



Monkfrith School

Autumn Term 2023

Newsletter 8



Welcome back! I hope you had an enjoyable holiday however you spent it!

The last week of last half term had some surprises as we were visited by Ofsted. I would like to thank all the staff who worked extremely hard during that last week.

I can say that they saw lots of teaching and learning, reviewed lots of documentation, spoke to a range of members of staff, observed break times and lunchtimes and spoke to lots and lots of children. They also read all the surveys completed by parents, staff and children. It was a jam packed two days. The process is now that the report is written - until it is ready for publication, we are not allowed to talk much about what happened or the outcomes.

In the last week of term, there were also lots of opportunities for Design and Technology. **Year 5** were able to apply all their learning about habitats and the conditions in which minibeast thrive, to create their bug hotels. We look forward to seeing who has moved in over the holidays! Year 5 also finished their block of swimming lessons for this term. They will have another block later in the year as will Year 4. Details to follow in January.

In **Year 4**, after carrying out their own taste tests of different types, the children worked in groups to concoct their own ginger beer! There was lots of excitement during the tasting - the smell was too much for me!

In **Year 3** had their Predator and Prey day on Monday. The children looked at owl pellets and reconstructed animal skeletons. They learnt about food chains and food webs. Thank you so much to the parents who gave up their time to come and help!

On Friday we had **Show Racism the Red Card Day** which takes place as part of Black History Month.

The news over the last few weeks has had lots of information that is extremely distressing. Alongside the newsletter today I am sharing a Guide for Parents about Supporting Children with Upsetting Content which may have some useful ways to help discussing events with younger children. You can access further guides on specific topics using [#wakeupdnesday](#) or [@nationalonlinesafety](#).



Our Black History celebrations were organised by Ms Shah this year. In **Reception** they linked it to their All About Me topic taking inspiration from Hair Book by Latonya Yvette and Amanda Jane Jones and Hair Love by Matthew A Cherry.



In **Year 1** the children learnt about the contribution of Mae Jameison to science and space exploration, using Look Up! as their text. They also created art work inspired by Alma Woodsey Thomas. **Year 2** learnt about the contribution of Malorie Blackman to literature. They also looked at her recent book, Ellie and the Cat.



Some classes are in the middle of completing their work which I will share in the newsletter next week. In **Year 5**, the children will be learning about the environmental and political activist, Wangari Maathai.

In **Year 4** the children will be finding out about Lorna Simpson.

Year 6 will be learning about Fanny Eaton, a Jamaican model during the Victorian era.

School Photos

This Friday we will be having our school photos taken - one of my favourite days of the year! The children will be having their individual photo and any sibling pictures. Sometimes we do have requests for cousins or close friends to have photos however this is not possible due to the schedule.

If your child is not well enough to be in school on Friday, please do not bring them in just for the photo. If your child has an appointment, please let us know and we will do our best to make arrangements so they can still have their photo taken.

Class Sharing Assemblies

The assemblies will start at 9am and last no more than 30 minutes. Parents are asked to arrive by the Office entrance.

You may take photos of your child but please remember that they should not be uploaded to any social media platform.

Wednesday 8th November - 5LD

Wednesday 15th November - 6K

Wednesday 22nd November - 6S

Dates for the Spring Term and Summer Term will be shared shortly in the newsletter but are already on the website.



Well done to Azra in Year 3 who has received a coveted Platinum Card! Mr Filby has been so impressed with she contributes ideas in the classroom and is kind and diligent. We are all so proud of you!

During the Ofsted inspection, I was contacted by some very upset and angry residents in Brookside South and Knoll Drive. In addition to being extremely unhappy at the parking and chaos at pick up, they were also upset at how noisy it is for such a long time at the end of the school. They have written to the Governing Body, Theresa Villiers and the Department for Education to express their dissatisfaction.

Please be mindful that our school is in the middle of a residential area and that antisocial behaviour can be distressing and the source of great irritation for your neighbours.

I have also been made aware of some issues when parents have been challenged about their parking. If you are parked in a way that is dangerous or illegal, please do be surprised or angry.



Bringing things into school

We have had a number of issues over the last few weeks with children bringing in toys, fidget toys (including slime) and games into school. Whilst I understand that there are benefits to doing this, it is causing lots of problems which are distracting from learning time. Please do not let your child bring these things into school.

Parent Consultations for Years 1 to 6

The rearranged parent consultations are now on Monday 6th November and Wednesday 8th November. There are still slots available to book in to.

Year 1, 2, 5 and 6 will be in the hall. Reception, Years 3 and 4 will be in their classrooms on the bottom corridor. I will be there to guide you to the correct place!

Here are just a few reminders to help make the evenings run smoothly.

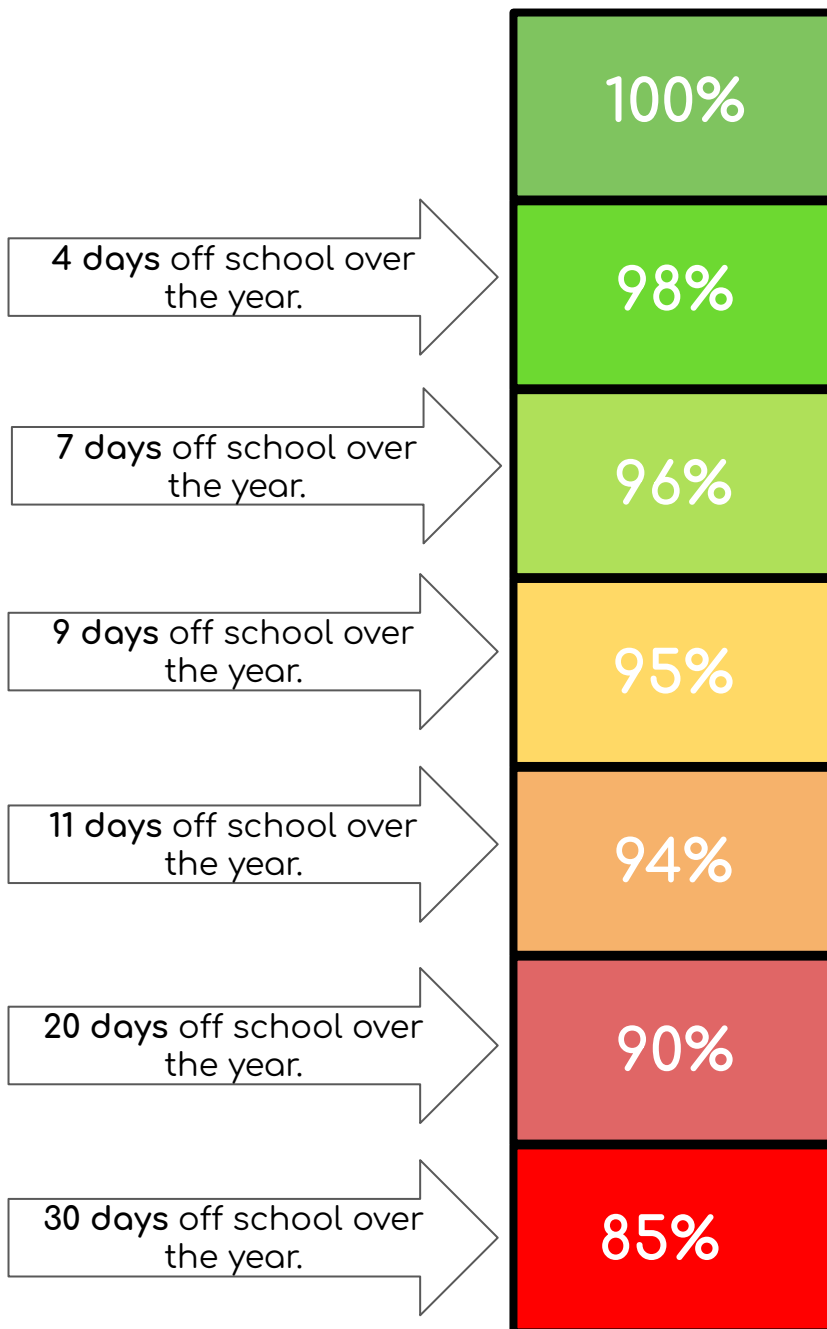
- Please arrive for your appointment on time. If you would like to look at your child's work, you have the option to do this before your slot or afterwards.
- If you arrive late, then you will not get the full 10 minutes you have allocated. This is to help the teachers run to time and not inconvenience other families who are waiting.
- If you need to bring your child with you, please ensure that they are supervised and not running around the hall or making too much noise.
- If you are also collecting a child from After School Club, then please go back outside and ring the ASC doorbell rather than go down and collect them. This is to help Mrs Costas and the team make sure ASC can run as usual.

Attendance and Punctuality

Requesting Exceptional Term Time Leave

When you make a request, you should expect that it will not be authorised. There are only 190 days in the school year which is only 52% of the year.

I understand that holidays during term time are less expensive, however this does not mean that a request is exceptional.



All our lessons build on the day before so if your child misses one day it is like a missing brick in a building. Build the strong foundations of your child's education by ensuring that they are here every day!

Week commencing:

19th October 2023

Whole School	96%
Oak	89%
Willow	95%
1C	98%
1K	97%
2C	94%
2P	96%
3DW	96%
3F	96%
4M	97%
4P	98%
5LD	98%
5S	96%
6K	99%
6S	95%

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
Oliver, 1C Bade, 1C Marios, 1C Sabine, 1C Joni, 2P George, 1C Alice, 1K Alerdi, 1C Luna, 1K Ruhan, 1K	Maximos, 1K Alice, 1K Yusuf, 2C Marios, 1C George, 1C Bade, 1C Luna, 1K Naya, 1C Dominic, 1K Oliver, 1C	Maximos, 1K Alice, 1K Yusuf, 2C Noah, 1C Bade, 1C Luna, 1K Marios, 1C Oliver, 1C Dominic, 1K Maia, 1C

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, 6S
2. Daniyal, 6S
3. Deeyar, 6S
4. Adam, 6S
5. George, 6S
6. Khloe, 6S

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
Iris, 6S Zoe, 4P Esma, 4P Lucy, 3DW Maximus, 5LD Naiema, 4M Mouhit, 5LD Ela, 4M Josh, 3DW Cora, 4P	Naiema, 4M Ruby T, 5LD	Ruby T, 5LD Akshara, 4P Inaaya, 4M Bronwyn, 5LD Deanne, 6S Kai, 6S Rauf, 5S Ayaan, 4P Lucy, 3DW Leyla, 6S	Akshara, 4P Deanne, 6S Bronwyn, 5LD Rauf, 5D Ayaan, 4P Lucy, 3DW Josh, 3DW Ruby T, 5LD Kai, 6D Inaaya, 4M



Dates for the Term

3rd November - Individual and Sibling Photos

8th November - 5LD Class Assembly (9am)

6th and 8th November - Parent Consultations (Reception to Year 6)

7th November - KS2 Sportshall

13th November to 17th November - Anti Bullying Week

13th November - Odd Sock Day!

14th November - Victorian School Workshop for Year 1

14th November - FOMS New Reception Parent Welcome Evening 7pm - 9pm

15th November - 6K Class Assembly (9am)

20th November - Year 5 to the British Museum

22nd November - 6S Class Assembly (9am)

24th November - Year 2 to the Transport Museum

29th November - Year 4 to the British Museum

4th December - INSET 2

6th December - Year 4 Recorder Concert for Parents (3pm)

13th December at 9.30am - Reception Nativity

14th December at 2pm - Reception Nativity

18th and 19th December at 9.30am - KS1 and KS2 Christmas Concert

21st December - Break Up 2pm

Dates for the Year

The calendar on the website is now being updated more frequently and has lots of dates for the year ahead already including term dates, INSET Days and trips that have been organised.

Here are the term dates for this year:

8th January - First Day of Spring Term

12th to 16th February - Half Term

19th February - INSET 3

28th March - Break up 2pm

29th March to 12th April - Easter Holidays

15th April - First Day of Summer Term

2nd May - SCHOOL CLOSED - LONDON MAYORAL ELECTIONS

13th May - Year 6 SATs week

19th May to 24th May - Year 6 to the Isle of Wight

27th May to 31st May - Half Term

3rd June - INSET 4

5th July - INSET 5

24th July - Last Day of Term 2pm