



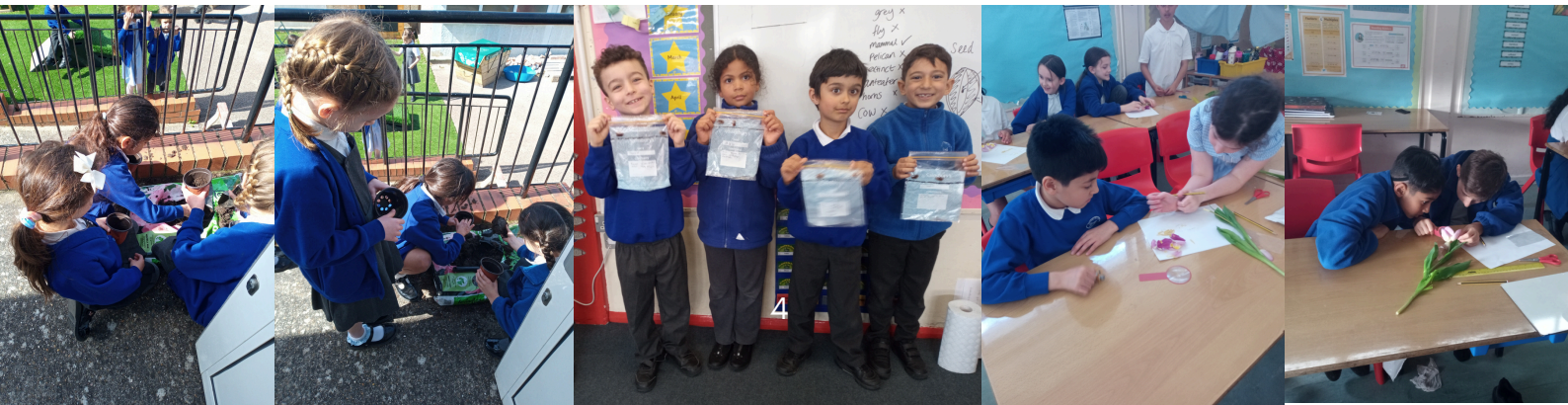
This half term is just 6 weeks and there is lots of learning and fun to pack into this time...



Playground Proms

On Tuesday, all the children took part in the first of two workshops with Playground Proms. Hamish, one of the professional musicians with Graffiti Classics, came and taught the children a song and some actions which will be put together as part of a performance next week with a string quartet. If your child was not here or would like to look at more activities, you can go to <https://www.playgroundproms.net/pupil-resources>.

This is a great time of year for planting and growing, and lots of our topics are linked to this over the first half of Spring. Year 2 got started this week planting different types of flowers that attract bees. They have also planted runner beans to learn about the idea of germination. Year 5 are watching the potatoes they planted at the end of last half term with bated breath. They have started to understand the parts of a flowering plant and are learning about the life and work of the artist Yayoi Kusama. They are also finishing their whole class reader: Floodland.



In their geography lessons, Year 3 have been finding out what the Earth is made of and how the continents as we know them today were formed. In their English lessons, they have been reading *Escape from Pompeii*, which they will be using as inspiration for their story writing. Year 4 have been using music to inspire a setting description, learning about the artist Kandinsky and how we can record sounds in Computing. In Year 6, the children have been doing some practice assessments ready for their SATs; they have also been developing their persuasive skills in preparation for a piece of writing they will be doing.

Class Assemblies for the Summer Term

- Year 3F - Wednesday 29th April (9am)
- Year 5LD - Wednesday 20th May (9am)
- Year 2M - Wednesday 10th June (9am)
- Year 2CW - Wednesday 17th June (9am)
- Reception - Wednesday 19th June (9.15am)



In **Year 1** the children have begun their topic - Splendid Skies by learning about land and sea and some of the key weather words that they are going to be using this half term. In Maths they have been measuring and recording *Just a note: There is no phonics newsletters at the moment as the children are revising the sounds they have learnt previously.*

Reception have been learning all about minibeasts this week. They have been creating bug hotels, finding out facts and creating posters and doing some beautiful drawings. On Monday, they will be having some special visitors to give them some hands on experiences! Thank you to FOMS for helping us to offer this opportunity.

Sports Week - 15th June to 19th June

During Sports Week we are planning lots of opportunities for the children to play different sports. As usual, we will be asking all the children to come dressed for sport each day. This means that they do not have to wear their uniform; instead, they need to dress to be active. This means trainers, leggings/shorts, t-shirts, etc. There is no need to buy anything new or special—it just needs to be practical.



Go Miss Bennett!

Next Sunday, after Monkfrith School takes part in the mile long mini-marathon, Miss Bennett is taking on all 26.2 miles of the London Marathon. She is participating to raise money for the fantastic local charity Noah's Ark Children's Hospice. If you would like to support her, or the charity, click this link. Thank you!



NOAH'S ARK
children's hospice

From Primary to Secondary School Transition Conference

Virtual event, presented by Barnet Specialist Inclusion Service

For: Parents/Carers of Year 5/6 children with Additional Needs, with or without an EHCP, transferring to a mainstream Secondary School in Autumn 2026 or 2027.

When: Wednesday 6 May 2026

10am to 1.30pm

Online via Zoom

For further information and a link to sign up please see link that was sent earlier this week.

Year 5 Workshop

As part of our commitment to providing high-quality, age-appropriate relationships education, we have partnered with Talk Consent (www.talkconsent.org) to deliver a workshop to students in Year 5.

The aim of these sessions is to empower students with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate boundaries, respect others, and understand consent.

About Talk Consent

Talk Consent is a respected educational organization with experience delivering effective, age-appropriate sessions to hundreds of schools across the country. These sessions are carefully tailored to the students' age and focus on the fundamentals of boundaries, bodily autonomy, and understanding consent.

For primary students, the emphasis is on creating a foundation of respect, confidence in personal boundaries, and clear, safe communication. The material is grounded in the reality of students' lives and the content will be appropriate for their age.

The Workshop

We ask students to define what values they want their society to have. We introduce them to sexism and stereotypes in an age-appropriate way and discuss how to challenge them through engaging role-play activities.

The workshop covers:

- The importance of respect and the meaning of sexism and stereotypes.
- Role-play activity to help students notice and challenge harmful comments.
- Relevant scenario discussions to help students think about how they can challenge harmful attitudes they might hear at school.

BELS Mini BACPAC (Barnet Autism Course for Parents And Carers 0-6yrs)

For Parents and Carers.

Summer term 2026.

Professionals and parents will deliver modules designed to increase your knowledge and skills with understanding Autism

and using practical strategies to support your child.

The criteria for accessing the free programme:

- A Barnet Resident
- Child has a diagnosis of Autism
- Child is 0-6 years old

For further details, dates and to sign up please see attached [flyer](#).



Barnet Council are looking for the views of parents as part of the Barnet Reform Plan and the national SEND reforms.

The feedback you share will directly inform how they:

Strengthen support for children and young people within mainstream schools

Improve inclusion and early intervention

Support schools to have the right tools, skills and support to respond to need

Design a system that works better for families, schools and services together

They are keen that our plans reflect real experiences, priorities and ideas from parents and carers across Barnet. Your contribution will help them focus on what matters most and ensure our reforms are grounded in lived experience.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey using the link below:

[Barnet Local Inclusion Support Offer \(LISO\): Parent/Carer Survey 2026 - Fill out form](#)



FOMS
FRIENDS OF
MONKFRITH SCHOOL

Welcome back from FOMS

We hope you all had a wonderful Easter break. As we settle back into the summer term, FOMS is busy planning what promises to be a brilliant Summer Fair and we'd love to see as many of you there as possible.

Pre Loved Uniform Sale - Wednesday 22nd April in the KS2 playground after school



Get ready for the warmer months with our preloved summer uniform! Save money and shop sustainably - come along and explore our high-quality selection before buying new.



Summer Fair 2026 - Save The Date!

Join us for games, stalls, food and a wonderful afternoon.

Date: Saturday 20th June

Time: 1-4pm

Tickets will be available on Classlist soon.

Interested in helping out on the day?
Watch this space!

The fair is made possible by the amazing volunteers from our school community who give their time to help on the day. If you'd like to be involved, keep an eye on Classlist - volunteer sign-up lists coming soon!



Times Tables Tests

The National Curriculum expects that most children will know all the multiplication and division facts by the end of Year 4. There is a statutory check to measure this. All children practise their times tables in maths lessons from Year 1 and this is supplemented by short weekly tests. These tests are just one in a number of ways that we work on this objective. We also value all the effort that so many parents put in to helping with remembering these all important facts.

There is a lot of debate about whether children need to 'know' their times tables and whether quick recall is really necessary. Our aim as a school is to make sure that children are confident and have committed their times tables to their long term memory. By doing this, they can spend less time and effort on working out the calculation and more on using their times table knowledge to solve more complex problems.

It is also important to remember that whilst some children can learn times tables very quickly, it can take other children a little bit longer. There is no pressure from teachers about 'passing the test', but a focus on trying your best and doing a bit better each week.

The weekly tests in Key Stage 2 are 5 minutes and will now focus on both multiplication and division facts e.g. $6 \times 2 = 12$, $2 \times 6 = 12$, $12 \div 2 = 6$, $12 \div 6 = 2$.

At the start of the year, children will be asked to warm-up by having a go at a test they have previously passed. If they have already earned all their badges, they will do other activities related to times tables to practice applying their knowledge.

By the end of Year 2 children need to know the multiplication and division facts for at least the 2, 5 and 10 times tables so their tests focus on applying what they know confidently.

Tests	Times tables to practise	Badge
1 - 6	2, 5, 10	Blue Badge
7-9	2, 5, 10 (with inverse)	Purple Badge
10-12	2, 5, 10 (with missing number)	White Badge
1 - 3a	2, 3, 5, 10	Blue Star
4 - 6a	2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10	Silver Star
7 - 9	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	Gold Star
10 - 12	1-12 (including decimals)	Platinum Star

Understanding the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

Within school we carry out assessments to make sure we are teaching effectively and that the children are making progress. In some year groups there are statutory assessments that all schools are required to administer and the Summer Term is the time of year where these take place.

In June, children in Year 1 take part in the national Phonics Screening Check. This is a short, informal assessment designed to help teachers understand how well children are learning to read using phonics.

What is phonics?

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read by linking sounds (phonemes) to letters or groups of letters (graphemes). For example, children learn that the letters c-a-t make the sounds /c/ /a/ /t/, which blend together to read the word cat.

What does the check involve?

The check consists of 40 words that children read one-to-one with a teacher. Some of these are real words, and some are “nonsense” or made-up words (often shown with a picture of a friendly alien). These made-up words are used to check that children are using their phonics skills to decode, rather than relying on memory.

How long does it take?

The check usually takes around 5-10 minutes per child and is carried out in a relaxed, supportive environment.

Why is it important?

The check helps teachers identify children who are confidently using phonics and those who may need a little extra support. It is not something children can “revise” for, and there is no need for them to feel any pressure.

What happens after the check?

You will be informed of your child’s result at the end of the school year. If a child does not meet the expected standard, they will receive additional support in Year 2 and will have another opportunity to take the check.

How can you help at home?

Encourage your child to read regularly and make it enjoyable

Use the phonics newsletters that have been sent previously to help revisit and practice

Practise sounding out and blending simple words

Praise effort and build confidence

Share stories together to develop a love of reading

The Phonics Screening Check is just one small part of your child’s learning journey. Our aim is to support every child in becoming a confident, enthusiastic reader.

supersonic
The Basics 4 Group 7
Phonic Flashback

x	y	z	zz	qu	ch	sh	th
ng	ai	ee	igh	oa	oo	oo	ar
or	ur	ow	oi	er	ure	ear	air

Adjacent Consonants Polysyllabic Words
Read, Build and Write

sandpit	giftbox	waiting	treetop
armchair	raindrop	floating	fabric

Super Sentence Read and Write

The driftwood is floating.	Look up at the moonlight.
She is sleeping in her bed.	The children are in the sandpit.

Tricky Words

then	them	that	this
------	------	------	------

Future Phonic Focus - Choose to Use

ay	ea	ie	oe	ue
----	----	----	----	----

supersonic
The Higher Levels - Switch It Group 5
Phonic Flashback

y	y	ch	ou
---	---	----	----

Focus on Phonics

y	y	ch	ch	ou
---	---	----	----	----

Switch It Read, Build and Write

y	y	ch	ch	ou
---	---	----	----	----

Super Sentence Read and Write

We can get and shoot high into the sky.	The girap was not dry and made it gummy.
The chef can make us a cheap and tasty lunch.	The archerms play a chess in Chicago.
I see a discount coupon to get the mould spray.	If the gars of wail gets wet, we need to let it dry.

Tricky Words

who	any	many	more	eye
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Challenge and Extend

The kind chef hurt his shoulder. He sat down on his sofa and looked out of the window at the big field.
I had to rescue my baby brother and my nephew from a giant wasp when I heard a gnat from the meadow.
The shy chef used a coupon to get a cute crystal animal for the lady in uniform at the chemist.

Dates for 2025/6

Monday 20th April - Safer Internet Day

Monday 27th April/Tuesday 28th April - Reception Hearing and Vision checks

Wednesday 29th April - Year 5LD to the National Portrait Gallery, 3F Class Assembly at 9am

Thursday 7th May - SCHOOL CLOSED POLLING DAY

Friday 8th May - KS2 Choir Music Festival Cluster rehearsal (at Monkfrith)

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

Monday 8th June - Phonics Screening Week

Tuesday 9th June - Barnet Music Festival

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

Saturday 20th June - FOMS SUMMER FAIR

Monday 22nd June - Year 1 Capel Manor Visit

Thursday 25th June - Provisional KS1 Sports Afternoon

Friday 26th June - Provisional Reception Sports Morning

Tuesday 30th June - Provisional KS2 Sports Afternoon

Friday 3rd July - INSET Day

Monday 6th July - Year 2 to London Zoo

Tuesday 14th July - Year 6 Show (6P)

Wednesday 15th July - Year 6 Show (6K)

Friday 17th July - 9am Year 6 Leavers Assembly, Children break up at 2pm, Year 6 Leavers Disco

Monday 20th July - INSET Day