

Newsletter 26

Friday 4th April 2025

In this issue:

Easter Greetings

Visit from the Royal Ballet

Sentence starters

School uniform reminders

Forthcoming dates

Care and Learning Centre



Easter Greetings

I am sure you will agree that the burgeoning signs of Spring are proving to be uplifting for us all. The school grounds look wonderful at this time of year as the blossom covers the trees and vibrant green buds hold the promise of more warm weather to come. The beautiful weather has been a further treat this week and the children have been making the most of it to enjoy the activities planned by Mrs O'Rourke for Healthy Lifestyles Week and their Team Afternoon.

As our very busy term comes to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to say a well deserved thank you to all those people who do so much to support us. Firstly to the staff for their dedication and hard work, secondly, to you all for your continuing support and generosity, to FOMP for their selfless fundraising to make sure the children have those little extras, to all of our volunteers for giving up their time to help us and lastly to the children for their never-ending enthusiasm for learning, their curiosity and the constant joy they bring to school.

I think everyone is ready for the Easter break so I hope the sun will continue to shine and allow us all to spend some time relaxing with families and friends, whilst enjoying the odd chocolate egg. Following the restorative break we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on 22nd April for the start of the Summer term and all the exciting opportunities it will bring. Wishing you all a very happy and restful Easter break.

Mrs Howell

A Visit From the Royal Ballet School

We always love to hear about all the incredible things our ex pupils are doing, so we were delighted to welcome Harry Withers back to school this week. Harry is now in the equivalent of Year 12 at the world famous Royal Ballet School in London and as well as being an inspirational dancer he is a great ambassador for his art. Harry kindly conducted workshops for the Year 3 children and taught them some of the steps to recreate the famous maypole dance and the chicken dance from the comic ballet, La Fille Mal Gardee. The children thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and it was clear that they were having great fun as they mastered the complicated steps for the dances. We are very grateful to Harry for giving up his valuable time to inspire a new generation of dancers at Monkfield Park. Judging by the children's excitement and their comments, they thoroughly enjoyed the dancing.

"My favourite ballet dance was the chicken dance because it was hard but funny. But it did get easier! The workshop inspired me to do more ballet." *Bhavesh*

Footprints to Fossils



Do you have some mini dinosaur experts at home? If you do then why not roar into the Easter holidays with a prehistoric adventure at Cambridge Science Centre!

Step back in time and uncover the mysteries of the age of dinosaurs through hands-on activities and an exciting live show this Easter.

Starting on Saturday 5 April, the Science Centre will be open daily until Monday 21 April from 10am to 4pm. Each day will feature the centre's new show "So you think you know dinosaurs?" You will discover that some of the creatures we think of as dinosaurs really aren't! Confused? Intrigued? It will all become clear in this fun, interactive show!

With daily activities and special guests, there will be something new to explore every day at the Science Centre's incredible new space, nestled in the heart of the Cambridge Science Park at the Trinity Centre. Conveniently located on the ground floor, Cambridge Science Centre is easily accessible by car, train, bus, and a safe, well-travelled walking route.

Tickets can be booked via the web site

<https://tickets.cambridgesciencecentre.org/tickets>

Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to sing you the 'Days of the Week' song.

Ask your Year 1 child to tell you which way is left and which way is right.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you three things they have learnt about Eid and Ramadan.

Ask your Year 3 child to show you the steps for the chicken dance.

Ask your Year 4 child to explain how to convert a fraction into a decimal eg $\frac{6}{10}$ becomes 0.6.

Ask your Year 5 child to describe the different food groups in the eat-well guide and explain why variety is important for healthy eating.

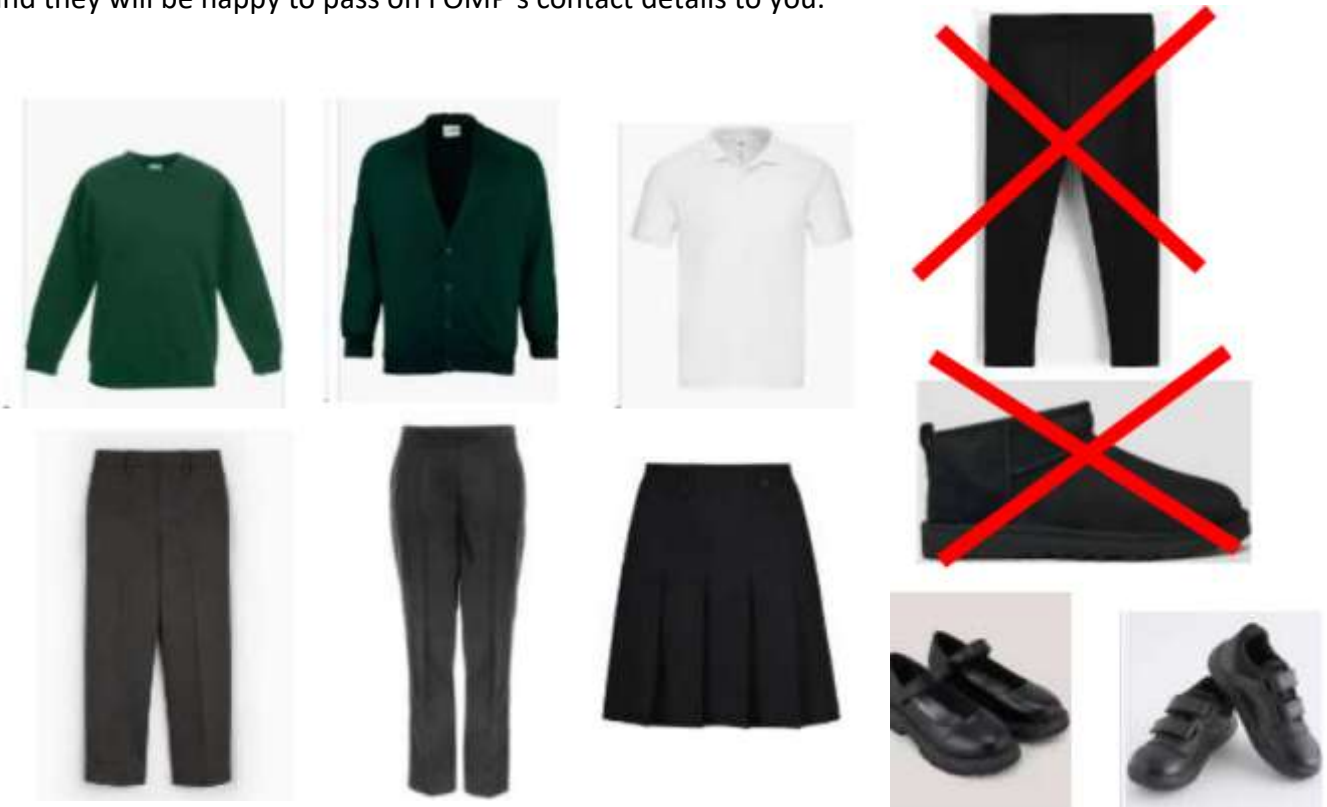
Ask your Year 6 child to explain how to create cohesion within and across paragraphs.

A Reminder About School Uniform

Spring is upon us and everything is growing, including the children who all seem to be having a growth spurt. Consequently, I know many of you are already thinking about purchasing new uniform for your child/children over the coming weeks. Our uniform is very important to us as it instils a sense of pride and sets the same high level of expectation we ask the children to apply to their work. As a school we aim to make our school uniform as simple and affordable as possible so please can we take this opportunity to remind you of the requirements.

- Knee length grey skirt, grey school trousers or grey school shorts.
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Dark green sweatshirt or cardigan
- Black school shoes—not trainers

Trousers and skirts should be GREY and not black. Black leggings are not acceptable items of school uniform. Children will need sensible black school shoes (not Ugg style boots or shoes) and additionally a spare pair of shoes, boots or wellingtons to change into when playing on the field at lunchtimes. We will be reminding children of our expectations regarding school uniform and would ask you to support us in reinforcing these expectations. FOMP have an excellent stock of nearly new and second hand uniform which can be purchased from the School Office at very reasonable prices. Please do contact the office and they will be happy to pass on FOMP's contact details to you.



Naming Uniform

Please can you ensure that all items of school uniform and equipment are clearly named. This does not have to be a sewn in name tape but can simply be your child's name written in pen on the label. It makes it almost impossible to reunite lost/misplaced items with their owners without this. Thank you for your support in this matter.

FORTHCOMING DATES SPRING TERM 2025

4th April—Break up for Easter holiday

7th—21st April—EASTER HOLIDAY

22nd April—Children return to school

23rd April—Year 4 Indian WOW Day

28th April to 2nd May—Writing week

29th—30th April—Y4 Burwell House Residential trip

2nd May—Dorado Class assembly

5th May—May Day Bank Holiday

6th to 8th May—School Council Toy Sale

7th May—Reception Trip to South Angle Farm

12th to 15th May—Key Stage 2 SATS week

16th May—Blue Class assembly

19th to 23rd May—STEM Week

19th May—Reception Come and Share

21st May—Year 5 production at 2pm

22nd May—Year 5 production at 6pm

23rd May—Lacerta Class assembly

26th to 30th May—Half Term

2nd June—INSET Day

3rd June—Children return to school

3rd June—Catch Your Breath Workshops for Year 6

4th to 6th June—Empathy Week

4th to 6th June—Phonic Screening Check week

11th June—New Reception Come and Play session at 4pm

9th to 13th June—Y4 Multiplication Check period

13th June—Class photographs

18th June—Key Stage 1 and Reception Sports Day

20th June—Reserve Key Stage 1 and Reception Sports Day

27th June—Aquila Class assembly

1st July—Key Stage 2 Sports Day

2nd July—Reserve Key Stage 2 Sports Day



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

Celebrations

We started off this week by learning about the festival of Eid Al-Fitr. First, we watched the CBeebies 'Let's Celebrate' film about a family celebrating Eid. Then we made some Eid cards and learnt to say 'Eid Mubarak'. Thank you so much to all those who sent in photos of their Eid family celebrations. These have really helped to bring our learning to life and the children always love to share pictures of themselves and their experiences with their friends!



Later in the week we talked about Easter, and on Friday the children were thrilled to discover that the Easter Bunny had been to Pre-School and left them some chocolate eggs! We then finished off our term with a very exciting Easter Egg hunt!

All of the CLC staff would like to wish our families a joyful and relaxing Easter break and we look forward to seeing everyone back again on Tuesday 22nd April.

Best wishes,

Jane Turner

(Pre-School Manager)