



Monkspath
Junior & Infant School

Monkspath news

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MONKSPATH JUNIOR & INFANT SCHOOL

www.monkspath.solihull.sch.uk

October 2016

Dear Parent / Carer,

Well I cannot believe that we are nearly at the end of an incredibly busy half term and that Autumn appears to be upon us.

All the children have certainly settled very well into their new routines and it is lovely to see all our children really well focussed on their learning. Lunchtimes are filled with fun and laughter and our new foundation children are establishing a good routine whilst in the dining hall.

I was delighted to see so many parents/carers able to join us for the Curriculum meetings and look forward to welcoming you once again to join in the Foundation Stage Celebration day on Thursday 20th October so that you can take the opportunity to meet your child in their class together with their friends and other parents too!

Some very brave and enthusiastic parents joined their children on their celebration day from Year 3 to help their child create some lovely pieces of art using string. We certainly have a great wealth of talent in our year 3. Well done all.

Our Year 2 children flew to Africa for the day having been checked in successfully with no flight delays and were accompanied by a collection of animals including a Meerkat for their Africa Day experience. The children had a very memorable day and I am sure you had lots of conversations from your children about their trip.

Year 6 were transported back in time by the ever popular Professor McGinty to WW2 who brought with him a variety of artefacts to help the children really understand what it was like to live a child during WW2. I am sure they now appreciate how very lucky they are now living in 2016. Your child may even stop asking for everything now!!

Thank you for taking the time out of your busy lives to attend the parent /child consultations. Hopefully you have seen how your child is continuing to progress and the plans your child's teacher has put in place so that they can reach their full potential.

Our photographer had a busy time taking hundreds of photographs recently. The children were certainly looking very smart and were extremely well behaved whilst waiting for their own picture to be taken.

I am not so sure how smart the Year 6 children will be upon their return from Red Ridge. I am sure they will all have had a fabulous time taking part in the fantastic activities that were planned. The weather is supposed to be kind – let's keep our fingers crossed. We will of course leave a message on our answering system to let you know of their expected time of arrival back to school on Friday.

It only leaves me to wish you a very enjoyable half term break. Hopefully the weather will continue to be kind and I look forward to seeing all of our wonderful children return on Monday 31st October.

W J Hutchinson



I am really pleased that all the children have settled very well into the school routine and we continue to welcome all parents/carers into school in the morning to help settle their child when the doors open at 8.45. However it is imperative that all parents/carers have vacated the classrooms and corridors before the school bell rings at 9.00am so that the children are ready to focus on their learning at the start of the school day.

School Disco

The PTA held their main first event of the year with the ever popular Spooky Disco On 7th October. This was an enormous success and the PTA raised over £1300. Thank you for your amazing support .



Colder Weather

As the colder weather approaches please ensure your child comes to school wearing a suitable coat. The children will be playing outside at break time and lunchtimes as much as possible and it is important they stay warm and dry so they do not get cough and colds. We know how expensive coats are so please ensure all outdoor wear is clearly labelled with your child's name.



Parent Pay

May we remind all parents that school meals need to be paid for **in advance** and your child's school meal account should remain in credit.



We continue to receive messages close to the end of the day from parents who are unable to collect their children, making very late changes to the arrangements for your child being picked up.



We understand that sometimes this occurs but it would be helpful to ensure this is kept a minimum and where possible arrangements for your child are made in advance. We have a duty to ensure your child is going home safely at all times.

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

We have received a few calls from the local shops advising us that cars are being parked in the service delivery area. This is not only inconsiderate but more importantly very dangerous as lorries continually use this area for deliveries. Please ensure this request is complied with for the safety and wellbeing of your child.



A group of Yr5 children attended recently Solihull School for the European Day of Languages Event. They performed Little Red Riding Hood entirely in German. The Headteacher said "They were absolutely fantastic, both in terms of behaviour and commitment." I am delighted to receive this fantastic feedback from the school about the impeccable behaviour of our children. This is a tremendous achievement. It always makes me very proud that as a school our children demonstrate the values we teach them in school. A big well done to you all.



SCHOOL TERM HOLIDAY DATES 2016 - 2017

AUTUMN TERM 2016

Half Term

Monday 5th September – Friday 21st October
Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October
Monday 31st October – Friday 16th December

Christmas Holiday

Monday 19th December 2016 – Monday 2nd January 2017

SPRING TERM 2017

Half Term

Tuesday 3rd January – Friday 17th February
Monday 20th February – Friday 24th February
Monday 27th February – Friday 7th April

Spring Holiday Monday 10th April – Friday 21st April

SUMMER TERM 2017

Half Term

Monday 24th April - Friday 26th May
Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June
Monday 5th June – Tuesday 25th July

REMAINING IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAYS YEAR 2016 – 2017

Tuesday 3rd January 2017
Friday 30th June 2017

Mayoral Election Day closure Thursday 4th May 2017

EMAIL ADDRESSES

IT IS ESSENTIAL WE HAVE A CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS FOR EVERY PARENT WHO WISHES TO BE KEPT INFORMED ABOUT SCHOOL EVENTS. WE ARE A PAPER FREE SCHOOL FOR WRITTEN HOME/SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS. IF YOU HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY WITH THIS PLEASE ENSURE YOU CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE WHO CAN HELP YOU TO ACCESS INFORMATION VIA SCHOOL.



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