

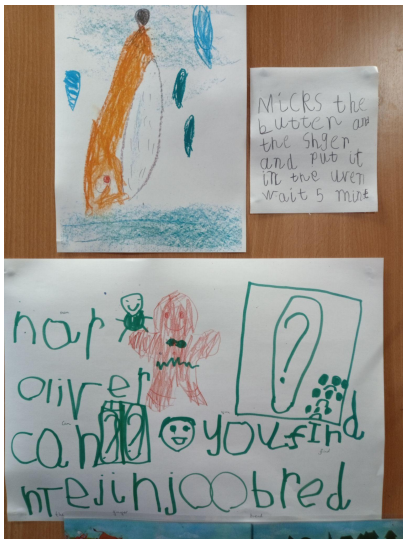
Monkfrith School

Spring Term 2024
Newsletter 6



Just a reminder that if you have not signed up for parent consultations on Monday or Wednesday next week, there is still time. You can just go onto Arbor and book your slot.

In **Reception** this half term they will continue to learn about Traditional Tales before moving on to learning about vegetables and growing later in the term. This week they have been solving the case of the missing Gingerbread Men! When you come to parent consultations, you will see the missing posters around school - the children have done some great drawings and lovely writing to help find the fox.



Year 2 will continue their topic, Big Dreamers and Changemakers. The children will be learning about the writing of Malorie Blackman and the coder, Ada Lovelace. Both **Year 1** and **Year 2** will begin preparing for their Spring Show, 'I am Special' - more details to follow in subsequent newsletters. This week they have been using the book, 'We are going to find a Monster' to inspire their own writing.

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.



Year 6 and PSHE

As part of the PSHE curriculum, Year 6 will be having a free workshop next week from Talk Consent. It will focus on boundaries and the importance of consent in relation to boundaries and interactions with friends.

Throughout the interactive session they will go through:

- Understanding personal boundaries.
- The importance of respecting others' boundaries.
- How to feel confident asserting your own boundaries.
- Understanding consent.
- What it means.
- How it works in relation to boundaries and different relationships.
- Discussion of age appropriate scenarios around boundaries & consent.

Parking

I would rather not write about parking and driving in the first week back after the holidays (or ever again) but I thought I would give you an update on what is happening.

Over the last two weeks I have been contacted several times by the Safer Travel Team at Barnet Council who have asked that I remind parents about the dangers of parking illegally and inconsiderately around school as well as the impact on the environment and safety.

I have also received an email from Theresa Villiers, our local MP, who is concerned about the impact of the parking at the start and end of the day for the local residents.

I would imagine that unless things improve quickly, there will be enforcement or restrictions put in place.

However, the most important thing for all of us is the safety of the children:

- If you are one of the parents who keep their engines running when you are parked outside school (sometimes in front of the Please do not Idle sign), then please stop. You are putting the health of our children at risk.
- If you are driving in an unsafe way, sometimes just stopping and parking in the middle of the road, then please stop. You are putting the safety of our children at risk.



School Funding

If you would like to understand more about the current funding challenges that school are experiencing you might want to look at the [School Cuts](#) website which monitors school budgets.

Housepoint Winners

Mercury were winners of the Housepoints for the Spring Term! If your child is in Mercury, they can wear their own clothes as a reward on Friday 1st March. If you are not sure what housegroup your child is in, you can check on Arbor.

In **Year 1**, the children's topic is called Bright Lights, Big City. The children will be learning about what it is like to live in the UK. They will be finding out about London and the impact of the Great Fire of London in 1666. In Design and Technology, they will be designing a moving bus!

In **Year 3**, the children will be stepping back in time as they find out about the prehistoric civilisations in their topic, Through the Ages. They will learn about the way of life in the Stone Age and the Iron Age. Year 3 also have their trip to look forward to on 21st February.

Year 4 are also focusing on a history themed topic this half term, as they find out about the invasion of the Vikings and Anglo Saxons after the Romans. The children will be learning about how the impact of this. **Year 4** began this with Viking Day today! Their class text this half term is Griffin Gate by Vashti Hardy.



In **Year 5**, will be learning about the science of growing in their topic, Allotment as well as thinking about the impact of importing food from around the world. The children will also be creating sculptures in the style of Yayoi Kusama. The class text this half term is Floodland by Marcus Sedgwick.

Both Year 4 and 5 will also be doing a block of swimming this term. Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to help out!

Year 6 will be learning about Britain at War, starting with World War I and how this led to World War 2. They will be thinking about the changes that took place during society during this period including the impact of evacuation on children. The class text for this half term is Letters from the Lighthouse by Emma Carroll.

If you want to find out more about what the children are learning, including the units that they are studying in maths, then please look at the class page on the website.



At the end of last half term, **Year 2** did some fantastic self portraits, inspired by the work of Frida Kahlo. They used paint and oil pastels to create their final products. They look amazing!

Money Worries? Could You Be Missing Out On Financial Support?

Nationally, it is believed that people are missing out on billions of pounds of benefits they are eligible for simply because they didn't know and haven't made a claim. Thanks to the [Barnet Financial Calculator](#) the council is now able to help residents find out if they are missing out.

Our award-winning calculator asks users to complete a short and simple self-assessment which then tells them exactly what they are eligible for as well as one-click access to then proceed and make those claims. It is also now immediately available via a Google Translate plug-in, in over 100 languages.

But even if you aren't eligible for benefits but are finding monthly bills a struggle, through our Money Adviser Network, we could help you. If you are in problem debt, we can put you in touch with free, confidential and personalised debt advice through our partnership with the Money and Pensions Service.

And if you would prefer to meet someone face to face, why not come along to one of our outreach sessions – running every Tuesday from 10am to 12.30pm at Chipping Barnet Library and every Thursday from 10am to 12.30pm at Burnt Oak Library. Don't suffer in silence – we are here to help. Find all the links you need and more at www.barnet.gov.uk/costofliving

Johnathan						Schroder
Head	of	Campaigns	(Deputy	Head	of	Communications)
London Borough of Barnet						

Music lesson bookings for the Summer term 2024

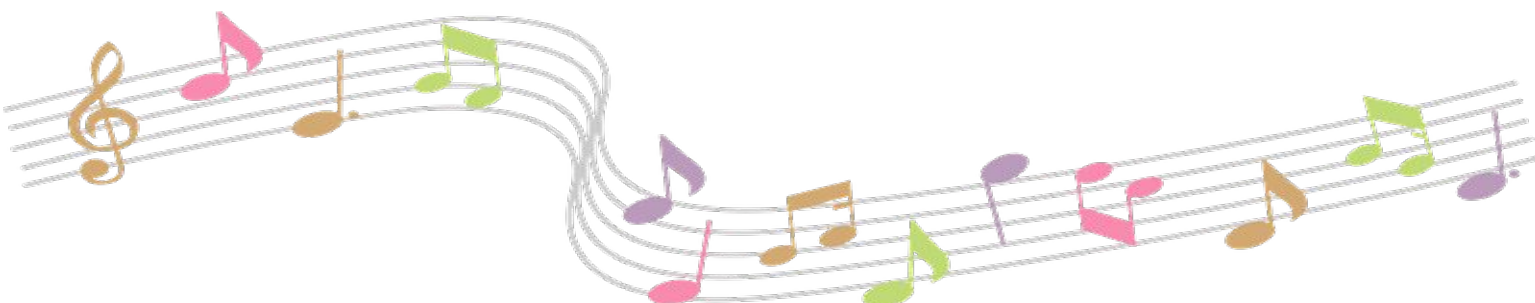
If you would like to sign your child up for group recorder lessons with Thady please email the Monkfrith office by **Friday 11th March**.

If you would like to sign your child up for ukulele or guitar lessons with Mr Hughes, please contact him by **Monday 25th March** therosshughes@gmail.com

For music lessons via BEAT please follow the below link to set up an account and enrol, by **midnight on Monday 18th March**.

<https://beatrust.org.uk/enrol/school-based-instrumental-lessons/>

If your child already has lessons with BEAT, you do not need to re-enrol, BEAT will be in contact with you directly about how to pay for the next term.

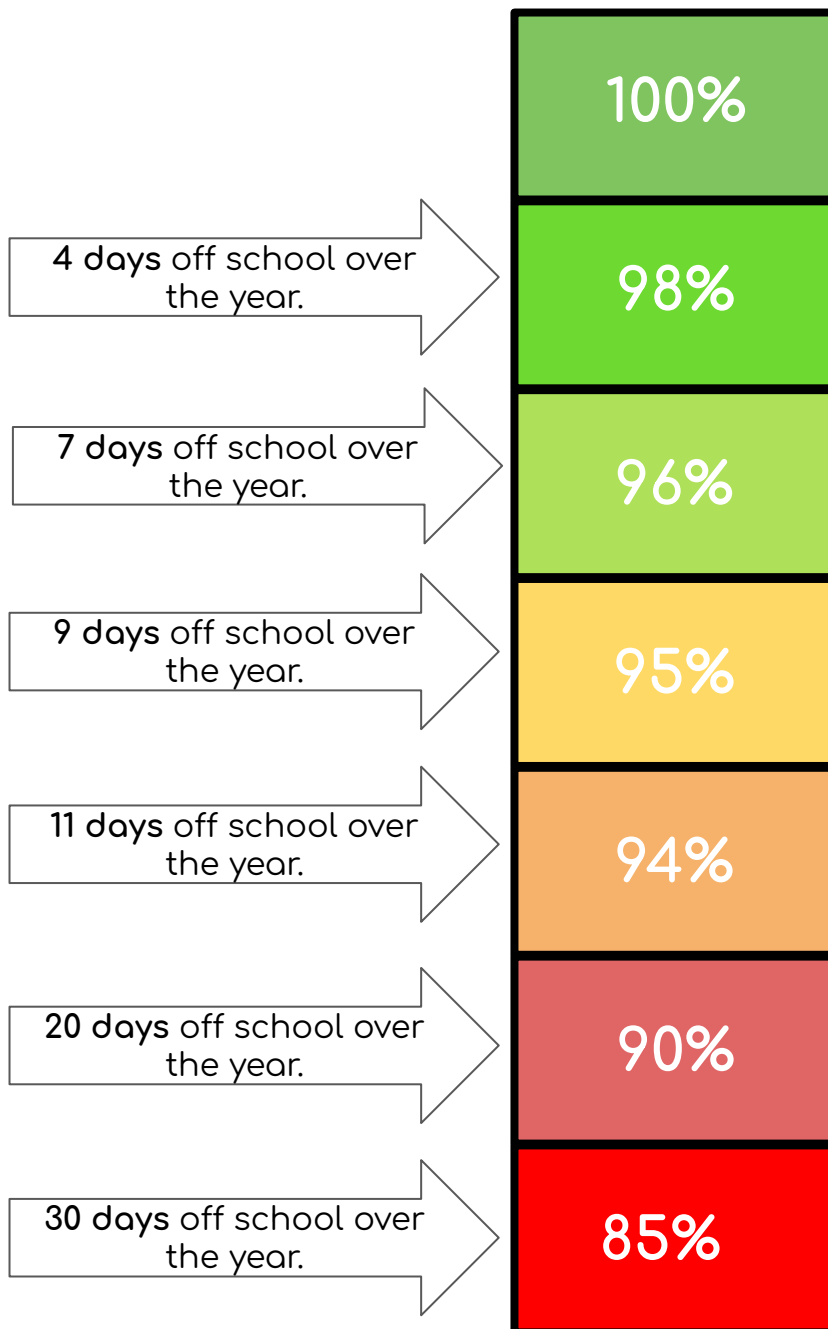


Attendance and Punctuality

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 February 2024

Whole School	94%
Oak	95%
Willow	94%
1C	91%
1K	86%
2C	95%
2P	99%
3DW	95%
3F	94%
4M	97%
4P	85%
5LD	90%
5S	100%
6K	95%
6S	99%

Dates for the Year

Here are the term dates for this year so far:

23rd February - Year 4 Viking Day

26th/28th February - Parent Consultations

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

March

4th March - Dance Club to take part in the Dance Festival

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 - Online Safety Workshops

22nd March - FOMS Quiz Night

25th March - KS1 Show (afternoon performance - time to TBC)

27th March - KS1 Show (morning performance - 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

24th April - PARENT Coffee Morning (with a speaker to talk about supporting and managing your child's anxieties and worries)

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

22nd May - Year 1K Class Assembly 9am

27th May to 31st May - Half Term

June

3rd June - INSET 4

12th June - 4M Class Assembly

17th June - SPORTS WEEK

19th June - 2C Class Assembly (9am)

26th June - 2P Class Assembly ((9am)

July

5th July - INSET 5

10th July - Reception Class Assembly

13th July - FOMS Summer Fair

18th/19th July - Year 6 Show (TBC)

24th July - Year 6 Leavers Assembly (9.15am)

24th July - Last Day of Term 2pm

September 2024

2nd September - INSET Day

3rd September - First Day back