

Newsletter 12

Friday 6th December
2024

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Let the Festivities Begin

Everything is beginning to feel very festive in school as we are now firmly in December. We have already opened six windows on the school Advent calendar and I was very excited to light the first candle on our Advent wreath in my assembly on Monday morning. The theme of our assembly reflected the meaning symbolised by the first candle (hope) and we have all been thinking about what are hopes and dreams are for ourselves and the world during this time of preparation for Christmas. On Wednesday evening Mrs Watson-Thomas and Mrs Hall, on behalf of FOMP, put up the magnificent Christmas tree in the Main Hall and decorated it beautifully with 1,000 coloured lights. We are very grateful to FOMP and to Milton Christmas Trees of 2 Cambridge Road Industrial Estate, CB24 6AZ who very kindly donated this lovely tree for the children. They have also very generously said that any orders that are placed quoting our school name, will receive free delivery to Cambourne. They can be found on Facebook or alternatively you can call 07989445726.

With best wishes
Mrs Howell.



Gate Security

Although we are fully in the festive spirit in school we still have to be aware of the day to day issues of keeping the children safe. Recently, we have discovered that the electric pedestrian gate has been left open on a number of occasions. The gate ensures that anyone wishing to access the school site during the school day must speak with the school office to establish that they have a bona fide reason for doing so.

When visiting school, once the office staff have opened the gate for you please make sure that the gate is securely closed behind you. In addition, when leaving the site it is vitally important that for the safety of the children and staff you check that the gate is securely shut behind you.

We have put up some new signs to remind everyone of the need to close the gates to keep all the children safe and we would be grateful if you could remind others of the importance of closing the gate and checking that it has locked. Many thanks for your help in this matter.

**Please keep us safe
and shut this gate.**



Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

This year our annual Christmas lunch will be served on Thursday 19th December. The menu options are now available on the Dolce/School Grid website so please remember to book lunch for your child for that day. Children can choose from either traditional roast turkey with chipolata sausages and stuffing or a vegetarian puff pastry Christmas cracker plus all the trimmings. For pudding there will be a choice of Reindeer shortbread or sticky toffee pudding with custard in addition to fresh fruit or yoghurt.

To add to the festivities, if children would like to wear a Christmas jumper on this day, instead of their school sweatshirt or cardigan, we are suggesting that they may make a voluntary donation of £1. All proceeds will be donated to our charity of the year, which is our local charity Hope International CIC.



Pocket Toys Are Getting Bigger

We have noticed that pocket toys are increasing in size again and children are bringing multiple items to school each day, so we would like to clarify the guidelines regarding what is an acceptable pocket toy. All pocket toys must be robust and small enough to fit into a child's pocket. Large, soft toys e.g. teddy bears and dolls which do not fit into a pocket are not allowed. Please do not bring anything which is precious or has great sentimental value as school cannot be responsible for pocket toys which are lost, damaged or broken. Trading cards e.g. Pokemon cards, are not allowed as they cause too many disagreements. We would be grateful if you could reinforce these guidelines with your children.



Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to help you to search for some squares and triangles around the home.

Ask your Year 1 child to tell you the names and properties of some 2D shapes

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you about their imaginary journey on the Polar Express.

Ask your Year 3 child to tell you about how they can keep themselves safe online.

Ask your Year 4 child to explain how to make pop ups or other moving mechanisms found in books.

Ask your Year 5 child to explain what personification is and to give you an example of the human characteristics they gave to fire.

Ask your Year 6 child to describe the components of blood and their function.

FORTHCOMING DATES Autumn Term 2024 and Spring Term 2025

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

11th December at 2pm—Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Carol Concert

12th December at 2pm—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 Jumper Day

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

9th January at 2pm—Reception 2025 tour

10th January—Year 3 Ancient Egypt Day

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

23rd January—Public Speaking competition

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

6th February—Y4 Viking WOW Day

7th February—NSPCC Number Day

7th February—Y1 visit to Cambourne Library

11th February—Year 2 production at 2pm

12th February—Year 2 production at 2pm

17th to 21st February—Half Term Holiday

24th February—Children return to school

6th March—World Book Day

7th March—Cygnus 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 current tour dates are:

Thursday 12th December 2.00pm—LAST TOUR BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Thursday 9th January at 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. 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

Christmas is Coming

This week things have begun to get a little Christmassy at the Care and Learning Centre. The children helped to decorate the Christmas tree, which is now looking beautiful in the room, and also enjoyed taking part in our pre-school advent calendar activity. Each day, we move our Santa peg along the numbers and pick out one of the children's names from a bag. That person then chooses a felt decoration to stick on the advent tree! There is great excitement each morning, waiting to see whose name will be picked! This has been great practise for turn taking as well as counting up to number 24!

Song Time

We would like to invite all parents and carers to come and listen to our wonderful singing on Friday 20th December at 2.30 pm. Come and find out about some of the amazing learning that has taken place this half term, including songs about Diwali, Fireworks and Christmas. If your child does not normally attend pre-school on Friday afternoons, please bring them along to join in!

End of Term Dates

Thursday 19th December - Christmas Jumper Day and School Christmas Dinner

Friday 20th December - Song Time for parents and carers at 2.30 pm

Friday 20th December - Last Day of Autumn Term

Wednesday 8th January - Start of Spring Term

Best wishes *Jane Turner*

