

# MONKFRITH SCHOOL



Autumn 15 2025



On Tuesday we had our Christmas Lunch. Our team of catering staff did a fantastic job preparing and cooking the food and thank you to our team of lunchtime supervisors who worked extra hard to make it fun for the children.



It has been lovely to be able to welcome so many parents, grandparents and other family members to see our Winter Concert this week. We were so busy enjoying the concert that we forgot to take photos, but here are a couple from our rehearsals earlier in the week! Thank you for being such a fantastic audience and so supportive of all the children who took part.



On behalf of all the staff and governors at Monkfrith, have a lovely two weeks off however you spend the time. Thank you for the cards and gifts. We look forward to seeing you back at school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January as usual.

# Our Whole School Musical Advent Calendar



Can you guess all 15 songs? The answers are on the next page.



On Monday, we were fortunate to welcome Rabbi Shulamit Ambalu from the North London Reform Synagogue, who spoke to Year 4 about the festival of Hanukkah. She was very complimentary about the questions the children asked and how well they listened. Thank you to Joel's family, who organised this opportunity. To all our Jewish families who are currently celebrating—Happy Hanukkah!

Across the school, the children have been finishing their topics before we break for the holidays. In Year 5, they have been working away on their chairs for Pharaoh. Year 6 finished their whole class text, *Holes* by Louis Sachar. If you are looking for a book to buy over Christmas, then *Small Steps* is the companion novel. Year 4 were evaluating their pottery and comparing the geography of Italy to the geography of London. Year 1 were writing letters, Year 2 have been looking at the history of London landmarks and in Year 3 they have been exploring circuits and finishing their Iron Man masks. In Reception the children have been investigating the antics of their elves - Elvis and Elton - who managed to cause havoc in Reception and then found their way onto our Christmas Octopus who lives in the dining room during December. The children were also making Christmas themed biscuits.



## Parent Training Offers

Barnet Children's Therapies offer fantastic free online training each term. They have just published their training menu which you can access [here](#). The sessions are often recommended for staff and professionals but they have some interesting ones for parents (which you can attend online) on lots of topics including:

PICA (eating non-edible items)  
Supporting Early Hand Function  
Food Explorers, Eating Skills and Food Textures  
Supporting Children with Speech Sound Difficulties  
Supporting your child's self care and motor skills  
Supporting Sleep  
Supporting Children who find it hard to talk in some situations and places  
Zones of Regulation

(there are also some about supporting adolescents which may be helpful if you have an older child)

You can book them all on Eventbrite really easily but if you need any help, please let me know.

### **Musical Advent Calendar Answers:**

1. Frosty the Snowman by Year 3F
2. Rocking Around the Christmas Tree by Year 4B
3. O Little Town of Bethlehem by Year 2CW
4. Deck the Halls by Year 1K
5. Away in a Manger by Year 2M
6. O Christmas Tree by Reception
7. Hark the Herald Angels Sing by Year 4P
8. Walking in a Winter Wonderland by Year 6K
9. We Three Kings by Year 5LD
10. Jingle Bells by Year 1K
11. Let It Snow! by Reception
12. I want a hippopotamus for Christmas by The Burrow
13. Santa Claus is Coming to Town by Year 6P
14. Rudolf The Red Nose Reindeer by Year 3F
15. While Shepherds Watch their Flocks by Night by Year 5S

### **Road Safety**

There are two consultations out at the moment that will help make the roads safer for our children. Please try and take the time to respond.

### **Parkside Gardens**

You can review the changes and have your say [here](#).

### **Chase Side**

You can review the changes and have your say [here](#).

### **A message for parents and carers from Barnet Public Health**

Flu cases are increasing across England, and the NHS has warned of a challenging winter ahead. Flu is not just a bad cold – it can lead to serious complications such as pneumonia and bronchitis, especially in children, with the risk of ending up in hospital. Vaccination is the best way to protect your child and your family.

#### **Where can your child get vaccinated?**

For children aged 2-3 years you can book a free flu vaccine at your GP surgery or local pharmacy (walk-in or appointment).

For school-aged children aged 4-16 years (Reception to Year 11), vaccines are offered in school once parents complete the consent form. If your child missed their school session, you can book a catch-up clinic at [www.schoolvaccination.uk/catch-up-clinics](http://www.schoolvaccination.uk/catch-up-clinics).

Most children receive a quick, painless nasal spray (no needles), and a pork gelatine-free injection option is available if needed.

Please refer to the [attached flyer](#) for full details on why vaccination is important and how to book your child's appointment.



## What are we learning next half term?

Reception	<p>The children will start the term looking at Traditional Tales and then look at our local area and homes around the world.</p>
Year 1	<p>Their topic is Bright Lights, Big City. The children will be finding out about the geography and history of the United Kingdom. We would love it if there is a parent who would like to come and talk about what it means to come from Scotland, Wales or Ireland, please speak to your child's teacher. We hope you can attend the Year 1 class assembly on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 9am.</p>
Year 2	<p>Their topic is Dreamers and Changemakers and will be looking at Amelia Earhart, Frida Khalo and Benjamin Zephaniah. The children will also be going to the Transport Museum on 29<sup>th</sup> January (2CW) and Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January (2M).</p>
Year 3	<p>Their topic is called Gods and Mortals. The children will be looking at the geography of Greece and the importance of myths and legends for the Ancient Greeks. They will be reading Rumaysa by Radya Hafiza.</p>
Year 4	<p>Their topic is called Burps, Bottoms and Bile. The children will be learning about their internal organs from teeth to quite literally their bottoms as they study the digestive system. They will be reading The Proudest Blue by Ibtihaj Mohammad. The children will be going to the Science Museum on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February.</p>
Year 5	<p>Their topic is Alchemy Island. This topic is all about properties of materials and the periodic table in science and map reading skills in geography. There is an exciting workshop booked for next half term too! They will be reading Tom's Midnight Garden by Philippa Pearce.</p>
Year 6	<p>Their topic is Bloodheart. The children will be learning about the circulatory system, blood and how to keep your bodies healthy. They will also have their heart dissection workshop. Their class reader is Skellig by David Almond.</p>





## **Thank You from FOMS! We are delighted to share that FOMS has raised over £5,200 this term.**

A huge thank you to all the parents, carers, families and members of the local community who have attended events, donated, or supported us in so many ways. We would like to give a special thank you to the volunteers who repeatedly gave up their time to cover multiple shifts at events - your commitment, generosity and flexibility truly made a difference and did not go unnoticed.

The funds raised will go towards a number of exciting improvements and experiences for the children, including:

A KS2 climbing frame

A science dome workshop visit for all children later in the year

New books for children across the school

A new projector for the school hall

New laptops and a charging trolley

**We would also like to extend our thanks to the local businesses who kindly sponsored the Christmas Fair.**



### **Silver sponsors**



### **Bronze sponsors**



# Dates for 2025/6

## Spring Term 2026

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January - First Day Back

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January - 5S Class Assembly

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January - Science Workshops for Year 5 and 6

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January - Year 6 Magistrates Workshop

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January - Year 1 Class Assembly at 9am.

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January - 2CW to the Transport Museum

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January - 2M to the Transport Museum

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February - Year 4 to the Science Museum

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February - Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February - Safer Internet Day

16<sup>th</sup> February to 20<sup>th</sup> February - Half Term

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March - Parent Consultations (Reception to Year 6)

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March - Year 6 to St Paul's Cathedral

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March - Year 4 swimming (2 weeks)

Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March - KS1 Spring Show (details about timings will be confirmed in January)

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March - Barnet Dance Festival

Thursday 26th/Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Year 6 to Tolmers Residential

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Break up at 2pm

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April - INSET Day

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April - First Day of Summer Term

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> April - Year 4 Bikeability

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April - Year 5 to the Portrait Gallery

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May - Local Council Elections  
(we have now been notified that we will be a Polling Station - school will be closed on this day. I am sorry for the inconvenience but we have no say on the matter as our building is owned by Barnet Council)

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May - KS2 SATs week

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Year 6 to the Isle of Wight

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May - Year 5LD Class Assembly

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May - Half Term

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June - INSET Day

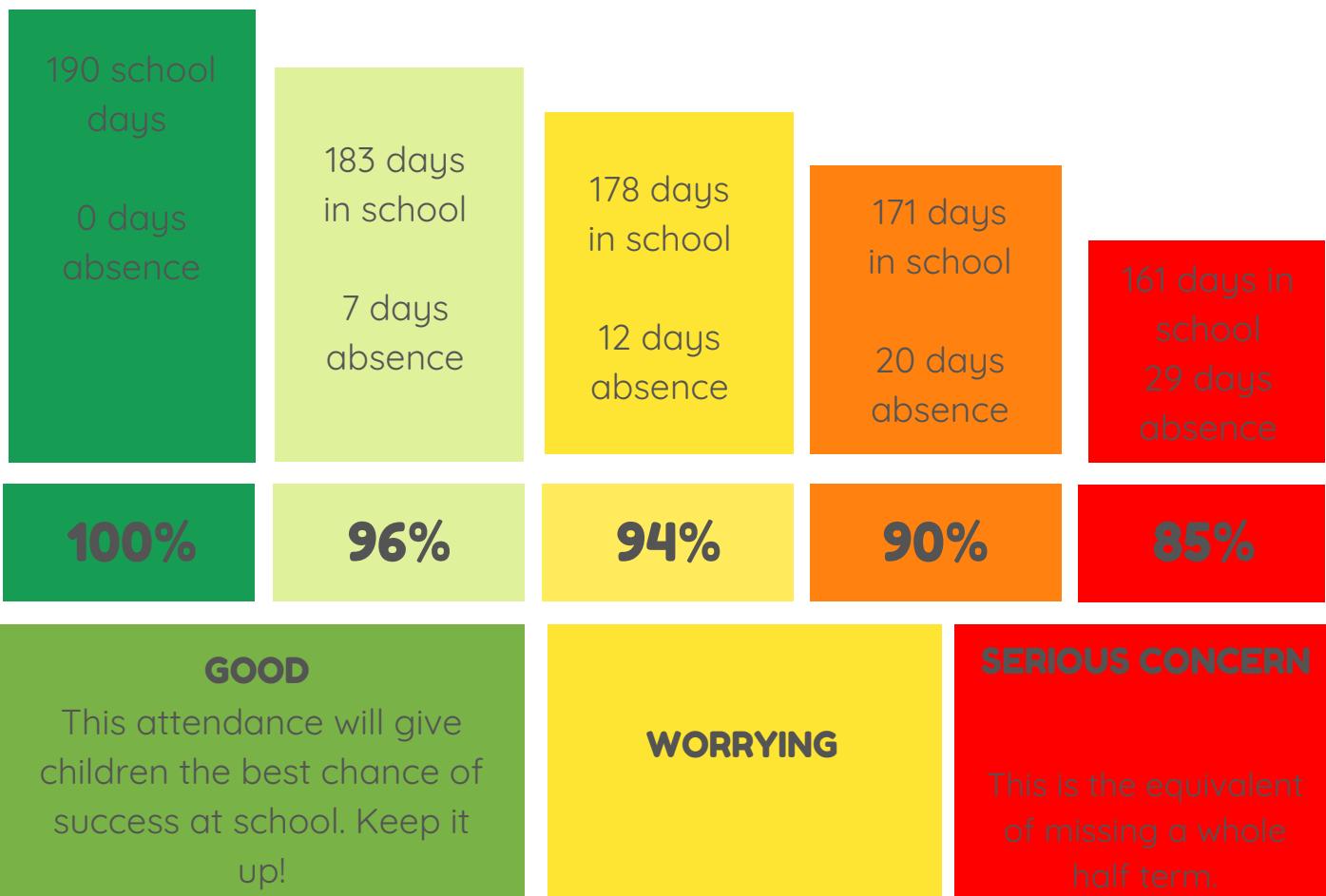
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June - 2M Class Assembly

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June - Class Photo Day

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June - 2CW Class Assembly

# EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Each day is really important in your child's learning journey. Getting here on time helps them ease into the day calmly and makes sure they don't miss out on important learning.



## Attendance this term

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