

MONKFRITH SCHOOL



Spring 6 2026

The theme of the Children's Mental Health Week this year is belonging. In assembly, we talked about ways that we can make a connection to feel like we belong and how we can help others to feel the same. In their classrooms, the children have been thinking about what makes them unique and how they can use this to help build relationships with others.



Year 6 are coming towards the end of their topic about the heart and the circulatory system. Thank you to Dr. Koa Wing who came in to talk to the children about his work as a cardiologist and answer their questions. It is so lovely to be able to make use of the skills and expertise of parents to enrich the children's learning. If you feel this is something that you would like to help with, then please let your child's class teacher know. Year 6 were also taste testing porridge as part of their Design and Technology project into packaging and design.



Reception have been doing their own science investigations this week following their work on the gingerbread man last week. They have been predicting and observing what happens when gingerbread men are put into different solutions. They have also building boats to explore floating. Thank you to Lily for making some delicious gingerbread men for everyone to share.

Last Thursday, Year 2 invited their parents along to take part in a mini maths lesson to learn how we use pictorial representations to help with calculation. Thank to those parents who were able to take time out of their day to come along and join in! This week in Year 2, the children have started learning some of the songs for the KS1 show in March. In their RE lessons the children were thinking about special people and kindness.



Over the last few weeks, Year 4 have been creating leaflets about teeth, and this afternoon they visited the children in Year 1 to share their finished products.

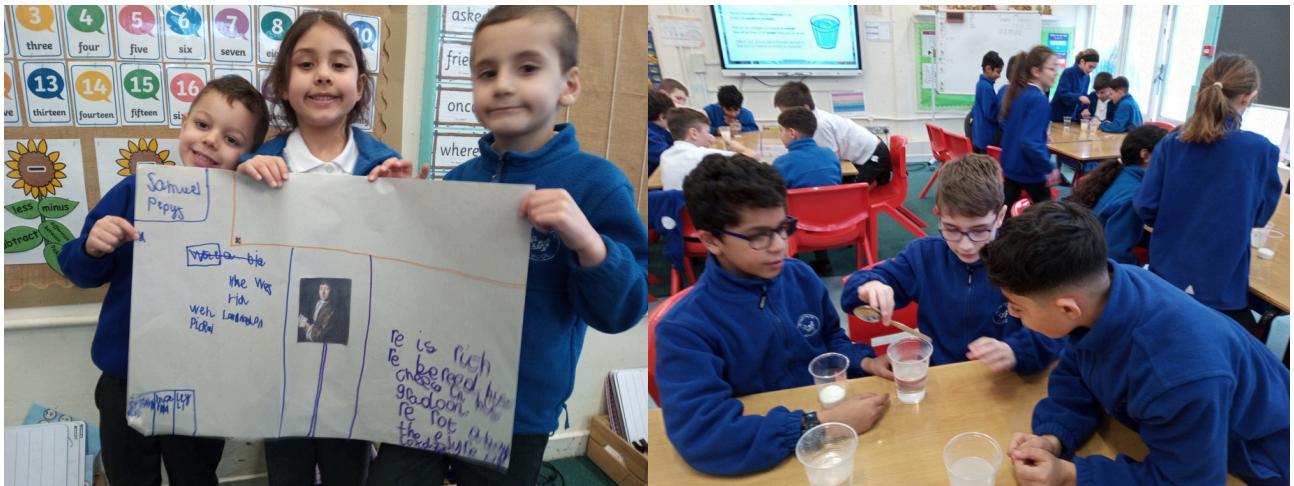


They have also completed their digestive system T-shirts - great sewing Year 4!





KS1 have been busy at breaktimes and lunchtimes this week, taking part in the RSPB Bird Watching Week. Year 3 have been finishing their writing about Icarus and Dedalus



Year 1 has also been creating posters to share their learning about Samuel Pepys. In Year 5, they have been carrying out investigations into the solubility of different substances.

Sporting Success

On Tuesday after school, our Girls' Football Team took on Brunswick Park in the last 16 of the Cup. The game was tight but thanks to some great saves from Esma and Zarin in goal and a fantastic shot from Savannah, we won 1-0. Mr Powell was really proud of their resilience and determination. That means we are now through to the Quarter Finals of this Cup competition and the Semi Finals of the other! Well done to the squad!

Our Boys' team were due to play Church Hill in the Quater Finals of their Cup but the game had to be postponed until after half term due to a waterlogged pitch.

On a rather wet and muddy Thursday afternoon, our team of cross country runners headed to Oakhill Park to take part in the second Barnet Cross Country competition. **We say well done to our team:**

Year 4 - Ayla, Lara, Flo, Caleb and Seamus

Year 5 - Lorenzo, Reagan, Ellie and Veronica

Year 6 - Annabel, Callum, Levi and Zoe

We had 4 top 10 finishers - Reagan, Veronica, Callum and Lorenzo!



Uniform reminders

- **Trainers** should only be worn for PE. They should not be worn as school shoes.
- **Hair** should be tied up out of the children's faces (half up and half down is not appropriate for school).
- **School bags** should only have the things that the children need for school (ie. PE/club kits, homework or snack/lunchboxes).
- **Water bottles** should be named. There have been some issues in KS1 with school reading books being ruined because of leaking water bottles in bookbags. Please can you help us with this by not putting your child's water bottle in their bookbag in the morning.
- After half term, if a child has forgotten their PE kit we will not be calling to ask for it to be brought into school. **PE kits should be in school every day.**
- **And last but by no means least...please name all uniform. Lost property is a sea of unnames coats, shoes, fleeces, jumpers, hats and cardigans.**

Summer Term Music Lessons

If you would like to sign your child up for group recorder lessons in the Summer term please email the Monkfrith office by Friday 6th March

For BEAT music lessons, there is no set deadline for the Summer term and places will be allocated based on availability. Please visit <https://beatrust.org.uk/learn-to-play/school-based-tuition/> where you will be able to register an account and apply for lessons.

If your child is already having lessons via BEAT, please look out for an email regarding payment details for the new term. You do not need to re-enrol.

For guitar and ukulele lessons please contact Ross Hughes on therosshughes@gmail.com Places are limited so please contact him asap.

Governor Visit Day

Being a school governor is a voluntary role and most of their work takes place behind the scenes, often in the evenings when there are no children around. Every year our Governors take the time out of their lives to come and spend the day in school to see it in action. Last Friday nearly all of them were able to come along. They came to celebration assembly, wandered into classrooms, joined in lessons and breaktimes, spoke to children, looked at books, ate lunch and met with School Council and the Planet Protectors. Here are some of their reflections about their day....

Governors' Day was a real joy to be part of. The assembly was wonderful – it was genuinely heart-warming to see how proud the children are of one another when they're awarded Star of the Week, and how wholeheartedly they all join in with the singing. The enthusiasm in lessons was infectious (even if Year 6 maths was slightly terrifying!), and having lunch with the children really captured the warm, positive atmosphere that runs through the whole school. Thank you so much for having us.

Jamie - Chair of Governors, Parent Governor

It was a genuine pleasure to spend time at the school today in my capacity as a governor, and I wanted to share how impressive the experience was. Across the year groups I visited, there was a clear progression in confidence, curiosity, and independence.

The younger years demonstrated strong foundations in engagement, routine, and enthusiasm for learning, while the middle years showed growing resilience, collaboration, and a real willingness to challenge themselves in class.

In the upper years, it was particularly encouraging to see maturity, critical thinking, and pride in both individual and collective achievement. The consistency in standards, behaviour by pupils, and the positive learning environment across the school was striking and speaks volumes about the strength of leadership and teaching staff that are all exceptional in their own way.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks and praise to all staff, whose commitment and care are evident in every corner of the school. Teaching staff, support staff, and leadership alike create a nurturing yet ambitious culture where children clearly feel safe, valued, and inspired to do their best.

I was equally impressed by the kitchen and canteen team, whose warmth, organisation, and attention to the children contribute meaningfully to the overall wellbeing and daily experience of the pupils. Today reinforced my confidence in the school's direction and in the exceptional team that makes it such a special place for children to learn and grow.

Luke - Parent Governor

It was a pleasure to visit the school last week and spend time seeing first hand the amazing learning and experiences taking place across the school. Throughout the day I had the opportunity to meet with staff and pupils and to visit a range of lessons, from phonics in Reception through to (what felt like) complex maths in Year 6. The enthusiasm for learning was on show in every classroom, as was the dedication of the teaching staff in supporting pupils to achieve their very best.

A particular highlight for me was meeting the School Council and Planet Protectors, and hearing their ideas and initiatives for improving the school and the environment. It was fantastic to see their sense of responsibility and pride in the school.

Thank you to everyone who welcomed me so warmly, it was a really enjoyable and positive experience.

Charlie - Associate Governor, Chair of Finance

Always such a pleasure and privilege to spend a day at Monkfrith. Our children continue to be nurtured, developed and challenged in a safe, inclusive and positive environment.

With a balanced learning curriculum, experienced & passionate teaching staff and purpose driven leadership, our children have the opportunity to truly flourish.

Seeing the children consistently display the school values and beliefs highlights the strong Monkfrith culture and community we should all be proud of.

Jay, Parent Governor, Chair of Personnel

A big thank you to everyone who made our Governors' Day visit so special! We had a fantastic time seeing the school in action and experiencing the warm welcome of the Monkfrith community. It was brilliant to see the school's values shining through in every class and interaction. A special thank you to the children for being such great ambassadors, and to the staff for their dedication and passion - it's clear why Monkfrith is such a fantastic place to learn and grow!

Jaymaa - Parent Governor

What are we learning next half term?



Reception	The children will be learning about how to keep themselves healthy through diet and exercise when they return.
Year 1	Topic: School Days The children will be finding out about our life now and comparing it to aspects of life in the Victorian times. They will be thinking about what is the same and different about the experience of school.
Year 2	Topic: Dreamers and Changemakers The children will be learning about Greta Thunberg's campaigning work and the changes in nursing and hospitals by looking at the work of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole.
Year 3	Topic: Flow In Year 3 the children will be learning about rivers and the water cycle. In Art they will be finding out about the artist, Hokusai and creating their own piece inspired by water.
Year 4	Topic: Invasion Year 4 will be studying the Viking invasion of Britain. They will also be heading off on their trip to Tolmers and having their 2 week intensive swimming block.
Year 5	Topic: StarGazers Year 5 will be exploring space and the solar system. They will also be learning about gravity and the phases of the moon.
Year 6	Topic: Britain at War The children will be learning about the two wars and the changes. They will also be visiting St Pauls' Cathedral.

Part of the
National Year of Reading 2026



The British Library has a new exhibition opening at Easter (to the end of August) about Fairytales and storytelling:

‘Perfect for children and their grown-ups, Fairytales brings together beautiful books and artwork, interactive displays, and stories from around the world to see how these tales have enchanted us through time.’

BRITISH LIBRARY

Dates for 2025/6

16th February to 20th February - Half Term

Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd March - Parent Consultations

Wednesday 4th March - Year 6 to St Paul's Cathedral

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Monday 9th March - Year 4 swimming (2 weeks)

Friday 13th March - Barnet Dance Festival

Saturday 14th March - FOMS Disco

Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th March - KS1 Show

Wednesday 25th March - Year 3S Class Assembly

Thursday 26th/Friday 27th March - Year to Tolmers Residential

Friday 27th March - Break up at 2pm

Monday 13th April - INSET Day

Tuesday 14th April - First Day of Summer Term

Thursday 16th to 17th April - Year 4 Bikeability

Wednesday 22nd April - Year 5S to the National Portrait Gallery

Wednesday 29th April - Year 5LD to the National Portrait Gallery

Thursday 7th May - SCHOOL CLOSED POLLING DAY

Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May - KS2 SATs week

Sunday 17th May to Friday 22nd May - Year 6 to the Isle of Wight

Wednesday 20th May - Year 5LD Class Assembly

Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May - Half Term

Monday 1st June - INSET Day

Wednesday 10th June - 2M Class Assembly

Friday 12th June - Class Photo Day

Monday 15th June to Friday 19th June - Sports Week

Wednesday 17th June - 2CW Class Assembly at 9am

Friday 19th June - Reception Class Assembly at 9.15am

Friday 3rd July - INSET Day

Friday 17th July - Children break up at 2pm
Monday 20th July - INSET Day

Dates for 2026/7

Autumn

Autumn 1

INSET - Tuesday 1st September

Wednesday 2nd September to Friday 23rd October

Half Term

Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October

Autumn 2

Monday 2nd November to Friday 18th December

INSET - Monday 2nd November

Spring 2027

Spring 1

Tuesday 5th January to Friday 12th February

INSET - Friday 12th February

Half Term

Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February

Spring 2

Monday 22nd February to Thursday 25th March

Summer 2027

Summer 1

Monday 12th April to Friday 28th May

INSET: Monday 12th April

Half Term

Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

Summer 2

Monday 7th June to Thursday 22nd July

INSET: Friday 2nd July 2027