



Monkfrith School

Spring Term 2023

Newsletter 1

KS2 Choir

If your child is in Year 4-6 and would like to join choir on a Thursday morning (8.15am), they are welcome to come along.

A slightly belated Happy New Year! In this week's newsletter you will find out about what happened in school last week and what will be coming during the rest of this half term.

Firstly I am asking for your support in improving whole school attendance and punctuality. During the COVID pandemic it was necessary for pupils and families to isolate if they or a close contact tested positive. That is not now the case and it is essential that we build back up on our previous positive attendance and punctuality rates.

Attendance

I understand that there have been lots of coughs, colds and viral infections which have caused many children to be absent from school and I am hopeful will improve this half term. Whole school attendance since September, is the lowest that it has been for a very long time. You can check your child's attendance on Arbor - if your child is close to or below 90%, then they have missed at least 7 or 8 days of school and meet the criteria for being 'persistently absent'. If there is anything we can do to help improve your child's attendance, then please talk to us.

Punctuality

It is important that your child is on time for school. The gates close at 8.55am in the morning and after this your child is late. Last week there were a number of children arriving at school after this time. This means they often miss the start of lessons where new learning is introduced and so are starting the day already trying to catch up. Please support us by ensuring that your child is in school on time everyday.

Parent Coffee Morning

Supporting attention at home... Do you worry about your child's attention and listening? Would you like some ideas about how to get your child to focus or concentrate?

At our Coffee morning on Wednesday 25th January 2023, Tiffany Nelson, Trainee Educational Psychologist, will be talking about supporting your child's attention at home. She will briefly cover some theory and factors that influence attention. She will look at strategies to support your child's attention and there will be an opportunity for discussion and to carry out some activities.

Everyone is welcome!



Although there were only four days last week, there was still lots of learning happening! The children came back with lots of enthusiasm and energy ready for 2023!

In **Reception** the children were learning how to create their own story maps using the traditional tale, Little Red Riding Hood.

Year 1's topic this half term is called Splendid Skies. The children will learn about all things weather-related. They started this by reading and performing some weather related poems. They also looked at maps to identify the continents and oceans.

Year 2 will be continuing their Dreamers and Changemakers topic. Last week they were finding out about Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale and how hospitals have changed over time. As part of their PSHE and Maths lessons, they were also learning about money and making change.

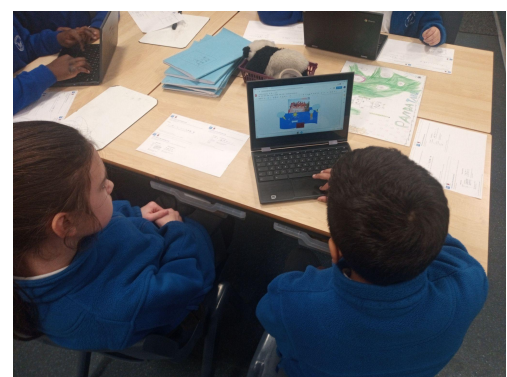
In **Year 3** the children are going back in time to learn about the Gods and Mortals of Ancient Greece. They have begun by locating Greece on a map and finding out where it fits in chronologically in history.

Year 4's topic is called Burps, Bottoms and Bile. The children will be learning about the digestive system. As well as thinking about what they already know about how the human body works from other learning they have done, the children also learnt about teeth.

In **Year 5** the children will be learning about space in their topic, Stargazers. They have begun this by finding out about the composition of the Solar System. As part of their computing lessons, the children were learning how to create their own vector drawings. In their Whole Class Reading lessons, they will be reading the children's classic, Tom's Midnight Garden by Philippa Pearce.

Year 6 will be learning about all things heart-related this term, with their topic, Bloodheart. They began last week by learning some of the scientific terms for the heart and how it works. Their whole class reading text is the beautifully moving, Skellig by David Almond.

If you would like to find out more about what your child will be learning and ways that you can support them at home, then please look at the class pages on the website.



Parent Pulse Survey

Our next Parent Pulse Survey will be coming shortly. The focus this time will be on homework as we look to review our Homework Policy. Please look out for the link in the next week.

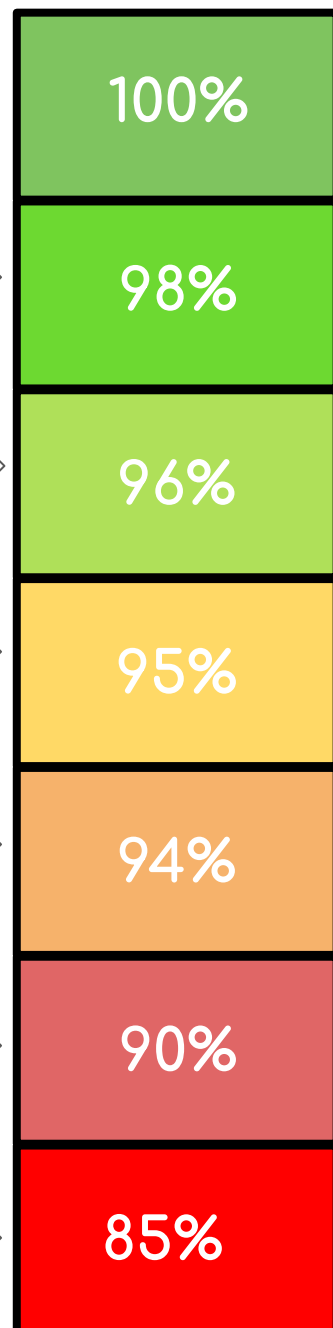
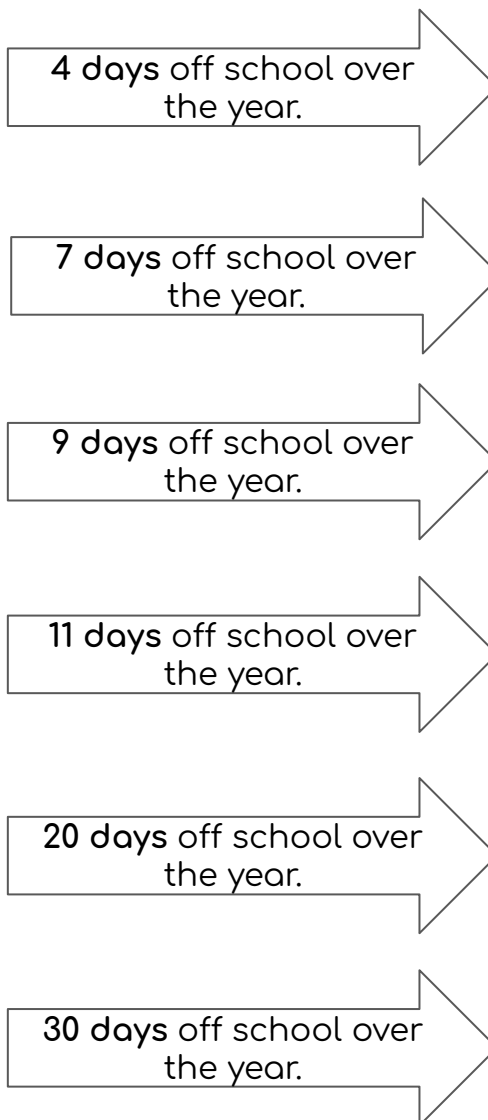




Attendance

Week commencing:
2nd January 2023

Whole School	95%
Reception	91%
Year 1	98%
Year 2	96%
Year 3	96%
Year 4	97%
Year 5	93%
Year 6	94%



Earlier this year the government published information on attendance and the expectations on schools and parent to ensure that children attend school regularly. This included further information about the strong correlation between attendance and academic performance:

The pupils with the highest attainment at the end of key stage 2 and key stage 4 have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared to those with the lowest attainment.

At KS2, pupils not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths had an overall absence rate of 4.7%, compared to 3.5% among those meeting the expected standard.

The overall absence rate of pupils not meeting the expected standard was higher than among those meeting the higher standard (4.7% compared to 2.7%).

If you choose to take holiday during term time, you could face a fixed penalty notice. Details can be found [here](#).

Numbots

Times Tables Rockstars

Weekly Leaderboard



Most accurate in the last 7 days	Most correct answers in the last 7 days	Most coins earned in the last 7 days
Ayan, 2P Joseph, 2P Joshua, 2C Lupin, 2P Alyssia, 2P Lucy, 2C Milan, 1K Ida, 2P Tolu, Oak Joel, 1C	Ida, 2P Hayaan, 1C Alyssia, 2P Joshua, 2C Lupin, 2P Joseph, Oak George, 2P Marco, 1C Joseph, 2P Lucy, 2C	Ida, 2P George, 2P Hayaan, 1C Joshua, 2C Lupin, 2P Ayan, 2P Alyssia, 2P Joseph, 2P Lucy, 2C Emily, 1K

If you have an issue with your child's log-in information for either Numbots or TTRS then please let us know.



Overall School Leaderboard

1. Cos, 5K
2. Deeyar, 5K
3. Daniyal, 5K
4. Adam, 5K
5. George, 5K
6. Khloe, 5K

Most improved accuracy in the last 7 days	Most improved speed in the Studio in the last 7 days	Most correct answers in the last 7 days	Most coins in the last 7 days
Ruby, 4S Dilan, 4P Alicia, 5K Kai, 5K Lily, 5K Lewis, 4S Heidi, 4S Ross, 4P Fausto, 5K Amelia, 4P	Lucy, 4P Anastasia, 4S	Kacper, 6B Kai, 5K Valentina, 4S Connor, 6B Sophie, 4S Suvira, 5F Nina, 4P Omer, 5F Lewis, 4s Alyssa, 4P	Kacper, 6B Kai, 5K Connor, 6B Valentina, 4S Sophie, 4S Suvira, 5F Omer, 5F Lewis, 4S Alyssa, 4S Emily, 4S



Key Dates for Spring Term 2023

****More dates to be added over the coming weeks****

Wednesday 25th January at 9am - Coffee Morning

Friday 27th January - Year 1 and 2 Road Safety Show (at school)

Tuesday 31st January - 6LD to the Royal Institute

Wednesday 1st February - 6B to the Royal Institute

Monday 6th February to Friday 10th February - Children's Mental Health Week

Monday 6th February - Wednesday 8th February - Parent Consultations for Reception to Year 6 after school

Tuesday 7th February - Safer Internet Day

Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February - Half Term

Monday 20th February - INSET DAY 3

Monday 6th March - KS2 Dance Club to the Dance Festival

Monday 6th March to Friday 17th March - Year 5 Swimming lessons

Monday 13th March to Friday 17th March - Science Week

Friday 31st March - Break up 2pm

Summer Term 2023

Tuesday 9th May - Friday 12th May - KS2 SATs week for Year 6

Sunday 14th May - Friday 19th May - Year 6 Residential to the Isle of Wight