

6:30-7.30pm

**Cambourne Soul
Youth Building
Back Lane
CB23 6FZ**



**“I feel so much
more confident to
talk to my child”**

Register today

www.ivisontrust.org.uk/webinars

**or for more information, email
communitysafety@scambs.gov.uk**



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

Welcome Back

Welcome back everybody, and a special warm welcome to our five new children and their families starting in Hedgehog Room this week. They have already made a great start to setting in. We hope that you all had a restful break and that those of you celebrating Easter and Eid had a wonderful time. The children all seem really pleased to be back at preschool with their friends and as always, they have been very busy exploring and investigating the exciting activities and resources we have on offer at the Care and Learning Centre.



Read Write Inc Phonics

This week the children in the Rabbit Group have been learning the last few pictures and sounds from the Read Write Inc phonics scheme. Look out for the video on Evidence Me to help you practise these at home. There are some tricky new words too! Going forward, the older children will be learning to speak in 'Fred Talk' as we introduce blending and segmenting sounds in simple words.

Have a great weekend.

Best wishes

JANE TURNER