



Monkfrith School

Spring Term 223

Newsletter 11



I know that last week was a slightly unusual week but we packed in as much as possible in the 3 days!

Reception were planting, using Numicon in maths and making a delicious pineapple cake, with the leftover exotic fruit!



Year 1 have been learning about the different countries that make up the United Kingdom and on Friday afternoon - on St Patrick's Day - 1K were lucky to have Joni Cooper's grandad in to talk to them about Ireland.

Year 2 finished their Street Beneath My Feet stories. They carried out their traffic surveys and then presented their results in a pictogram. **Year 3** were also developing their geography skills by learning how to use an atlas!



Year 4 are coming to the end of their two terms of ukulele lessons through the Barnet Educational Arts Wider Opportunities project. Thank you to FOMS for helping enable us to take part! Parents of children in Year 4 are welcome to come along to their concert at 9.45am this Wednesday to see what the children have been up to since September! **Year 5** completed their swimming sessions this week with life saving on Friday - we are so proud of the progress the children have made in just 8 sessions. Thank you to the parents who came along to help! **Year 6** have been learning about the impact of rationing of during WW2. They made some rather 'tasty banana sandwiches' using parsnips!

There are still some spaces left for children in Year 4 and 5 to join Dance Club. If you your child would like to join, then just email the Office. The club runs after school on Tuesday from 3.30pm to 4.20pm and is completely free!

SEND Coffee Morning - Wednesday 22nd March (9.15am)

This is an informal opportunity to get together with other parents, share ideas and experiences, while also having a cup of tea and a biscuit. We hope to see you there!

The deadline for the Spring Competition is Wednesday 22nd March - the entries we have had so far have been brilliant! **FOMS** are kindly paying for us to be able to then have professional songwriter Marc Folan to come into school and run a workshop to turn those ideas into our new whole school song. There will be further updates about the progress of the song over the next few weeks in the newsletter.



Last week was STEM Week at school. The theme this year was Connections. Thank you to Mrs Ditchburn for organising all the activities.



STEM
WEEK

Year 2 Football Festival

On Monday morning, Mr Powell and Mrs Holmes took a group of girls from [Year 2](#) to take part in the Year 2 Girls Barnet Football Festival. The children had a really enjoyable morning (despite the cold!); Mr Powell was proud of the way they joined in and showed great determination. Thank you to Ms Pierides for organising everything and to the parents who helped with transport.

Football Update

Sadly, on Tuesday, both our girls' and boys' were defeated in the league last week against The Wren Academy.

On Friday, however, the girls' played again in the Quarter-Final of the John King Trophy against Akiva. We knew it would be a close match as we drew against them in the league and it was very close indeed. The final score was 2-2, which meant the girls had to step up and take penalties to decide the winning team. We **WON** on penalties and we are waiting to hear who we will play against next in the cup. Thank you to all the parents that continuously help with transport and support both teams. These fixtures would not be possible without you.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one app of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about HIPAL

AGE RESTRICTION 12+
(with reduced functionality for under-12s)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS
HIPAL's under-12 accounts don't allow direct connections with strangers (although children seeking more friends can share their 'Friend Code' on other platforms), but for older users, chatting with strangers seems to be the app's main appeal. The 'Public Square' shows nine online users (hitting 'refresh' replaces these with another nine), and clicking on someone's profile starts a conversation.

SEXING AND SUGGESTIVE PICS
Almost immediately after our expert downloaded the app, strangers began to message privately – asking for provocative images or sharing explicit photos of themselves. Likewise, in the 'Explore' feed, many of the pictures and videos are innocent, but some are far more salacious. There is always the risk of other users secretly saving a revealing photo and re-sharing it elsewhere.

NEED FOR VALIDATION
Some users – particularly girls – post photos on apps of this type hoping for positive reactions and comments to boost their self-esteem. Suggestive images tend to attract more flattering feedback, encouraging the user to post more frequently and with more explicit content. Conversely, receiving unkind comments about their picture can impact a young user's confidence and sense of self-worth.

NO AGE GATES OR MODERATION
Although users are given an initial choice of the under- or over-12 profile, there is no verification method to confirm someone's age. It is quite clear that the 'older' option offers a more complete experience on the app, but there seems to be no content moderation in place. Likewise, there is a reporting button for users to make a complaint but these reports do not appear to be followed up.

INTRUSIVE FEATURES
HIPAL's walkie-talkie gimmick is no different from a normal phone call and seems rarely used; although it allows conversations to still be heard while a phone is locked, which could have awkward results. HIPAL also offers 'boom' messages: unmissable large-text notifications which are highly distracting and briefly take over the phone – users can't access other apps until the message fades.

LARGE GROUP CHATS
The app offers group chats with up to 100 people – both friends and unknown users. This not only means excessive 'boom' messages taking over your child's device, but – most worryingly – the potential for explicit images and videos being shared with strangers outside parental supervision and apparently with no moderation from the platform itself.

Advice for Parents & Carers

EMPHASISE CAUTION
Remind your child of the dangers of connecting with strangers online. Some may be using the app innocently; others may have more sinister intentions. Encourage your child to consider what information they disclose in private messages, and emphasise that they should inform a trusted adult if someone on the internet ever attempts to persuade them to meet in person.

TALK ABOUT SEXING
It can be an awkward conversation (which young people are often reluctant to have), but it's vital to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Discuss the legal implications of sharing explicit images, as well as the emotional impact. Make it clear your child should never feel pressured into sexting – and that they should tell a trusted adult if they receive any unwanted explicit images.

BUILD RESILIENCE
With HIPAL's lack of moderation, it's imperative that children are prepared for comments they might receive after uploading an image. You can build their resilience and equip them to manage these situations by having them show you any comments they've received. Together, discuss how the nice ones made them feel – and what they could do if someone posted a comment that upset them.

AVOID OVER-SHARING
Young people should think carefully about what they share in their profile, bio and posts. Talk to your child about not disclosing personal details such as phone numbers, other social media accounts or images which could reveal where they live or go to school. It's essential for children to recognise that strangers can assemble a detailed profile of someone based on things they can find online.

CONSIDER MENTAL WELLBEING
Many users on HIPAL publicly share photos that are intended to be alluring in the hope of gaining more likes, friends and positive feedback – boosting their self-esteem and making them feel more self-assured. When young people regularly engage with social media platforms, it's important that parents and carers keep in mind the potential impact such platforms can have on mental wellbeing.

Meet Our Expert
Dr Claire Suberland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

<https://hipal.app/about/privacy.html>

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 07.12.2022

Lost Property

On Wednesday afternoon (unless it rains), we will be putting out the lost property from this half term in the carpark. Please come along and see if there is anything that might belong to your child.

Anything not claimed will be sent for recycling.

Banji Alexander visit

The author visit will also be happening on Wednesday. If you would like to preorder a copy of the book, then you have until tomorrow.

There may be some copies available on the day after school.



The Spring Competition

supported by FOMS

The Spring Competition is a Monkfrith tradition and an opportunity for the school community to take part in the same project.

This year the competition is a little bit different. All the children will have the chance to contribute towards a specially commissioned whole school song about our school, the children and the community.

What is special about Monkfrith?

Everyone needs to write 4-5 lines about Monkfrith. You could write them as sentences or make it into a short poem.

Think about what is special about our school, what you enjoy and what makes children who come here unique!

Then some of the children will be chosen, (along with songwriter Mr Folan), to use these ideas and turn them into a whole school song which we will perform at the end of the year.

Please write your sentences on a separate sheet of paper along with your name and class and hand it to your class teacher.

The deadline for your entry is Wednesday 22nd March.

I will update you about the process in the newsletter over the coming weeks.

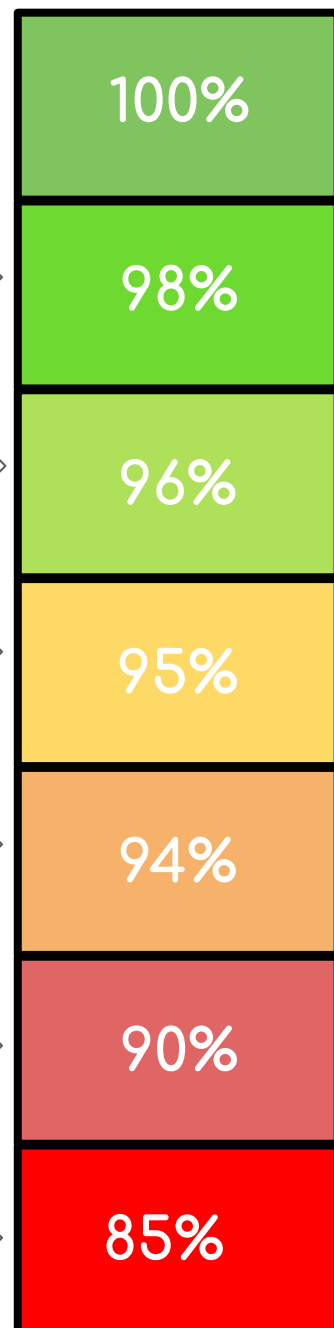
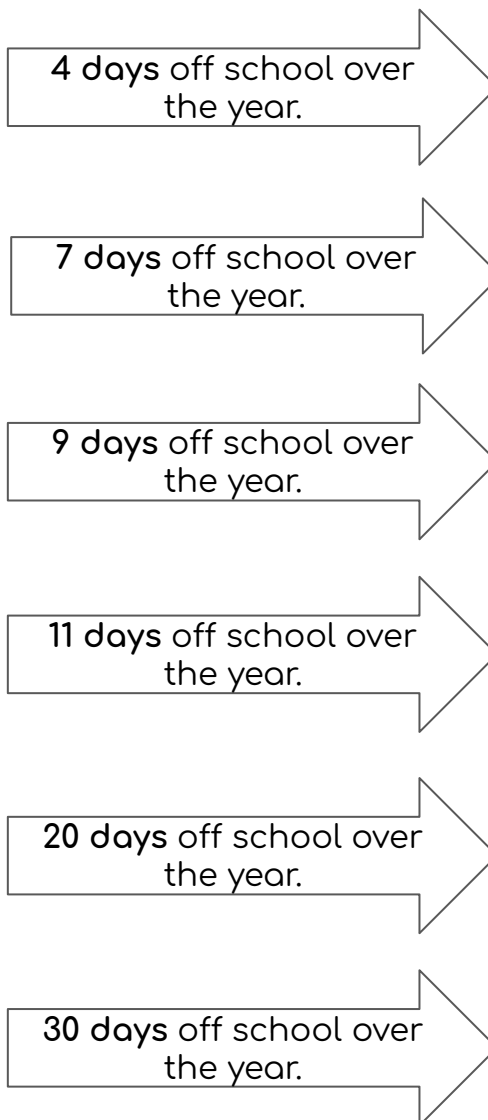
We can't wait to see what fantastic ideas you have. Good luck!



Attendance

Week commencing:
13th March 2023

Whole School	96%
Reception	95%
Year 1	95%
Year 2	98%
Year 3	97%
Year 4	99%
Year 5	94%
Year 6	95%



It is great to see that our attendance is improving. Thank you for your support.

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

Key Dates for Spring Term 2023

Wednesday 22nd March - SEN Coffee Morning, Year 4 Ukulele assembly (9.45am)
Author Visit pm

Monday 27th March to Friday 31st April - Neurodiversity Week

Friday 31st March - Break up 2pm

Summer Term 2023

Monday 17th April - School starts back at normal time

Thursday 4th May to Friday 5th May - Year 4 One Night Residential

Monday 8th May - School Closed for King's Coronation

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

Thursday 11th May - Year 3 to the Natural History Museum

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

Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June - Half Term

Monday 5th June - INSET 4

Thursday 8th June - Year 2 to London Zoo

Monday 19th June - Sports Week, [including the return of the FOMS Danceathon on Friday 23rd June](#)

Wednesday 28th June - Year 5 to Capel Manor

Monday 3rd July to Thursday 6th July - Whole School Spelling Bee!

Friday 7th July - INSET 5

[Saturday 15th July Summer Fair**](#)**

Friday 21st July - Break up 2pm

Autumn Term 2023

Monday 4th September - INSET Day

Tuesday 5th September - First day of school

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
Nikolay, 2C Hugo, 1K Ufuk, 1C Adrian, 1C Marco, 1C Isabelle, 1K Tolu, Oak Wattein, 1K Shubha, 1C Krish, 2C	Marco, 1C Deniz, 1C Hayaan, 1C Maya, 1C Isabelle, 1K Krish, 2C Joshua, 1C Wattein, 1K Shubha, 1C Joni, 1K	Deniz, 1C Marco, 1C Hayaan, 1C Isabelle, 1K Maya, 1C Wattein, 1K Joshua, 1C Krish, 2C Shubha, 1C Joni, 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
Danyaal, 4S Kaya A, 5F Elsie, 4P Artemis, 4P Lucy, 4P Lewis, 4S Dilan, 4P Valentina, 4S Luka, 4S Ayah, 4P	Dina, 4S Philip, 4S Astrid, 4P	Ruby, 4S Saaiyuri, 4S Abdullah, 4S Mara, 4S Nina, 4P Jaiden, 4S Bronwyn, 4S Noah, 4P Kacper, 6B Philip, 4S	Saaiyuri, 4S Abdullah, 4S Jaiden, 4S Kacper, 6B Mara, 4S Noah, 4P Ruby, 4S Bronwyn, 4S Philip, 4S Naomi, 4S

