

Newsletter 7

Friday 20th October 2017

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Reception Diwali Celebrations

This week the children in Orange and Yellow Classes have been learning about Diwali and how this 'Festival of Lights' is celebrated in India.



As part of their learning the children went on a yoga adventure with Tatty Bumpkin. Throughout the session the children moved in many different ways including stretching, balancing and dancing. They all read a story called 'Lighting the Lamp' and then learnt how to perform the candle pose which helps to develop core stability and strengthen the legs.



Service with a Smile

At Monkfield Park we consider ourselves to be very fortunate as every day our wonderful kitchen staff, under the direction of our School Caterer, Mrs Angela Tucker, produce delicious, healthy, nutritionally balanced lunches for the children and staff. All the meals are cooked on site in our own kitchen and meet strict guidelines on salt, fat and sugar content so that they provide the exact energy requirements that the children need to thrive and flourish.



Angela and her team feel passionately about providing the children with a wide variety of tasty, attractive dishes which they create using the highest quality fresh ingredients. On the new Winter menu (attached) children have a choice of three main course and three dessert options each day including fresh fruit for just £2.30 (totalling £85.10 for the rest of the Autumn term). Why not give them a try?



Head Teacher Roll of Honour

Ayden in Aquila Class—Ayden has shown great resilience this term in rising to challenges. He has a positive attitude to work and is always so polite to adults and other children in school. Thank you for being a great role model.

Kayla in Lacerta Class—Kayla has become so confident this term and is making excellent contributions in all her lessons which has helped her to make great progress in her learning.

Samuel in Violet Class—Samuel has been trying extremely hard to improve his handwriting, which can be quite tricky. However, Samuel has persevered and his handwriting is so much neater. Well done.

Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to taste and describe a food that is new to them.

Ask your Year 1 child to describe the different ways that animals move.

Ask your Year 2 child to re-tell you the story of 'Gorilla'.

Ask your Year 3 child to tell you when they use the column method for addition and when they can calculate the answer mentally.

Ask your Year 4 child to explain how RUCSAC helps to solve maths problems.

Ask your Year 5 child to explain what daily life was like for the Ancient Greeks.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain how we have evolved as humans.

New Homework Grids



This term has seen the successful introduction of our new topic based homework grids. Having listened to the views of the children and you, the parents and carers, we have tried to make homework a more positive experience by allowing the children to choose from a variety of tasks. These tasks are designed to challenge children creatively, to make links in their learning, and to enable them to practise a wide range of skills. It has been wonderful to see how creative the children have been when approaching



their homework tasks and in these photographs you can see just a few examples of some of the amazing outcomes. We hope you have enjoyed the new homework challenges as much as the children have and that they have made homework a much more positive and meaningful experience for all the family.

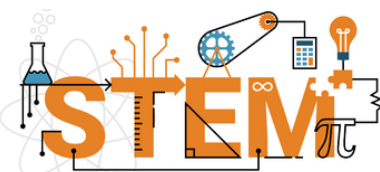


Eco Group Dig in



As reported previously in the newsletter, members of our newly formed Eco group are working with Miss Simpson to develop the school environment in an eco friendly way and to bring about changes which make our school more sustainable for the future. One of their first projects has been to tackle the Key Stage 1 courtyard as they want to transform this into an attractive, outdoor learning area. This week Eco group members have been working hard to remove the weeds and clear some of the accumulated debris.

Our STEM Club Needs YOU



Science and Technology are very popular subjects in school and the children love the opportunity to take part in exciting STEM based activities. Mrs Wellings, our Science coordinator, will be starting a STEM club after half term and would like to hear from any scientists or engineers who would be happy to spare a couple of hours talking to the children. Mrs Wellings can be contacted via the school office.

AGM

We invite you to join us for our AGM on Thursday 2nd November at 9.15 am in the school activity hall. Come along to see how the last year went and what plans we have going forward. We will also be electing our committee for this school year, refreshments will be served.

AGM

Uniform Sale

A big thank you to everyone who supported the uniform sale last Friday. We raised an impressive £102. Second Hand uniform is available throughout the year. Please either enquire in the school office or send us a message either via email friendsof-monkfieldpark@gmail.com or via our facebook page.



Matched Fundraising

A recent matched fundraising application against our Summer fete was agreed in connection with Barclays Bank. This means we have raised an additional £811. There are many companies and workplaces who are part of this amazing scheme and we would love to hear from anyone who works for any of them and is interested in helping us.



Mailing List

We will shortly be updating our current mailing list as many on it no longer have children at the school. If you would like to be added or would no longer like to be included please do let us know.



EasyFundraising

With Christmas just around the corner don't forget you can help support the school by shopping though Easyfundraising. The school will receive cashback on those all important Christmas presents.



Forthcoming dates

w/c 23rd October—half term

30th October — Children return to school

10th November 9am—Aquila Class assembly

24th November at 9am—Indigo Class assembly

6th December—Flu vaccination programme (details to follow)

8th December at 9am—Lacerta Class assembly

12th December 2pm—Year 3/4 carol concert

13th December 1.30am—Reception 'come and share' event

13th December 10am—Year 3/4 carol concert

14th December 2pm—Year 1 nativity

14th December 6pm—Year 3/4 carol concert

15th December 10am—Year 1 nativity

19th December—Christmas parties

19th December—Last day of term

Spring Term 2018

3rd January—INSET day (school closed to children)

4th January—All children return to school