

Newsletter 18

Friday 31st January 2025

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Happy Chinese New Year

恭喜发财 / gong-sshee faa-tseye and 恭喜發財 / gong-hey faa-chwhy to all our Mandarin and Cantonese speaking families. We hope you have a wonderful celebration and that the year of the snake brings you all much good fortune, abundance, health and happiness.

In assembly on Monday we discussed how important it is to learn about cultures and faiths so that we have a greater understanding and appreciation of each other and what makes our school community so strong and inclusive. I truly believe that we are so fortunate to belong to such a diverse school community at Monkfield Park and how we all benefit from being able to celebrate each other's cultures and festivals.

mrs Howell

Friendship Games

Incredibly, the sun was shining on Thursday afternoon when twelve Year 6 children took part in the Friendship Games at Cambourne Village College. Working in teams with children from the other local primary schools, the children took part in some interesting games organised by the Year 10 Sports Leaders. From New Age Curling to archery, Speed Stacks, table tennis and, the children's favourite, Bench ball, the children competed with great enthusiasm and energy. Their achievements were celebrated and everyone received stickers and certificates. Best of all, the children met other children who will also be starting at the Village College in September. With fun games and some new friends, the children declared that they all feel more confident about the transition to secondary school.





Just a quick reminder that next Friday, 7th February, we will be celebrating NSPCC Number Day when we enjoy fun maths activities which take inspiration from famous game shows, current trends, exciting tasks, and teamwork to make sure everyone can join in the fun, even if maths isn't their favourite subject.

We will be encouraging everyone to take part in Dress up for Digits where children 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 vital services the NSPCC provides such as 'Speak out Stay Safe' and Childline 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 7th 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.

Library Book Amnesty

Do you have a few school library books hiding in your home? The library shelves are currently looking a little depleted and we suspect that there are lots of books hiding in bedrooms and bags. Please could you check your children's bags and bedrooms and encourage them to return any books they have finished reading.?

Thank you for your help.



Sentence starters

Ask your Reception child to tell you about Chinese New Year.

Ask your Year 1 child to tell you why glass is a good material for making windows.

Ask your Year 2 child to explain what an endangered animal is.

Ask your Year 3 child to tell you how many different ways you can begin a traditional tale.

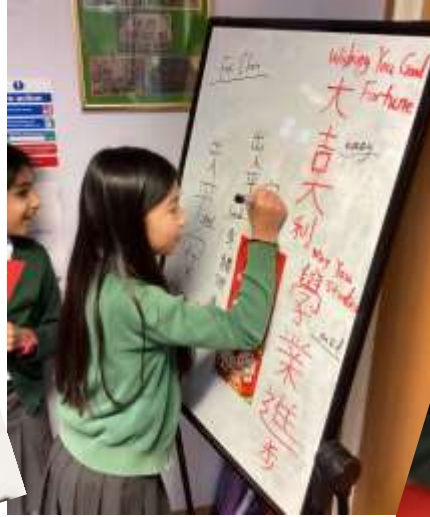
Ask your Year 4 child to tell you who their favourite god is in Norse mythology.

Ask your Year 5 child to re-tell the story of 'The Great Race' in their own words.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain the advantages and disadvantages of the industrial revolution.

Celebrating Chinese New Year

We have all enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year with a wide range of exciting activities including: counting up to 10 in Mandarin, writing Happy New Year in Chinese, solving the maths mystery of the flowering blossom, making Chinese paper cuts and learning about the story of the animals of the zodiac. In Year 5 Bella, Lydia, Lenny, Amadeus, Luka did an amazing job putting together a powerpoint presentation about Chinese New Year for everyone in school and taught us how to do paper cuts and write good messages (Fai Chun).



FORTHCOMING DATES Spring Term 2025

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

23rd April—Year 4 Indian WOW Day

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

2nd May—Dorado 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

Rhyming Fun!

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

Nursery rhymes are a great way to develop early language and literacy skills, so it really helps your child if you sing rhymes with them at home regularly. You could also read some rhyming stories together or just have fun making up silly rhyming strings, such as 'cat, mat, wat, lat'! All of these activities will help your child gain an awareness of rhyme.



Wishing everyone a great weekend!

Best wishes,
Jane Turner
Pre-School Manager