

# Newsletter 17

Friday 26th January 2024

In this issue:

International Week

Columba Class Assembly

International Week

NSPCC Number Day

Sentence starters

Headteacher Drop In

Forthcoming dates

Care and Learning Centre



## Welcome to International Empathy Week

We have all been intoxicated by the enticing aroma of freshly baked bread which has filled the corridors this week. From my office I have heard the excited chatter of the children as they have moved around the school discussing the importance of something which is made from a few simple ingredients but is such a vital part of the diets of so many people around the world.

The making and sharing of bread has been the focus of our international empathy week this year and we have all been incredibly busy celebrating the wealth of nationalities and cultures that make up our amazing and diverse school community.

We have been delighted to welcome so many visitors to each year group who have helped to make the week so successful. From salsa dancing to Chinese calligraphy, drama, music and bread making, the children and staff have been fascinated to learn about many aspects of each other's culture and traditions.

Thank you to Miss Bailey and Ms Deegan for arranging so many varied and exciting activities for the children and to all our parents who have given their time to make our international celebrations such a huge and joyous success.

Mrs Howell.

## Columba Class Assembly

On Friday morning Columba Class shared their learning about Ancient Egypt. Last week they had been fully immersed in this fascinating topic as they took part in their Ancient Egyptian WOW Day, so they were eager to share their learning with their parents and families. The children talked about the activities they had taken part in ranging from making car-touches with their names written in hieroglyphs, creating and painting their own decorative collars, and cooking Fuul, a dish of beans, onions, olive oil and lots of garlic that people in Ancient Egypt would have eaten. The children loved sitting down together to eat their Fuul with some delicious flat breads and although opinion was mixed, most children agreed that it tasted very good indeed.





## Celebrating International Week

Some of the exciting activities the children have enjoyed this week.





## Celebrating International Week

Friday saw the school transformed as children and staff came in their national costumes.





Just a quick reminder that next Friday, 2nd February, we will be celebrating NSPCC Number Day when we enjoy fun maths and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it. We will be taking part in Dress up for Digits where pupils are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (football shirt, cap, netball shirt or even a onesie!). Alternatively, an item of clothing could feature shapes or anything else with a mathematical theme.

There will be prizes on offer and a space in the newsletter for the best dressed from each year group so please get creative.

To help raise money for the charity, we are asking for a minimum £1 voluntary donation per child. This year we are also asking for donations for a cake sale after school on Number Day. If you are willing and able to supply some bought or home-baked treats, please bring them to the office before school on Friday 2nd February. Examples of suitable items include: cupcakes, muffins, cookies, brownies and flapjacks. They will be available for purchase on both playgrounds after school on the day. Please ensure all food is celery and nut free and that your bake is accompanied by a list of ingredients. This could also be a great opportunity to do some baking with your child/ren and discuss the measures of ingredients used.

## Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to tell you about carnivals and Salsa dancing.

Ask your Year 1 child to show you their Salsa dancing steps.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you what instructions can be used for.

Ask your Year 3 child to name one of the Egyptian gods and tell you a fact about them.

Ask your Year 4 child to explain why sound travels more efficiently through a solid than a gas.

Ask your Year 5 child to give five adverbs to describe how your dragon moves.

Ask your Year 6 child to tell you an interesting fact about Sherwood Forest.

### 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 Spring 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.

31st January 2.30—3.30 pm

15th March 3.00—4.00 pm

15th February 3.00—4.00 pm

27th March 9.30—10.30 am

28th February 9.00—10.00 am

8th March 8.30-9.30am



**FORTHCOMING DATES Spring Term 2024**

31st January—Headteacher drop In at 2.30 to 3.30pm

2nd February—NSPCC Number Day

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

6th February—Parent’s Therapeutic Thinking Workshop at 2.30pm

6th February—Parent’s Therapeutic Thinking Workshop at 5.30pm

8th February—Reception Come and Share

9th February—Blue Class assembly

9th February—FOMP School Disco—details to follow

13th February—Year 2 performance at 2pm

14th February—Year 2 performance at 2pm

15th February—Year 1 WOW Day—London

15th February—Headteacher Drop In 3.00 to 4.00pm

16th February—Break up for half term

19th to 23rd February—Half Term

26th February—Children return to school

28th February—SEND Coffee Morning

28th February—Headteacher Drop In 9.00 to 10.00am

5th March—Dental checks for Reception and Year 1

5th March—SEND Coffee Morning

8th March—Cygnus Class assembly

8th March—Mid-term reports to parents

12th March—Parent consultations

14th March—Year 1 trip to Church Farm

15th March—Violet Class assembly

18th to 21st March—Book Fayre from 3.40pm

21st March—Parent consultations

22nd March—Green Class assembly

26th March—Year 5 production at 2 pm

27th March—Year 5 production at 6 pm

28th March—Break up for Easter

29th March to 12th April - Easter Holiday

15th April—Children return to school for start of Summer term



For general queries regarding the Care and Learning Centre, please contact the school office by e-mail on: [clcoffice@monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk](mailto: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

### Rhyming Fun!

This half-term, one of our learning themes is Rhyming Fun! We have been reading lots of rhyming stories such as "Oi Frog!" by Kes Gray and 'Green Eggs and Ham' by Dr Seuss, thinking about the words which sound the same. We have also been playing some rhyming games.

The children in the Hedgehog Group have been focusing on singing the nursery rhyme 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star'. Perhaps you can practise singing this at home too? Nursery rhymes are a great way to develop early language and literacy skills, so it really helps your child if you sing rhymes at home with them regularly. You could also read some rhyming stories at home, or just have fun together with silly rhyming words such as - cat, mat, wat, lat! All of these activities will help your child begin to gain an awareness of rhyme.



### International Week

On Monday, the children had great fun joining in with a Salsa dancing session over at school, showing us some great moves! We have also started to learn to say "hello" in some of the home languages spoken by our families. Thank you to the parents who have sent in videos on Evidence me to help us. We will continue with this learning next week, so please keep on sending in videos, even if your home language is English. Our aim is to learn to say "hello" in all 15 languages spoken at our setting!

Wishing you all a great weekend.

JANE TURNER