

Newsletter 21

Friday 1st March 2019

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World Book Day and Comic Relief Red Nose Day

Please be reminded that World Book Day falls next Thursday 7th March. Children are invited to come into school dressed as book characters. 15th March is also Comic Relief red nose day. Children are invited to wear red for the day and to provide a £1 donation which will go to this worthy cause.

Vocabulary word of the week

This half term we have launched a 'word of the week' with the children across the school. Children at Monkfield Park **LOVE** using interesting and varied vocabulary in their discussions and writing. We are actively encouraging this by introducing or rehearsing a more ambitious word each week in assembly. We then try to use it in our discussions and interactions with the children wherever possible, whilst exploring the meaning of the word. This week we have explored the word below. Please build on this by asking your child about it, what it means and how it may be used.

Empower

Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs Martin who gave birth to a little girl during the February half term break, slightly earlier than expected. We wish her and her family well.

Developing Resilient children

We have recently heard lots in the media about the importance of supporting mental health from early on. Each week we have been providing you with tips about healthy lifestyles and the shift in focus for the rest of this half term will be upon developing children's resilience. We hope that by providing you with some bite sized advice from the Bounce back parenting website, you will be able to help your child/ren acquire the skills, attitude and positive thinking that is needed for them to develop resilience as they grow.



Do Something Risky!

Our instinct is to protect our children, but modern parenting appears to have taken this a wee bit too far. We steer children away from risk, whereas we should help them to develop an attitude that is more akin to 'feel the fear and do it, anyway'. Success in life is, in part, dependent on your capacity to take risks and manage fear. Often, resilient behaviour requires us to take action in the face of this fear. To help our children to develop this mindset a recommended book is, [Fifty Dangerous Things \(you should let your children do\)](#) and its list of risky activities. Plenty of fun things to do – with varying degrees of risk to keep the parental heart attack at bay, that will occupy the children throughout the Summer and teach them to overcome their fear and just 'do it, anyway'.

Headteacher Roll of Honour

Aseye in Blue Class—Aseye really impressed me with her story writing this week and tried very hard to remember her full stops. Well done!

Abigail in Indigo Class—Abigail has been empowered this week to take on new challenges in maths. Well done for converting repeated addition into multiplication. Fabulous learning.

Sentence Starters

Ask your Reception child to retell the story of Cinderella using words, pictures or writing.

Ask your Year 1 child who is important to them and why.

Ask your Year 2 child to share what they know about France.

Ask your Year 3 child what the most appropriate unit of measurement would be to measure the height of a person.

Ask your Year 4 child to describe the 'unusual object' they have chosen for their 500 Words story.

Ask your Year 5 child what a biography is and who they would choose to write one.

Ask your Year 6 child where and who they feel happy and safe with.

Forthcoming dates

w/c 4th March—Discovery tuck shop

7th March—World Book Day (children to dress up as book characters)

15th March—Red Nose Day (children to wear red)

13th—20th March—Book Fair

14th 21st March at 9.30am—Reception 'Come & Share'

22nd March at 9am—Blue Class assembly

26th March at 4pm—Year 4 Burwell House information evening for parents

27th March—Reception & Year 6 height & weight checks

28th March—Parent consultations

2nd April—Parent consultations

3rd April at 2pm—Year 5 performance

4th April at 6pm—Year 5 performance

5th April—LAST DAY OF TERM, CHILDREN RETURN **23RD APRIL**

NSPCC Speak out, stay safe

A representative from the NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme visited school this week to help our pupils have the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from abuse.

What is the *Speak out. Stay safe.* Programme?

Through a child-friendly interactive assembly, a member of the NSPCC's specially trained staff provided our children with information about how to keep themselves safe from harm and how to get help if they have any worries, sensitively discussing issues like bullying and sexual abuse, without using scary words or adult language. For children in Years 5 and 6 the messages delivered in assembly were then built upon with an hour-long classroom based workshop for each class.

By the end of the visit, the children in Reception, KS1 and KS2 felt empowered – knowing how they can speak out and stay safe. If you would like any more information about the ***Speak out. Stay safe.*** programme you can visit the NSPCC website nspcc.org.uk/buddy

Talking PANTS with your children

The NSPCC's work in schools helps encourage conversations about staying safe – and they have a number of child-friendly materials to help you carry on the conversation at home. That includes 'Talk PANTS', a simple way for parents to help keep children safe from sexual abuse – without using scary words. The guide uses the rules of PANTS to teach children that their body belongs to them and them alone. You can find out more and download the free resources at nspcc.org.uk/pants

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website nspcc.org.uk/parents.

Healthy snack stall

To continue to promote healthy eating and healthy snack choices, we will be running a healthy snacks stall once a half term. Next week, children who are part of Discovery house team have the opportunity to make and bring into school a healthy snack to sell on the stall.

All snacks must be fresh, healthy and include forms of fruit and vegetable. We kindly ask snacks not to include; processed food, refined sugar or nuts. However, ingredients such as; honey, cocoa powder, vanilla extract and dairy are allowed. To ensure that children with allergies do not buy and eat snacks that may cause a reaction, we ask you to kindly list the ingredients used and include this list on the lid of or inside your container.

Possible snacks could include:

- Fruit kebabs, fruit smoothies, vegetable crudités, breadsticks, fruity flapjacks

We suggest providing no more than 10 individual snacks. Each snack will be priced at 20p. The money raised by the healthy snacks stall will be used to enhance the opportunities on offer to the children to take part in preparing healthy food dishes. The stall will run after school each day from 3.15pm-3.45pm on the KS1 playground. We look forward to seeing and tasting a variety of healthy snacks!

SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR 2019/2020



Cambridgeshire
County Council

2019

<u>Training Day</u>	<u>Tuesday 3 September (school closed to children)</u>
Autumn Term	Opens Wednesday 4 September
Half Term	21 October – 25 October
Autumn Term	Closes Wednesday 18 December

2020

<u>Training Day</u>	<u>Friday 3 January (school closed to children)</u>
Spring Term Opens	Monday 6 January
Half Term	17 - 21 February
Spring Term Closes	Wednesday 1 April
<u>Training Day</u>	<u>Friday 17 April (school closed to children)</u>
Summer Term Opens	Monday 20 April
May Day	Monday 4 May
Half Term	25 May – 29 May
Summer Term Closes	Tuesday 21 July
<u>Training Day</u>	<u>Wednesday 22 July (school closed to children)</u>
<u>Training Day</u>	<u>Thursday 23 July (school closed to children)</u>