



# Monkfrith School

## Spring Term 2022

### Newsletter 22

Thank you to all the parents who were able to come to the KS1 Show Eddie the Penguin Saves the World last week. The children did a brilliant job and we were all very proud of them!

**Reception** went on their trip to Tesco to buy some vegetables. This week they are looking at exotic fruits!

**Year 1** were focusing on our PSHE value of friendship.

**Year 2** were busy making vehicles on Friday morning after assembly as part of their topic about transport.

**Year 3** have worked in pairs to write some beautiful poems about rivers using noun and verb phrases. I was particularly impressed by the effort the children were putting into the presentation of the work. Well done Year 3!

**Year 4** were weaving on Friday afternoon as part of their learning about the Vikings.

**Year 5** have been writing fantastic Egyptian myths last week as well as the rather gory process of mummification!

**Year 6** have been learning about the war and the impact of rationing. They have started a Make Do and Mend project creating pencil cases, pin cushions and purses out of scraps of material.



### Non Uniform Day

We will be having a non uniform day on **Friday 18th March**. For a £1 donation, children can wear whatever they like to school (sensible shoes for break times please). All the money raised will go to UNICEF to help with children affected by the crisis in Ukraine.







One of the activities that the whole school took part in for World Book Day was a story relay. Oak and Willow class each started a story which was then continued (in relay) by another class, and another class etc... They did it as a shared writing activity with all the children contributing ideas and suggestions (as I am sure you will see!) before passing it up to the next year group. Lots of children have really enjoyed seeing what happens next in their story. Here are the results...

## Oak

Once upon a time, there lived a mermaid, her name was June. She had beautiful, long, purple hair, with a shell clip on the side of her head. She had shiny, turquoise scales all over her tail. She lived deep, down at the bottom of the ocean, in a shipwreck. She was a great swimmer. She could swim faster than all of the fish and sharks in the ocean. One day, June was swimming close to her house, when she found a long, dark tunnel...



## 1C

June knew all about the dangers of the sea but she just could not resist finding out what was inside. Slowly and carefully she set off into the scary tunnel. All around her was green slimy seaweed, crabs scuttling along the walls and water drip dropping from the roof. When June looked back all she could see was darkness but bravely she continued on. To her surprise she saw a light glowing through a crack ahead. The shining light became brighter and brighter and drew June closer and closer.



## 2P

Finally she reached the end and she couldn't believe her eyes. She could see shiny emeralds, glistening diamonds, glorious gold necklaces and sparkling rings. The excitement vanished however as she saw decaying old bones scattered around. To her horror she realised that she was in an underwater tomb. Scared, she started to swim away as fast as she could but accidentally triggered a tripwire which caused the entrance of the tomb to close quickly. She reached the entrance seconds too late. June started to shake with fear as she backed away from the door. Suddenly out of the shadows came two huge ugly tentacles heading straight for her. They wrapped around her waist, trapping her arms behind her back. June struggled with all her might but it was no use. Then two gigantic yellow eyes appeared from the shadows.



3D

As the gigantic yellow eyes looked at her, they seemed to see into her very soul. Time stood still. Memories from her childhood came flooding back and the voice of her father echoed with his warning,

“Don’t travel without a companion to places that are unknown, because if you scream we will never hear you!”

How would she ever get out of this tragic situation? Why didn’t she listen to her father’s warning?

Suddenly the luminous yellow eyes seemed to glow and they began to close in on her. It was not one creature with two eyes, but two creatures with one eye each - just like a cyclops! June was petrified and thought her life was over. From the locked entrance there was the tiniest chink of light. Carefully, June raised her shiny, turquoise-scaled tail and the light reflected off it, straight into the sea creatures’ eyes. The tentacles split apart and immediately June lifted up a key-shaped bone.



4P

June slanted her tail towards the key-shaped bone so that she could see if it could fit into any gaps in the tomb’s closed entrance. Unfortunately, a keyhole was nowhere to be seen in the entrance. As she searched, the two one-eyed creatures arose and began to chase her to the back of the tomb. She could see a suspicious chest that had a keyhole that might fit the key. Thinking quickly, she serged straight for the chest and desperately pushed the key into the keyhole. Twist! Click! Boom! The chest illuminated and the lid flung open. Instantaneously, the decayed bones began to shake and awaken. They started to reform into many skeleton bodies.

5F

June shrank back against the wall as the pale, boney skeletons surrounded her. She edged backwards but her tail got caught on a piece of debris, causing her to fall clumsily next to the chest. Menacingly, her enemies marched towards her, brandishing sharp, rusty weapons in their slender hands. Shivering with fear, she scrambled desperately upright and fumbled within the chest for something - anything - that she could use. She felt a handle, it was attached to something. With all her strength, she pulled out a razor-sharp sword. Suddenly, without warning, the sword started to glow with a deep purple hue as she felt a powerful surge of energy rush through her whole body. This sword was magic! She felt empowered with raw, brute strength! From her neck, all the way down to her tail, huge, veiny muscles started to bulge and pulsate and grow as though they were about to pop! Her shoulders had become broad and her eyes narrowed as they locked onto the nearest skeleton, giving him a deathly stare... One by one, the wide-eyed, skeletal abominations dropped their weapons where they stood and knelt down, trembling in fear, begging for mercy.

“Please don’t harm us, your greatness! We’ll tell you how to escape!” said the pleading skeleton in the middle, “Just lift up the chest - there’s a secret passageway underneath!”



6D

Desperately, she rushed over to the ancient chest, and heaved it above her head. To her dismay, the passageway wasn't empty, nor was it going to be her route to freedom. Swarms of mutant sea creatures were clambering towards her. Aggressively slamming the door of the passageway closed, she swung her head towards the sound of clattering bones. It had been a trap; she had been tricked. With all of her might, she swung the luminescent sword, taking down a few of the sinister skeletons. Their bones echoed as they fell like dominoes. Just as it felt like all hope had been lost, memories of her father echoed once again through her mind.

"Don't travel without a companion to places that are unknown, because if you scream we will never hear you!"

Realising what she had to do, she let out an earpiercing scream, it was all she had left. Slumping to the seabed and closing her eyes, June had almost given up when she heard a sudden rumble. Her scream had caused vibrations that were so mighty, the towering rocky walls of the tunnel had begun to crack. Small boulders were falling from the cracks, knocking the remaining skeletons over like bowling pins. A slither of light caught her eye - like a lighthouse in a storm showing her the way home. Hope was not in fact lost.

Using all of her magical muscles, she smashed through the grimy boulders until she was free. Her purple hair glistened as she swam elegantly to the shipwreck she knew as home. Reflecting on her rather chaotic day, she vowed never to disobey her parents again.....





## Willow

Once upon a time there was a king who lived in a castle in a deep, dark forest, his name was Maxi Daxi Haxi. He lived all alone. His favourite food was popcorn and he loved playing football.

One morning, the king sat on his chair outside drinking tea, when he saw something strange behind the bush. Maxi Daxi Haxi decided to climb the tree to see what was there...



## 1K

He saw a wild dog sitting on a big grey crystal rock. King Maxi Daxi Haxi had an idea which was to capture the wild dog because he wanted to have a friend to play football with. Clever King Maxi Daxi Haxi came down from the tall tree and spoke to the wild dog in woof language. King Maxi Daxi Haxi asked the wild dog its name. The wild dog replied "My name is Wooty Dooty". King Maxi Daxi Haxi and Wooty Dooty wandered into the forest together hoping to find .....

## 2K

..... a long, hard, and tasty bone for Wooty Dooty to strengthen his sharp, vicious teeth. They travelled through the forest that they thought was enchanted and magical however they were extremely shocked with what they heard, saw and found. During their unexpected journey they realised that the forest was in fact gloomy and haunted. With each fearful step, they made their way through the shadowy trees. After hours of exploring they noticed that the trees began to vanish and a spooky cave was now in near sight. In a flash a black, leathery bat with fiery, red eyes flew out of the ghostly cave and stole King Maxi Daxi Haxi's precious crown from his head. He let out a scream.....



## 3S

Within seconds, the bat flew rapidly back into the pitch, black cave as the king attempted to run after it. Unfortunately, the king tripped over Wooty Dooty's paw and landed on his face by the entrance. He slowly stood up feeling hopeless and disappointed because he'd lost the most important item he owned. With encouragement, Wooty Dooty nudged the king and they both walked nervously into the cave to find his crown. They could hear screeching bats high above them, the echoes of their footsteps and the whistling sound of the wind outside. As they quietly walked further, the walls of the cave started to glow and King Maxi Daxi Haxi noticed unusual marks that almost looked like spears. Suddenly, they heard a large bang and turned around to find an animal sealing the entrance. A deafening roar echoed soon after...



4S

Without warning, a dragon came into sight. It had magnificent purple scales with bright red markings along its back and tail. The wings of the dragon were enormous with sharp spikes at the tips. Suddenly, the dragon opened its vast jaws. In a surprisingly squeaky and shaky voice the dragon exclaimed,

"Please don't hurt me, I am only a baby dragon!"

King Maxi and his dog Wooty Dooty stepped back in shock. The dragon introduced herself as Henrietta. Henrietta the dragon lit a fire and they all sat around the fire as it was getting very cold and late. From his pocket King Maxi Daxi Haxi pulled out a bag of popping corn. Henrietta the dragon blew her hot breath over the corn and made some delicious popcorn. As they ate the popcorn, Henrietta began to tell her sad story. An ogre stole her when she was very small and tried to keep her prisoner. Henrietta the dragon escaped one night but she injured herself and has been hiding in the cave ever since. Frightened that the ogre would find her. Next morning as the sun rose, King Maxi Daxi Haxi .....



5B

Maxi Daxi Haxi commanded, "We will march south-east to the ogre's castle."

"Assuming it's actually that direction," muttered Henrietta. Warily, they ventured into the mysterious forest. With towering trees looming over them, and strange scuttling sounds, they felt their blood freeze. Luckily, they met a friendly ogre called Christopher, who led them to the castle. On their way, they spotted an ogre riding a giant armoured wolf. The gang seized their chance and knocked out the wolf and ogre so they could steal some armour. Wooty-Dooty dressed up as the armoured wolf and Maxi Daxi Haxi rode in disguise as an ogre. The gang sneaked into the castle. They went to the throne room where Maxi Daxi Haxi darted to the Ogre King and swiftly shoved a large piece of popcorn up the Ogre King's nose. The Ogre King sneezed violently so that the popcorn shot out his nose and the crown fell off his head. The gang took off their disguises. Maxi Daxi Haxi surprised everyone. Beneath his ogre disguise he had packed his entire DJ set. Everyone gasped. Maxi Daxi Haxi declared, "We challenge you ogres to a dance battle, tomorrow at dawn. The winner can keep the crown."

6LD

With slimy snot oozing slowly from his injured nostril, the Ogre King scowled at Maxi Daxi Haxi. "I accept your challenge, little runt and I will squash you again, for I am the Greatest Dancer!" The last words struck Maxi Daxi Haxi like a lightning bolt: his mind flashed back to the previous summer and the National Dance Contest, where his title had been taken by an incredible disco demon of a dancer.

'You're Slimon Scowel,' he muttered, instantly regretting his challenge but secretly glad he'd had the opportunity to shove popcorn up this odorous (for he smelt pretty disgusting) Ogre's nose. Maxi Daxi Haxi squared his shoulders and stared at the Ogre King. 'I'm going to beat you and take what is rightfully mine,' he stated with all the courage he could muster. The Ogre King smiled, 'See you at the dance, Loser.' With that, he pirouetted deftly from the Throne room.

'What was that all about?' growled Wooty Dooty

'He stole my title and my crown.' Maxi Daxi Haxi replied angrily. 'The bat we saw is his servant. I remember him from before.'

'You mean the crown you had wasn't really yours?' queried Wooty Dooty.

'It doesn't matter. What matters is we get it back: I won it first.'

'If the Ogre King won the crown then it really isn't yours, Maxi.' Henrietta added calmly. Maxi Daxi Haxi glared at the dragon. Wooty Dooty broke the silence by asking what music they would be dancing to. 'Assuming we're included in this battle,' he concluded with a smile. Maxi Daxi Haxi smiled back then opened his playlist. What would be good to show off their dancing prowess?

'Who let the dogs out?' woofed Wooty Dooty

'Disco Inferno,' piped up, Henrietta. They laughed. The trio continued to suggest music they could dance to as they made their way back towards the forest.

As dawn broke the following day, Maxi Daxi Haxi, Wooty Dooty and Henrietta made their way back to the castle. They had practised long into the night once they had finally decided on a song. The dew on the grass sparkled like rubies in the sunrise, the sky grew light and the castle loomed large in front of them. They stopped at the gates which opened ominously and silently. The bat with fiery red eyes beckoned them inside.

The ballroom was crowded with onlookers keen to see the outcome of the contest. Nervously, Maxi Daxi Haxi glanced at his companions either side of him. A warm feeling came over him as he knew then that he was not facing this ordeal alone as he had the year before. The dance floor was smooth like marble. 'Oooh!' woofed Wooty Dooty quietly. The Ogres began their dance making a great show of pirouetting about the room to their chosen song 'I will survive.' With every step, a square of the shiny floor lit up in rainbow colours beneath their feet. They danced gracefully and ended with a flourish and a dramatic pose. The audience roared and clapped with delight.

Then it was their turn...the opening bars of their chosen song reverberated around the room: 'Rasputin' by Boney M - Wooty Dooty's favourite band. Carefully, the three contestants got down on their haunches and began to shuffle awkwardly across the floor. Wooty Dooty couldn't get a grip and his paws skittered wildly in every direction on the shiny surface. He howled as he fell onto his chin. Maxi Daxi Haxi surveyed the scene with horror; Henrietta was frozen to the spot. Mesmerised by the rainbow colours flashing on and off, she hadn't seen her delicately forked tail right in the way of Wooty Dooty's large flailing paws. Maxi Daxi Haxi had no time to warn her as he watched it being crushed under the hapless hound's enormous paw.

'Owwwwwww!' she yelled as she collapsed in a heap on the floor catching Maxi Daxi Haxi's big toe under her wing. The impact sent him skidding along the length of the room scattering popcorn (from his pocket) in his wake. As he came to a stop, surrounded by hues of red, blue, purple and green, a deathly hush descended. Everyone watched nervously and waited.

'Ha!

'Ha ha ha ha ha ha..'. Maxi Daxi laughed more heartily than he had ever laughed before. What did a crown mean to him when he had friends who made him laugh, popcorn, dancing and a full DJ set under his armour? He had finally realised that THOSE were the important things in life: especially friends.

A couple of days later, as the sun shone brightly over the castle grounds, Maxi Daxi Haxi, Wooty Dooty, Henrietta and the Ogres played a friendly game of football before drinking tea and eating cake, and they all lived happily ever after.



## PE Update

On Friday, we were able to send a **Year 4** team to the Year 4 Girls' Football tournament at Powerleague. They drew three and lost one. The girls did really well especially considering they had no opportunity to train together before they went.

**Virtual Skipping** - We are currently joint 1st on the leaderboard. Well done to Nayan who received a Bronze Medal for his efforts in the Year 4 competition.

**Cross Country Update** - All the results have been counted now and we finished 3rd overall! Well done to the team.

## SEN coffee mornings

We are planning to hold termly coffee mornings for parents with children who have additional needs or SEN. This will be an opportunity for parents to get together informally and also to discuss/think about areas of interest.



Our first coffee morning will be on Wednesday 9 March from 9.15 to 10.30am.

Our Educational Psychologist, Nicole Cara will be giving a talk on promoting emotional well-being and supporting resilience for children with SEN.

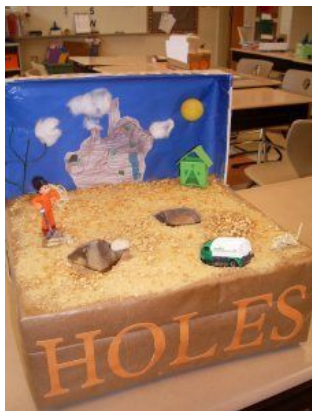
Refreshments will be served from 9.15 and Nicole's talk will start at 9.30.

This session is for parents only so please arrange alternative childcare for younger siblings.

Even if your child does not have SEN or additional needs but you feel this would be of value to you, you are very welcome to come.

## World Book Day - Monkfrith Spring Competition

One of the great Monkfrith traditions (which we have not been able to have for the last two years sadly) is our **Spring Competition**. This year we are linking it to World Book Day. Your child will have already been set the challenge as homework. It would be great to have as many children as possible participating. The results will be displayed around school and there will be prizes for the children's efforts. We hope you as parents, support your child to get involved! Here are some examples in case you are stuck for ideas:



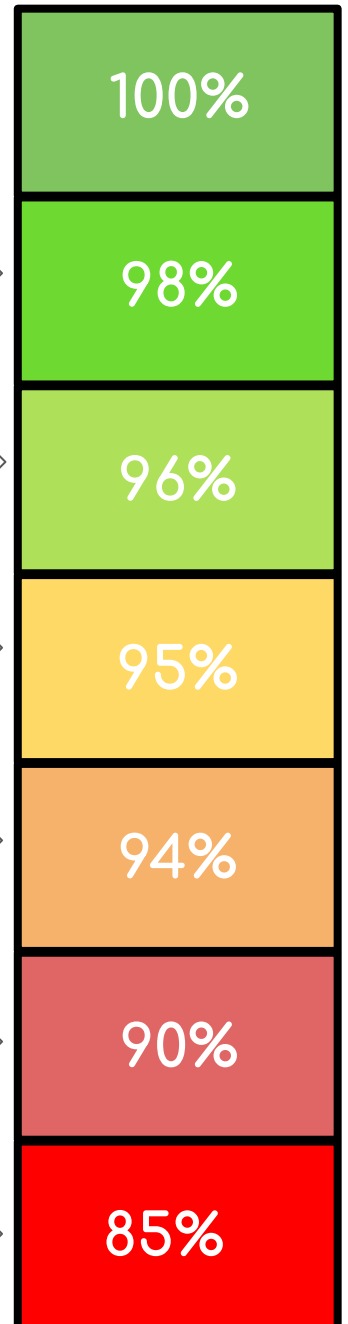
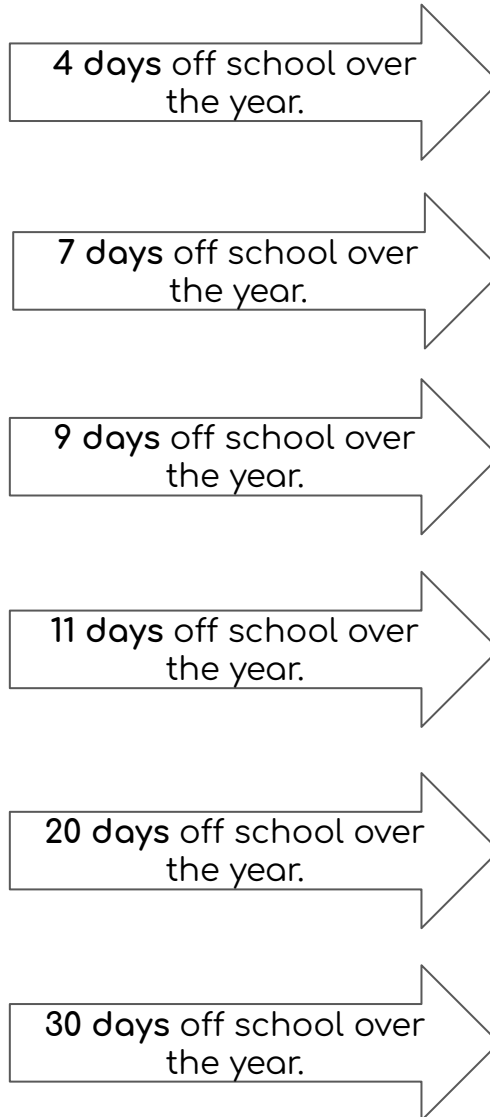




# Attendance

Week commencing:  
28th February 2022

Whole School	96%
Reception	92%
Year 1	96%
Year 2	97%
Year 3	96%
Year 4	99%
Year 5	97%
Year 6	94%



I would like to remind parents that holidays abroad do not meet the criteria for Exceptional Term Time Leave. I understand that people have been keen to travel after the restriction of the last two years and see family abroad but it is not a reason to request authorised leave during school time. There are 13 weeks of school holiday each year. Click here for further information about how Barnet address unauthorised absences.

<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-attendance/legal-sanctions>

### Key Dates for the rest of the year

Monday 7th March - Friday 18th March - Year 4P swimming every day

Tuesday 8th March - Dance Festival

Wednesday 9th March - SEN Parent Coffee Morning

Friday 11th March - Governor Visit Day

Monday 14th March - Friday 18th March - Science Week

Thursday 17th March - Full Governing Body Meeting 7pm

Friday 18th March - Non Uniform Day to raise money for UNICEF

Monday 21st March - Friday 1st April - Year 4S swimming every day

Friday 1st April - End of Term (break up 2pm)

### Summer Term 1

Tuesday 19th April - Start of Summer Term

Monday 2nd May - Bank Holiday

Thursday 5th May - School Closed Local Government Elections

Monday 9th May - KS2 SATS Week

Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June - Half Term

### Summer Term 2

Monday 6th June - INSET Day

Monday 20th June - Friday 24th June - Sports Week

Friday 1st July - INSET Day

Thursday 21st July - End of Term 2pm finish

There will be further dates added.



### Contact Information

Please ensure that we have the most up to date contact information on Arbor. I know that quite a few families have moved house recently so please make sure we have your new address on the system and that your emergency contact information is accurate.