



Monkfrith School

Spring Term 2024 Newsletter 1

Welcome back to 2024! On behalf of all the staff, I would like to say a huge thank you for the gifts and cards we received at the end of term.

This half term is short (just 5 weeks!) but full of exciting learning, trips and experiences. In addition to the learning as part of our planned curriculum, we will also be celebrating Online Safety Day and Children's Mental Health Week in February.

In **Reception** the children will be focusing on traditional tales and making links with other areas of the curriculum. This week they have been looking at the story of Little Red Riding Hood.

In **Year 1** the children's topic is called Splendid Skies. They will learn about seasons and the weather in the UK and in other parts of the world.

In **Year 2** the children will be learning about the impact of particular people on our world in their topic - Big Dreamers and Changemakers. The children will be finding out about Amelia Earhart, Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Frida Kahlo. As you can see, this week they asked questions to Amelia Earhart.

In **Year 3** the children will be learning about Greece and the myths and legends of the Ancient Greeks. The children will be reading Rumaysa by Radiya Hafiza.

In **Year 4** the children will be learning about the body in their topic, Burps, Bottoms and Bile. They will learn about teeth and their digestive system. They will also be visiting the British Library to take part in the Sacred Texts workshop. Year 4 will also be reading Griffin Gate by Vashti Hardy.

Some children in **Year 4** had their Bikeability sessions on Thursday and Friday. Children in **Year 6** who signed up for a place will have their sessions at the end of the month.

The topic in **Year 5** is called Alchemy Island. The focus is on science and the different properties of materials and the periodic table. They will also be reading Tom's Midnight Garden by Philippa Pearce.

In **Year 6** the children will be learning about the circulatory system in their topic Bloodheart. They will also be visiting the Royal Institute - the home of Science - to learn about DNA. This half term the children will also be reading Skellig by David Almond.

Our guitar and ukulele teacher, Mr Hughes has a couple of last minute slots available for this term. If your child is interested in learning to play the ukulele or guitar please contact him directly - therosshughes@gmail.com.



Idling

As the weather has turned colder, it has been noticeable how many parents who drive are parked outside school with their engines running. Leaving engines running while stationary for more than a minute is known as idling and is a source of air pollution. It is also an offence for which a Fixed Penalty Notice can be issued.

Pollution caused by idling vehicles disproportionately affects children. Young people have greater exposure to harmful pollutants as, on average, they take twice as many breaths as adults.

Please do not park outside school and leave your engine running.



Due to the success of the Dr Bikes in December in Barnet's car parks, particularly among parents/carers and children, there has been demand to continue these into the new year.

The free Dr Bike sessions will be run by qualified bicycle mechanics. Members of the public can take along their bicycles to have a free, full safety check, which includes the condition of tyres, rims, gears, brake function and tyre pressure and adjustments can be made if required, all for free.

Location Name	Location Description	Date	Time
Lodge Lane car park	Yellow chevrons immediately to the right of the entrance to the Car Park (opposite NL Auction Rooms N12 8JH)	10/01/2024	4pm to 7pm
Middlesex University	Pavement on The Burroughs outside Middlesex University opposite Babington Rd NW4 4BT	17/01/2024	4pm to 7pm
Temple Fortune	By Bike racks outside entrance to M&S Food Hall at 820 Finchley Road, NW11 6XL	24/01/2024	4pm to 7pm
Stapylton Rd car park	Area immediately to the right of carpark entrance (EN5 4LR)	31/01/2024	4pm to 7pm
Lodge Lane car park	Yellow chevrons immediately to the right of the entrance to the Car Park (opposite NL Auction Rooms N12 8JH)	07/02/2024	4pm to 7pm
Middlesex University	Pavement on The Burroughs outside Middlesex University opposite Babington Rd NW4 4BT	14/02/2024	4pm to 7pm
Temple Fortune	By Bike racks outside entrance to M&S Food Hall at 820 Finchley Road, NW11 6XL	21/02/2024	4pm to 7pm
Stapylton Rd car park	Area immediately to the right of carpark entrance (EN5 4LR)	28/02/2024	4pm to 7pm
Lodge Lane car park	Yellow chevrons immediately to the right of the entrance to the Car Park (opposite NL Auction Rooms N12 8JH)	06/03/2024	4pm to 7pm
Middlesex University	Pavement on The Burroughs outside Middlesex University opposite Babington Rd NW4 4BT	13/03/2024	4pm to 7pm
Temple Fortune	By Bike racks outside entrance to M&S Food Hall at 820 Finchley Road, NW11 6XL	20/03/2024	4pm to 7pm
Stapylton Rd car park	Area immediately to the right of carpark entrance (EN5 4LR)	27/03/2024	4pm to 7pm

Barnet SENDIASS will be holding an in-person information session for Barnet resident parents/carers and young people with special educational needs or disability on:

- Date: Wednesday 28 February 2024
- Time: 10am to 12.30pm
- Location: Colindale Office, 2 Bristol Avenue, NW9 4EW
- Presenters: Inclusion Advisory Team (IAT)

Registration details will be available soon.

If you have any questions, please contact: sendiass@barnet.gov.uk

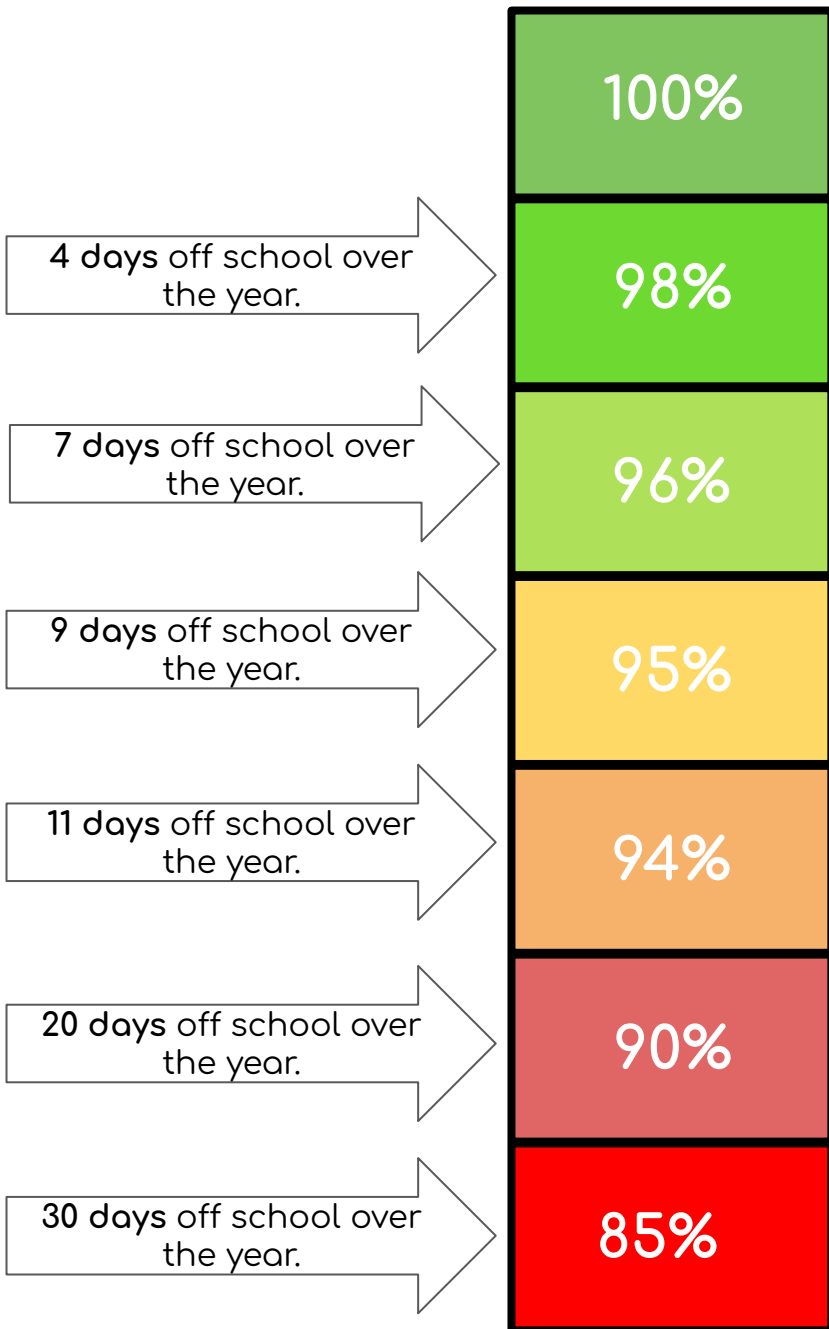


Attendance and Punctuality

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:

8th January 2024

Whole School	97%
Oak	95%
Willow	94%
1C	97%
1K	96%
2C	99%
2P	100%
3DW	98%
3F	96%
4M	93%
4P	96%
5LD	97%
5S	94%
6K	96%
6S	90%

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:

January

8th January - First Day of Spring Term

10th January - Year 4P to the British Library

11th -12th January - Year 4 Bikeability

17th January - Year 4M to the British Library

22nd January - Year 6S to the Royal Institute

24th January - Year 6K to the Royal Institute

24th January - 5S Class Assembly (9am)

31st January - 4P Class Assembly (9am)

February

5th February - Children's Mental Health Week

6th February - Online Safety Day

7th February - 3F Class Assembly (9am)

12th to 16th February - Half Term

19th February - INSET 3

26th/28th February - Parent Consultations

March

4th March to 15th March - Year 4 Swimming (letter to follow next week)

7th March - World Book Day

18th to 28th March - Year 5 Swimming (letter to follow next week)

25th & 27th March - KS1 Show (time to TBC)

28th March - Break up 2pm

29th March to 12th April - Easter Holidays

April

15th April - First Day of Summer Term

22nd April - International Week

May

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

June

3rd June - INSET 4

July

5th July - INSET 5

24th July - Last Day of Term 2pm

September 2024

2nd September - INSET Day

3rd September - First Day back