



Monkston Primary School

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Newsletter 14

4th April, 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

Farewell!

I would like to start this newsletter by wishing Miss Bond and Mrs Nunez a fond farewell as they leave us for pastures new this Easter. Both Mrs Bond and Mrs Nunez have supported many of our younger children to thrive during their time here and I wish them both all the best in their new endeavours.



Year 4 residential

Last week, I had the pleasure of taking the year 4 [and a few year 5s] away to Irthlingborough for a 2-night residential. We were blessed with sunny weather which was a treat in March and we had a great time taking part in activities such as canoeing, archery and climbing. The year 4 trip is often the first time children spend time away from their own family and all the children coped brilliantly with taking on new challenges and developing their independence. Here are a few snaps of our time away!



Cross Country Success!

We are very proud of Amy, who represented Milton Keynes in the National Cross-Country Final two weeks ago in Coventry, having finishing in the top ten of the MK Schools Cross Country event back in October.



Girls' Football Team

The Y5/6 girls' football team ended their league season on a high note with a defeat and two wins. Diya played her first games for Monkston and made several important saves. Sophie, Rachael and Latifa had excellent games in defence with a string of blocks and tackles. With flowing moves and maze runs aplenty, Evelyn and Ayla scored the goals. Alizah worked tirelessly on the wing and captain Zara was proud of all her teammates' performances. The team are hopeful they have knock-out football to come in the last week.

Whole School Attendance

As a school, we are committed to ensuring attendance is high for every pupil who attends. Children deserve to make the most of their primary education, which is why we send reminder letters if your child's attendance is falling. We understand that 100% attendance is not always possible as children do become ill occasionally; however, the aim should always be as close to this as possible. **If you aim for 96% - 100% attendance for your child**, then they will be benefitting the most from the education we offer. When we review attendance data versus progress data, there is usually a strong correlation between these, with pupils whose attendance is higher making more progress in their learning.

We track attendance regularly in school, but the new Arbor app also allows you to view your child's attendance, so you can keep an eye on this at home.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that term time holidays will not be authorised and that you may be issued with a penalty notice if you take a term time holiday. Term time holidays, particularly in May and June, can be very disruptive for your child's learning and for the many assessments that take place during this time. Our attendance policy can be found on the school website with full details.

Easter Fun Day

Yesterday was a wonderful day at Monkston. Children took part in crafting, an Easter egg hunt, a classroom door competition, a bonnet parade and of course, the home entry competitions. We were once again very impressed with the competition entries, and I know that Mr Craggs and Mrs Parkinson had a particularly difficult [but tasty] time judging the baking competition!



Star of Term Award

Congratulations of our star of the spring term winners!



I hope that you all have a wonderful easter break and we look forward to seeing you back in school on **Tuesday 22nd April** for the start of the summer term.

Kind regards

H. Williams

Mrs Hannah Williams

