



Monkfrith School

Spring Term 2024

Newsletter 4



I can't believe there is only one week to go before half term! The Spring Term just flies by.

In our whole school assembly on Monday, we thought about the importance of empathy and how we can be more empathetic in our actions. This might be through being a good listener, showing kindness and being inclusive of others.

Next week is **Children's Mental Health Week**. The theme this year is 'My Voice Matters'. The children will be doing a range activities to help them feel empowered to express themselves and work together to create positive change. You could get involved with the Taskmaster and Place2be challenge by clicking [here](#). On **Friday 9th February** it is a non uniform day - **Dress to Express**. Children can wear whatever they like to represent their personality and who they are. All we ask is that it is suitable to wear at playtime outside!



Year 1 the children were creating their own Kandinsky inspired artwork using a graphics package in Computing. As part of their Splendid Skies topic, the children have learnt about the seasons and started to write their own descriptions of Autumn and Spring.

Year 2 had a virtual workshop from the National Army Museum about the contribution of Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale to history. They have also been planning and writing biographies of Mary Seacole.

In **Year 4** the children have been learning about the digestive system in Science. On Wednesday, the children in **4P** performed their class assembly to share their learning about the Romans. It was lovely to see how confident they were to read and perform their work.

Parent/Guardian Consultations Reception to Year 6

This term, you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher on either Monday 26th February or Wednesday 28th February. You will be able to start booking your sessions via Arbor from Monday 5th February at 7am.



In [Reception](#) the children have been learning about homes around the world. Thank you so much for the photos that have been sent in of homes - the children have been using them in their play.

In [Year 3](#) the children have been learning about the story of Icarus and Daedalus. They are linking this learning to their Science and Design and Technology where they have been designing and making their own shadow puppets. The children have also been applying their knowledge about human and physical features to compare Greece now and in the past.

[Year 3](#) also took delivery of some brand new illustrated dictionaries and thesaurus' purchased by FOMS.

In [Year 5](#) they have been writing their fantasy narratives as well as learning about the work of the Scottish artist, Peter Doig.

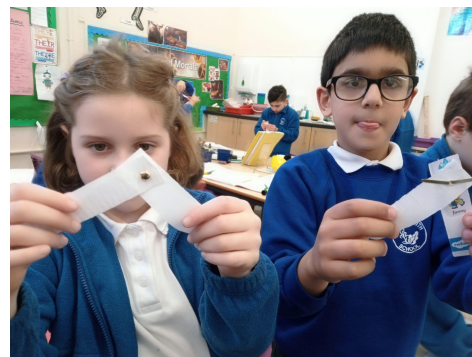
In [Year 6](#) some of the children were out doing their Bikeability lessons. They had a couple of sessions in the playground but then ventured onto the roads with the instructors.

In the classroom the children have been finishing their Alma narratives and starting to plan their piece of writing based on their trip to the Royal Institute last week.

Safer Internet Day

Next Tuesday is also Safer Internet Day. The theme is how to use the internet to make change for the better. In school all the children will cover this in an age appropriate way.

There are resources for parents from the [BBC](#) and [UK Safer Internet](#).

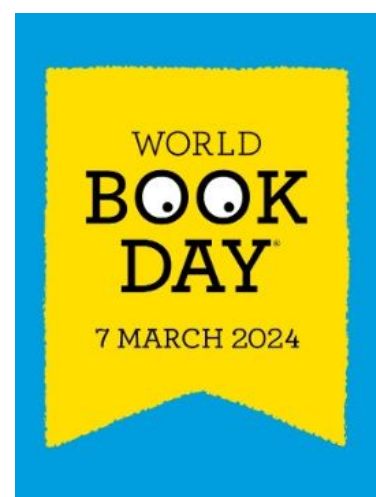


World Book Day - 7th March

We will be taking part in a number of different book related activities over the week leading up to World Book Day in March. We will also be offering the children the chance to dress up as a bit of fun. We have gone for the theme of Traditional Tales this year. Reception have been reading traditional tales in their storytimes and Year 3 have read Rumaysa as their whole class reader text this term.

It may be that your child would like to be a character from Aladdin, Cinderella, Goldilocks, Jack from Jack and the Beanstalk or one of the Three Little Pigs. They could want to be the Wolf from Little Red Riding Hood or the Troll from Three Billy Goats Gruff. There are so many to choose from! There is no need to buy a costume especially for the day - see what you can repurpose from home!

We appreciate that for some children dressing up in a costume is not something they would wish to do, in which case they can wear their usual school uniform.



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)	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

UK Health Security Agency

The UK Health Security Agency have updated their guidance on keeping your child healthy in the Spring Term.

<https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2024/01/03/a-parents-guide-to-keeping-kids-healthy-this-school-year/>

Reporting Absence

If your child is going to be absent, please inform the Office as soon as possible.

You can do this via an Arbor message or an email.

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

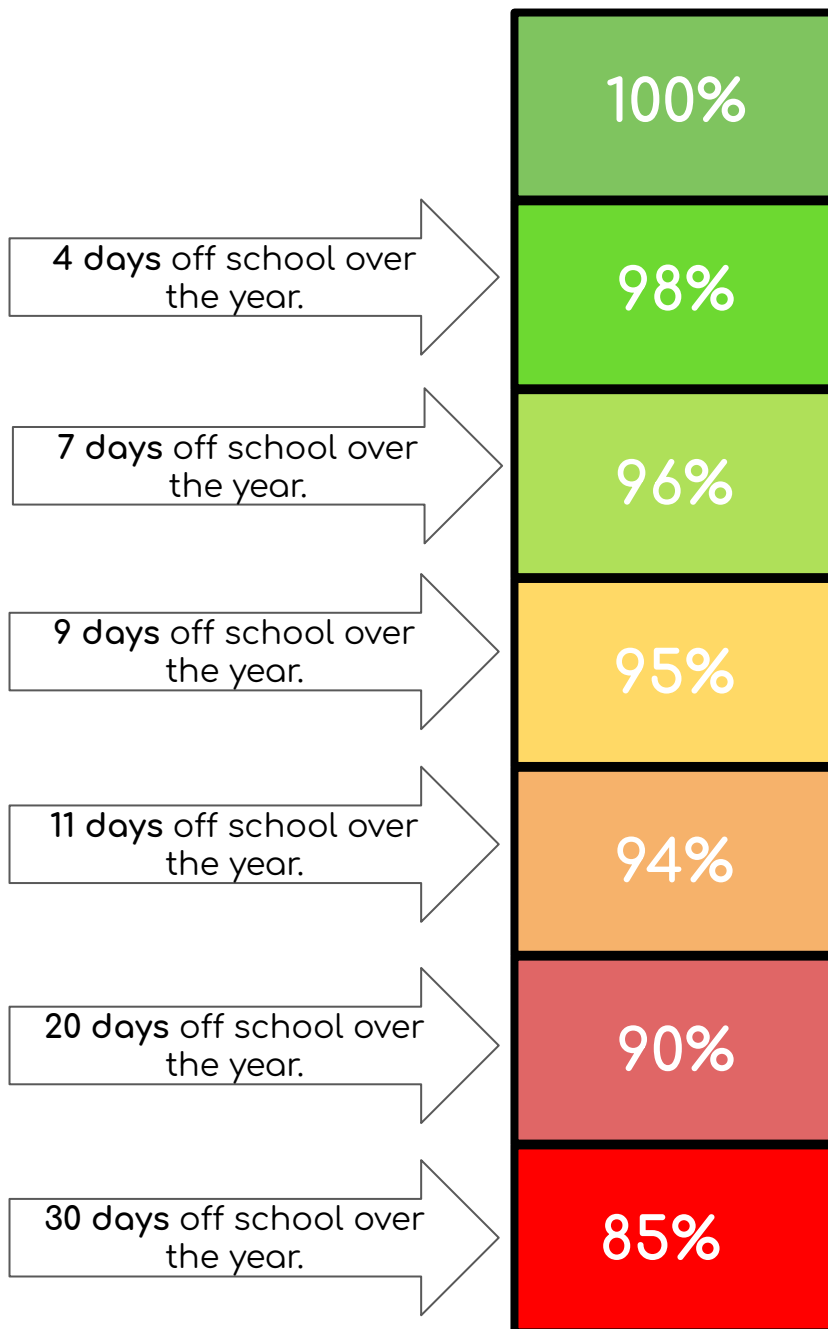


Attendance and Punctuality

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:

29th January 2024

Whole School	96%
Oak	97%
Willow	97%
1C	89%
1K	86%
2C	99%
2P	97%
3DW	98%
3F	95%
4M	95%
4P	97%
5LD	96%
5S	98%
6K	100%
6S	99%

Dates for the Year

Here are the term dates for this year so far:

February

5th February - Children's Mental Health Week

6th February - Online Safety Day

9th February - Express Yourself Day!

Children can wear whatever they like to express themselves as part of Children's Mental Health Week. Please make sure that is appropriate to wear on the playground at break and lunchtime.

12th to 16th February - Half Term

19th February - INSET 3

23rd February - Year 4 Viking Day

26th/28th February - Parent Consultations

28th February - 5S Class Assembly (9am)

March

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

6th March - 3F Class Assembly (9am)

7th March - World Book Day

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

21st March - Year 3 to Hari Krishna Temple

22nd March - FOMS Quiz Night

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

27th March - Year 4 Recorder Concert for parents (3pm)

28th March - Break up 2pm

29th March to 12th April - Easter Holidays

April

15th April - First Day of Summer Term

22nd April - International Week

23rd April - Year 2 to London Zoo

May

2nd May - SCHOOL CLOSED - LONDON MAYORAL ELECTIONS

6th May - May BANK HOLIDAY

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

13th July - FOMS Summer Fair

24th July - Last Day of Term 2pm

September 2024

2nd September - INSET Day

3rd September - First Day back