

Newsletter 2

Friday 14th September
2018

In this issue:

- ◇ Monkfield Park achieves Eco-Schools Award
- ◇ Monkfield Park Awarded Primary Science Quality Mark
- ◇ Active lunchtimes at Monkfield Park
- ◇ Chair and Vice Chair of Governors appointments
- ◇ Year 1 love learning!
- ◇ Headteacher Roll of Honour
- ◇ Welcome to our new Reception children
- ◇ Sentence starters
- ◇ Forthcoming dates

Reminder

Please ensure that items for school are named!

Monkfield Park achieves Eco-Schools Award



Down to the excellent work of Miss Simpson and members of Eco-club at Monkfield Park, we have been awarded the Silver Eco-Schools award! This is a huge achievement which recognises all of the effort that children at Monkfield Park have put into taking steps to become more eco-friendly. The award is given where schools have driven change and improved their environmental awareness. Eco-club have taken part in activities such as making bird feeders, harvesting potatoes and even creating financial rewards such as running a tuck shop, as well as many more eco-friendly activities. They are now considering the school being part of a 'paperless day'. We look forward to telling you more about their work in the future.

Monkfield Park Awarded Primary Science Quality Mark



It has been a double celebration this week as we have been notified that Monkfield Park has been awarded the gilt level **Primary Science Quality Mark**. In September **Primary Science Quality Marks** have been awarded to 230 infant, junior, primary, middle and special schools to celebrate a commitment to excellence in science teaching and learning. Needless to say, we are delighted with this achievement that has been led by Mrs Wellings and Miss Simpson. The **Primary Science Quality Mark** (PSQM) is the only national award scheme to develop and celebrate the quality of science teaching and learning in primary schools. Schools achieve a PSQM award through a year-long process of initial audit, followed by action and reflection. For more information please visit: www.psqm.org.uk

The Primary School Quality Mark scheme enables schools to work together to share good practice and is supported by professional development led by local experts. It encourages teacher autonomy and innovation while at the same time offering a clear framework for development in science subject leadership, teaching and learning.

Jane Turner, PSQM National Director said: *"Gaining a Primary Science Quality Award is a significant achievement for a school. The profile and quality of science teaching and learning in each awarded school is very high. Children are engaging with great science both in and outside the classroom, developing positive attitudes towards science as well as secure scientific understanding and skills. Science subject leaders, their colleagues, head teachers, children, parents and governors should be very proud."*

We are privileged to have so many budding scientists in our school and the staff have all worked very hard in fostering such a love in this area, so we are pleased to celebrate this special award with our families and children.

Active lunchtimes at Monkfield Park

Lunchtimes at Monkfield Park have become more active over the last two weeks with the addition of a coach from Premier Sports spending two lunchtimes with the children to run engaging, fun and active sports activities with them. Over those two weeks, the focus has been upon ball games—throwing, catching, passing and group games. Any child is able to participate and in our photographs you are able to see the children getting ready to begin the activities.



Chair and Vice Chair of Governors appointments

Following our first full Governing Body meeting of this academic year, the annual appointment of Chair and Vice Chair of Governors was a standing item on the agenda for this term. Chris Kidson has decided to resign from his current role as Chair, but will remain as a parent governor. Jo Dickson was appointed as Chair and Susan Palmer will remain as Vice Chair.

Year 1 love learning!

We know how important it is for children to make links in their learning. Our creative teaching team aim to make all experiences for the children at Monkfield Park as fun and interactive as possible and the activities in Year 1 this week have been no exception. The transition between Reception and Year 1 can be a tricky one, so the children took a book they knew well and used it to enhance their learning. 'Dear Zoo' is a well loved children's book and it has been used at the starting point for much maths, writing and creative work this week in Year 1. Here you are able to see the children making animal biscuits, where they had to measure and weigh the ingredients they needed and follow instructions.



Headteacher Roll of Honour

This week we have talked about 'fresh starts', 'wiping the slate clean' and rolling our sleeves up for new challenges. There have been so many good examples of this during the past week, that it has been very tricky to select children for our top honour of receiving a Headteacher's award. However, for exceptional effort in this area, I would like to celebrate the following children:

- Christopher in Phoenix Class—Christopher has definitely started the way he means to go on. The first few pages of his new exercise books are simply exemplary. Well done Christopher.
- Lian in Delphinus Class—Lian's enthusiasm for answering questions this week has really shown us that he is able to articulate his wonderful ideas so that we can all appreciate these. Well done Lian.
- Dexter in Aquila Class—Dexter's approach to his written work has really turned a corner. He has really concentrated on the advice given to him by the adults in school. Great work!

Welcome to our new Reception children



A sense of pride, excitement and a degree of trepidation was probably being experienced by our Reception parents this week, as their children began school for the very first time in our Reception classrooms. However, the children remained unfazed! The most delightful group of confident, happy and relaxed 4 and 5 year olds entered Orange and Yellow classes this week and dazzled us with the way in which they settled so quickly. We welcome them all as part of our 'Monkfield Park family' and look forward to helping them achieve their very best with us. You are able to see examples of what they got up to in their first few days.



Sentence Starters

- Ask your Reception child to tell you about a new friend they have met this week.
- Ask your Year 1 child to retell the story 'Dear Zoo'.
- Ask your Year 2 child to tell you a fact they've learnt about Isaac Newton.
- Ask your Year 3 child to describe their favourite Egyptian God or Goddess.
- Ask your Year 4 child which words they could use to explain the differences between a settler and an invader in Roman Britain.
- Ask your Year 5 child to describe the musical works of Mozart.
- Ask your Year 6 child to explain why Michael should or should not travel the world on the Peggy Sue.

Forthcoming dates

w/c 17th September—Reception children begin full time

14th September 3.45pm—4.15pm—Art gallery in the Main Hall

17th September—Meet the teacher and e-safety evening for parents

w/c 24th September—Harvest Festival Week

24th September at 6pm—ReadWrite Inc. information evening for Reception and Year 1 parents

26th September—Year 3 Egyptian morning (parents invited)

5th October at 9.15am—Phoenix Class assembly

10th October 5pm—7.30pm—Parent consultation evening

11th October at 1.30pm—Reception come and share

12th October at 9.15am—Green Class assembly

15th October—Individual school photographs

18th October 4pm—6.30pm—Parent consultation evening

22nd—26th October—HALF TERM

29th October—Children return to school

7th November 5.30pm—Reception maths afternoon

9th November at 9.15am—Indigo Class assembly

19th—22nd November—Year 6 Bikeability

23rd November at 9.15am—Violet Class assembly

26th—28th November—Book Fair

11th December at 2pm—Year 3 & 4 carol concert

12th December at 1.30pm—Reception come and share

12th December at 10am—Year 3 & 4 carol concert

13th December at 2pm—Year 1 Nativity

13th December at 6pm—Year 3 & 4 carol concert

14th December at 10am—Year 1 Nativity

18th December—Christmas lunch

18th December—Christmas festive fun afternoon

19th December—Last day of the Autumn term

20th December—2nd January—Christmas holiday

3rd & 4th January—INSET days (school closed to children)

7th January—Children return to school