

Newsletter 17

Friday 24th January 2025

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The Joy of Teaching

At Monkfield Park the children make every day worthwhile with their endless curiosity, their honesty, their desire to learn and their wonderful humour. On Thursday I had the pleasure of listening to 17 children present their opinions on whether teachers should be replaced by AI and VR in the classrooms of the future. It was humbling and a great relief to hear all the children explaining that, in their opinion, AI would never be able to replace real human teachers, largely because we can help to sort out arguments and tell very bad jokes!

This made me reflect on how lucky we are to have the best job on the planet and what an honour it is to be able to play a small part in shaping children's lives and preparing them for their futures in a rapidly changing world. Thank you for allowing us to work with your amazing children and for making our jobs so fulfilling. We are so proud of every single one of them.

Mrs Howell

Monkfield Park Does It Again!!

On Thursday afternoon I was delighted to attend Peterhouse College in Cambridge to support four audacious Monkfield Park pupils as they competed in the finals of the annual Network CB23 Public Speaking competition. Most people would be more than a little daunted to be allowed into the hallowed and beautiful surroundings of the oldest college in the university of Cambridge (Peterhouse was founded in 1284). However, our incredible children relished the opportunity to take to the stage to present their speeches to a panel of judges from Peterhouse and an audience of parents and teachers and 33 other competitors. I was so impressed as the children gave extremely accomplished and confident performances on their given topics, with no sign of nerves. Akira (Year 3) and Zakariya (Year 4) discussed the tricky subject 'is it ever ok not to tell the truth?'

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Monkfield Park Does It Again

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Hamza (Year 5) and Emily (Year 6) argued about whether teachers should be replaced by AI in the future. The competition was incredibly strong so I was thrilled and bursting with pride when the judges announced that Monkfield Park's team was the overall winner, having gained the most points in the competition. We could hardly contain our excitement when we were presented with the Public Speaking Shield as Monkfield Park has now won the shield on four occasions!

The children should be justifiably proud of this amazing achievement as they have shown themselves to be worthy winners. Huge congratulations and well done to all the children.

Are You Ready For the SCHOOL DISCO?

If you haven't bought your tickets for the school disco, there is one week to go! It is time to dust off your dancing shoes and don your sequins for the first and most eagerly anticipated FOMP event of 2025. There will be three discos for each key stage at the following times:

Years 1 & 2—3.30 to 4.30 pm (children will attend straight from their classes. Please send your child to school with their disco clothes in a separate bag)

Years 3 & 4 - 5.00 pm - 6.00 pm

Years 5 & 6—6.30 pm - 7.30 pm

Reception children will have their disco as part of their Golden Time and will not require tickets. For the other discos, tickets cost £3.75 each and this includes entrance, drink and a snack. Please purchase your tickets and provide all of the relevant pick-up/allergy information required via the PTA Events page, before Thursday 30th January, on www.pta-events.co.uk/fomp

Please note that children must be collected by a parent or nominated adult. Children will not be allowed to walk home by themselves. All money raised from this event will go towards purchasing items to support the children in school and towards the coach costs for school trips across all years.



Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to sing you the song they have learnt about how to cross the road safely.

Ask your Year 1 child to name the main parts of a car.

Ask your Year 2 child to explain what instruction texts are for.

Ask your Year 3 child to explain what a product is in multiplication.

Ask your Year 4 child to explain how sound travels to the ear and which materials make the best ear defenders.

Ask your Year 5 child to explain how to use the short method for division.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain what the Tudor punishment for stealing was.

FORTHCOMING DATES Spring Term 2025

- 30th January—Friendship Games at Cambourne Village College
- 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
- 10th February—Year 4 Network CB23 Maths competition
- 11th February—Year 2 production at 2pm
- 12th February—Year 3 Life in Ancient Egypt Day with History off the Page
- 13th February—Year 2 production at 2pm
- 13th February—Reception Come and Share from 9.30am
- 17th to 21st February—Half Term Holiday
- 24th February—Children return to school
- 5th March—Year 1 Kenya WOW Day
- 6th March—World Book Day
- 7th March—Cygnus Class assembly
- 12th March—Reception vision screening
- 13th to 18th March—Book Fair in Main Hall
- 14th March—Red Nose Day
- 14th March—Violet Class assembly
- 21st March—Green Class assembly
- 25th March—Reception performance at 10am
- 25th March—Parent Consultation Evening from 4pm
- 26th March—Reception performance at 2pm
- 2nd April—Team afternoon
- 3rd April—Parent Consultation Evening from 4pm
- 4th April—Break up for Easter holiday
- 7th—21st April—EASTER HOLIDAY
- 22nd April—Children return to school