

Newsletter 11

Friday 24th November 2023

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A Huge Thank You

As ever your unfailing generosity has helped us to raise money for two very worthwhile causes in recent weeks. The annual sale of poppies raised a grand total of **£238.51** for the Royal British Legion. The Royal British Legion send their thanks for your generous support which will enable them to carry on supporting ex service men and women who need their help.



Last Friday we held a non-uniform day in support of BBC Children in Need. From your donations, we raised **£287.27** which will help so many children and young people who are facing a range of complex issues at this time to thrive and be the best that they can be .

Our annual art gallery was an enormous success and was a wonderful showcase of the children's creativity and skill. A huge thank you to everyone who visited the art gallery to support the children and celebrate the wealth of talent we have at Monkfield Park. Thank you to all the staff for all their hard work in making the exhibition such a huge success.

Mrs Howell.

Christmas Winter Wonderland

The Cambs Youth Panel supports children, young people and families all over the county, dealing with a wide variety of issues and topics. Following the success of their Christmas Fair last year they have received sponsorship to run an even bigger and better event this year. Tickets to the event, which is taking place at Westminster College in Cambridge, are free and anything that is paid for will be subsidised. Phil Priestly, who runs the Youth Panel said, "the idea is that parents can take their children down there, not worry about the cost of things, and they can have a great time and experience a bit of Christmas. For the smaller children who still write Father Christmas letters, there is a post-box, and they can get a ticket to see Santa (again – free) and they'll receive a gift wrapped toy from him. So it's going to be a really amazing event – bigger and better – with hot chocolate and gingerbread, food vendors, a car show, a juggler, more activity tables – and hopefully just more Christmas magic. '

The ticket link for the event is: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cambs-youth-panel-christmas-fair-tickets-726781512067?aff=oddtcreator>



Do join the Cambridge Youth Panel for what promises to be a truly wonderful Christmas event.

Trunk Theatre

Year 2 were delighted to have a visit from Trunk Theatre this week, who helped to bring the events of the Great Fire of London to life with great energy and enthusiasm. The shouts and whoops of delight were a pleasure to hear as the children were fully involved in the story, interacting with the main characters to draw water from the River Thames to put out the fire. At the end of the performance the children designed their new version of London on huge paper scrolls rolled out on the floor.



Blood Soup

The children in Year 6 are currently learning about the circulatory system and have been studying the components of blood. Having researched the four main components of blood: red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets and plasma, the children made their own 'blood soup' using jelly, smarties, marshmallows and apple juice, carefully selecting the right proportion of each component according to their research. You can see their results below.



Applying for a School Place



If your child was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020, and you live in Cambridgeshire you need to apply for a Reception place for September 2024 before the **closing date of 15th January 2024**. **Applications received after this date will not be considered until the second round of allocations in May.** You can apply online at <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/primary-reception-junior-or-middle-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. The next tour date is:

Wednesday 13th December at 9.30am.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school and hope you will join us for the tour. If you are unable to make this date, please contact the school office and we will be happy to arrange a mutually convenient date for you to visit.

Headteacher Roll of Honour

Each week this space will provide a celebration of children who may be especially noticed for demonstrating learning or behaviour that we feel should be recognised and commended. This week I would like to congratulate:

Emily in Indigo Class: Emily has a great sense of right and wrong and will always speak out if she encounters unkindness and injustice. She loves sharing her learning with others and approaches every task with positivity and a wonderful smile. Well done Emily.

Ophelia in Dorado Class: Ophelia feels passionately about working together to stamp out bullying. She has been listening to the messages about our zero tolerance approach to bullying and decided to produce some information posters to get the message across. Thank you Ophelia.

Samuel in Delphinus Class: Samuel's attitude to learning is exemplary. He never fails to make the most of every opportunity to extend his learning in the classroom and around school. Samuel's determination to do his best in everything he attempts will take him far.

Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to give the porridge they made and ate in school earlier this week, a score out of 10.

Ask your Year 1 child to tell you the names of some 3D shapes.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you what the most memorable part of the Trunk Theatre performance was.

Ask your Year 3 child to explain the difference between glockenspiels and xylophones.

Ask your Year 4 child to tell you about the different mechanisms used in pop up books.

Ask your Year 5 child who Dr Barnardo was and how he changed the lives of some Victorian children.

Ask your Year 6 child how to add two fractions with different denominators.

Parking—A Further Reminder

Last week I appealed to parents and carers not to park on the grass verges adjacent to the main staff car park gates. Parking in this area is prohibited as it falls within the yellow zig-zag lines and is also very dangerous as it makes it very difficult for vehicles leaving the school to see oncoming traffic; this increases the likelihood of an accident. Sadly, cars have continued to park in this area which has now resulted in the verge being completely churned up where vehicles have become stuck! Please can I politely remind parents and carers that they should use the car park in Priory Walk when dropping off and collecting children from school and the Care and Learning Centre.



FORTHCOMING DATES Autumn Term 2023

1st December at 3.30pm—Friends of Monkfield Park AGM in the Activity Hall

4th December —Tour for prospective parents at 2.00pm—this is now full

5th December—Reception pantomime trip

12th December at 2pm—Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Carol Concert

13th December —Tour for prospective parents at 9.30am—space available still

13th December at 2pm—Year 1 Nativity Play

13th December at 6pm—Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Carol Concert

14th December—9.00am to 10.00am—Headteacher’s Drop In

14th December at 2pm—Year 1 Nativity Play

14th December at 6pm—Year 3 and Year 4 Carol Concert

19th December—School Christmas Lunch (wear your Christmas Jumper)

19th December—Choir performance at Cavendish Court

20th December—LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM

21st December—3rd January 2024—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

4th & 5th January—INSET Days (school closed for children)

8th January—Children return to school for Spring term

22nd to 26th January—International Week

26th January—Violet Class assembly

2nd February - Columba Class assembly

2nd February—NSPCC Number Day

5th to 9th February—Children’s Mental Health Week

8th February—Reception Come and Share

9th February—Blue Class assembly

13th February—Year 2 performance at 2pm

14th February—Year 2 performance at 2pm

16th February—Break up for half term

19th to 23rd February—Half Term

26th February—Children return to school

5th March—Dental checks for Reception and Year 1

8th March—Cygnus Class assembly

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

Room News

This week, at Group Time, we have been talking about feelings. We read the story of 'The Colour Monster' by Anna Llenas, in which the colour monster is feeling all mixed up inside, and so his friend helps him to sort out and identify his different feelings. The children have had some really fantastic discussions about how they are feeling and what makes them feel different emotions. We also talked about different ways we could deal with difficult emotions, such as finding a friend or grown-up if we felt scared, or saying 'Stop' to our friends if they were doing something which made us feel angry.

We looked at a 'feelings fan' to help us identify different feelings and learnt the Makaton signs for each of them. I wonder if your child can sign the words 'happy', 'sad', 'cross/angry' and 'scared/frightened' for you at home? You could also talk about the different feelings you and your child are experiencing at home too. It's a great way to help children begin to learn to regulate their own behaviour and emotions.

Best wishes

JANE TURNER

