

Newsletter 10

Friday 17th November 2023

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Parking Problems

Sadly, I must begin this newsletter with another reminder about parking.

I have received a number of complaints from parents about cars parking on the grass verge outside or near to the staff car park gates. This area is inside the yellow zig-zag lines which indicate that this is a no parking area. The Highway Code states that parking is prohibited on double yellow lines and yellow zig-zag lines outside schools at all times; this includes stopping to set down or pick up passengers.

Although the verge is not on school property we would request that parents and carers do not put children in danger by parking in this area. Not only is it illegal, but it makes it very difficult for vehicles leaving the school to see on-coming traffic, which increases the likelihood of an accident. In addition it is destroying the grass verge.

We would appreciate it if parents and carers could use the public car park in Priory Walk when dropping off and collecting children. Thank you for your support and understanding in this important matter.

Mrs Howell.

Bring Your Wellingtons

We consider ourselves to be very lucky as we have an amazing resource in our school field. The children benefit from having a safe place to run, play and let off steam which, in turn, improves attention, decreases stress and anxiety, and prepares the children for their learning. Since half term the children have had to move back onto the playgrounds for the Winter months as the field has become very muddy and wet. The children have been telling me how much they miss playing on the field, as being on the playgrounds limits their opportunities to run freely and play the kinds of games they can enjoy when they have the space of the field.

After some thought we have decided that we would like to open the field for the children all year round and whatever the weather. To enable this to happen, it will be essential that each child has wellingtons to change into and a warm, waterproof coat to wear when the weather is inclement. The wellingtons will stay in school to be used every day.

If your child already has a pair of wellington boots that can be left in school, please send them into school from next week, so that they can enjoy playing on the field. If you have any spare wellingtons which your children have outgrown and you would like to donate them to school, we will be delighted to have them in school as spares. Our aim is to have all children in wellington boots and able to play on the field when we return to school in January.





Every year BBC Children in Need raises money to fund thousands of charities and projects across the UK which support children and young people. As a school we always throw ourselves into supporting this worthwhile charity by holding a non-uniform day and having fun as we raise money. As you can see from some of the pictures here, the whole school came together to support Children in Need. The Friends of Monkfield Park kindly organised the bucket collection, but if you missed them you can still make a donation online via JustGiving using the details below. PLEASE NOTE— The Minimum Donation allowed on JustGiving is £2. Either follow this link to make a donation— www.justgiving.com/Monkfield-Park-Primary-School OR scan the QR Code to take you directly to the page. Thank you for your support.



Anti-Bullying Week

The theme of this year's national Anti-Bullying week is 'Make a Noise About Bullying' and is intended to empower children to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes. Through a range of activities the children have been reminded that whether it's in school, at home, in the community or online, we can and must bring an end to bullying. Below you can see some of the children taking part in growth mindset workshops where they learnt how to apply growth mindset principles, empowering them to practice affirmations and goal-setting techniques for the benefit of their day-to-day lives.



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 one of the tours.

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:

Princess Angel in Violet Class: It takes a great team to make sure everything happens as it should and runs smoothly. Princess Angel is always a great team player who readily takes on the responsibility of making sure all the play equipment is picked up at the end of playtime. Thank you.

Paul in Phoenix Class: When you read a great piece of writing it can really give you goose bumps. This week Paul managed to stop my breath with his beautifully, emotive piece of writing around the book Ocean Meets Sky. What a master story teller you are Paul.

Theo in Green Class: Writing can be a tricky skill to master when you have to learn about ascenders, descenders and how to form each letter correctly. Theo has tackled all of these elements with great energy and determination with the result that his writing is amazing. Great work Theo.

Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to describe or to take on the role of the big bad wolf.

Ask your Year 1 child to describe the properties of the materials objects around the home are made of.

Ask your Year 2 child to explain what growth mindset is and why it is important.

Ask your Year 3 child to show off their Spanish phonics and pronounce their vowels, a e i o u.

Ask your Year 4 child to explain how and why volcanos erupt.

Ask your Year 5 child to explain which material is the best thermal insulator and why.

Ask your Year 6 child to describe the separate components which make up blood.

48 hour Rule for Diarrhea and Sickness



As we all know, gastroenteritis spreads very easily and we all have a responsibility to try to reduce that spread. If your child has diarrhoea and/or sickness they must stay off school until at least 48 hours after the symptoms have cleared, to reduce the risk of passing it on to others. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Charity of the Year

Each year we try to raise money for a nominated charity. This year, following a vote organised by school council, the children have chosen to support the British Heart Foundation. Led by the children, we will be raising money to support this very worthwhile charity across the year.



FORTHCOMING DATES Autumn Term 2023

22nd November—Flu vaccinations for all children

23rd November—2.30pm to 3.30pm — Headteacher's Drop In

24th November—Indigo Class Assembly at 9.15am

24th November—Tour for prospective parents at 9.30am—this is now full

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

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

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

Organised by Cambourne Village College



BIG COMMUNITY LITTER PICK

Join us to clean up our **community** and help to make it a **better place!**

Make a positive contribution!

SMALL actions can make a BIG DIFFERENCE

Join us!

WHERE AND WHEN?

25th November 2023

10AM - 1PM

Meet at the Great Cambourne Cricket Pavilion (CB23 6DZ)

Refreshments and equipment provided - just bring **yourself** and be part of making a **difference!**

FOR ANY FURTHER QUERIES, PLEASE EMAIL:
bfederle@cambournevc.org
mteo@cambournevc.org



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

Following on from Diwali and Guy Fawkes Night, lots of our learning this week has focused around fire-works. The children have enjoyed telling us about the various firework displays they have seen or had at home during their celebrations and we did some great firework pictures by printing with lolly sticks and straws. At Group Time, we have been learning a firework counting song called '3 Little Fireworks'. At the end of each verse, one of the fireworks blasts off into the sky and the children have enjoyed making different firework sounds and noises together such as 'bang', 'pop', 'whirr'! As part of the song, there is a countdown from 5 - "5, 4, 3, 2, 1 blast off!" I wonder if your child can say the countdown for you at home?

Socks!

If anyone has any spare children's socks that they could donate to CLC, we would be very grateful. All of our spare pairs of socks have been lent out to children and not returned! If your child borrows clothing from us, please ensure that it is washed and then returned to us. Many thanks!

Best wishes

JANE TURNER

