

Newsletter 22

Friday 7th March 2025

In this issue:

A warm welcome to Spring

Holidays in term time

Flearning

World Book Day

Red Nose Day

Sentence starters

Forthcoming dates

Care and Learning Centre



A Warm Welcome To Spring

Isn't it amazing how some blue sky and sunshine can transform us? The start of meteorological Spring last Saturday has certainly given us all hope for more sunny days to come. All around the site we are beginning to see buds on the trees and plants beginning to push through the mud. The days are beginning to lengthen too, encouraging us all to get outside and enjoy the fresh air.

The much anticipated warmth this week has seen most of the children abandoning their coats and sweatshirts whilst they are playing. This has left us with the perennial problem of a large number of sweatshirts we are unable to return to their rightful owners as they are not named! Please can you write your child's name with an indelible pen on the label inside their sweatshirt and other items of clothing to make sure they are returned to you.

To mark our World Book Day celebrations this week children received a £1 book token to enable them to buy a book at a participating book shop. Please see the World Book Day web site for information about the scheme and where you can purchase the books <https://www.worldbookday.com/books-and-tokens/books/>

I hope you will all take some time to unfurl and relax in the sunshine this weekend and enjoy a good read with your children .

Best wishes

Mrs Howell

Holidays in Term Time

Over the last few weeks we have seen a significant rise in the number of requests we are receiving for children to be taken out of school for family holidays in the coming weeks. We acknowledge the importance of family time and being able to relax together, however, the fact remains that **we are unable to authorise holidays during term time except in very exceptional circumstances.**

Did you know that there are only 190 statutory school days in one academic year? This means that the remaining 175 days (which are made up of weekends and school holidays) are available to use for holidays or leave. Every school day counts and when a child is absent from school, he or she misses important teaching. We want all our children to have the best start in life because we know that attending school is vital to a child's wellbeing, development, and attainment as well as impacting on future career success.

Please be aware that if children are taken on holiday or leave in term time, this will be counted as an unauthorised absence. This is the same as truancy and you may be at risk of a penalty notice fine being issued or prosecution in the Magistrates court.

Flearning

We were delighted to be able to welcome Mike Mullen from the BMX Academy back to Monkfield Park on Monday. Mike describes himself as 'growth mindset on wheels' and his fantastic assembly got us all thinking about those times when we say, 'I can't do that'. Mike took us on his journey from a shy school boy in London to his success as a World Master Champion and the 6 times winner of the BMX Half-Pipe championship. Whilst Mike thrilled us with his skill and caused audible gasps with some of his daring tricks, he also inspired us to think about how we learn from failure and through sheer hard work and determination we can all do anything we set our minds to. Following on from his assembly our Year 6 children managed to achieve some amazing feats in their workshops and Mike received top marks from Mrs Howell for not squashing her.



World Book Day

On World Book Day we all came together to celebrate our love of reading by dressing up as our favourite character or the kind of book we like to read. It was such a joyful occasion to see the range of costumes on parade from Willy Wonka and Burglar Bill to Gangster Granny and Harry Potter. We know that reading transforms lives so we want it to be an enjoyable experience that children choose to do, creating a life-long love of books and learning. I hope the photographs of happy readers are motivational for everyone.





**COMIC
RELIEF**



Let's sparkle for Red Nose Day!

Celebrating 40 years!

Dress down for £1

(Bucket collections on the day)

21st March 2025

SCAN ME →

To donate on JustGiving
(Min £2 Donation)



It may be hard to believe, but Red Nose Day is celebrating its 40th birthday on 21st March. As always we will be collecting money for this very worthwhile charity and having fun into the bargain by dressing up, or down, on the day. Our theme is Let's Sparkle for Red Nose Day, so feel free to dig out those sequins for the occasion. FOMP will be holding a bucket collection on the day but you can also donate by scanning the QR code above to donate on Just Giving—please note that the minimum donation on just giving is £2.

In the meantime you can purchase your red noses from the school office. All noses are priced at £2 and there are four different iconic noses from the last four decades to collect. Some lucky person might even find one of the extremely rare Ruby noses!! Could that be you?



A Musical Extravaganza

Mrs Turner, our pre-school manager, is appearing in the Bourn Players musical production of the Addams Family at Comberton Village College. The production is being staged to raise money for Blue Smile who do so much to support children at Monkfield Park.



Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to point out some signs of Spring to you.

Ask your Year 1 child to tell you about the story they wrote with the author, Alice Hemming.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you the names of the different parts of a plant.

Ask your Year 3 child to explain why is it important to keep healthy and the different ways you can achieve this.

Ask your Year 4 child to give you some examples of two equivalent fractions.

Ask your Year 5 child to tell you what features they need to include in a diary.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain what the most effective features of a persuasive letter are.

FORTHCOMING DATES SPRING TERM 2025

- 12th March—Reception vision screening
- 13th to 18th March—Book Fair in Main Hall
- 14th March—Violet Class assembly
- 14th March—Mid year reports sent to parents/carers
- 21st March—Red Nose Day— no uniform theme Let's sparkle
- 21st March—Green Class assembly
- 25th March—Reception performance at 10am
- 25th March—Parent Consultation Evening from 4pm via zoom
- 26th March—Reception performance at 2pm
- 31st March to 4th April—Healthy Lifestyles Week
- 2nd April—Team afternoon
- 3rd April—Parent Consultation Evening from 4pm in person
- 4th April—Break up for Easter holiday
- 7th—21st April—EASTER HOLIDAY
- 22nd April—Children return to school
- 23rd April—Year 4 Indian WOW Day
- 29th—30th April—Y4 Burwell House Residential trip
- 2nd May—Dorado Class assembly
- 5th May—May Day Bank Holiday**
- 7th May—Reception Trip to South Angle Farm
- 12th to 15th May—Key Stage 2 SATS week
- 16th May—Blue Class assembly
- 19th to 23rd May—STEM Week
- 19th May—Reception Come and Share
- 21st May—Year 5 production at 2pm
- 22nd May—Year 5 production at 6pm
- 23rd May—Lacerta Class assembly
- 26th to 30th May—Half Term
- 2nd June—INSET Day**
- 3rd June—Children return to school**
- 4th to 6th June—Empathy Week



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

Shrove Tuesday

On Tuesday, we had a great morning making pancakes to celebrate Shrove Tuesday. First, we looked at a recipe card together to see which ingredients we needed and how much. We then took turns to measure out the flour, eggs, milk and whisk them all together. We learnt some new vocabulary such as 'recipe', 'whisk' and 'frying pan'. Ms Turner and Mrs Brown then cooked the pancakes and the children enjoyed eating them for Snack Time with sugar and lemon. Later, the children re-enacted their experience in the role play area, pretending to cook and 'flip' pretend pancakes!



Read Write Inc

This week, the children in Rabbit Group have been learning the next set of phonics pictures and sounds. Look out for another video on Evidence Me to help you practise at home.

Best wishes

Jane Turner (Pre-School Manager)