

# Monkton Church of England Primary School

Compassion

Courage

Justice



*Jesus said, 'Go and do the same.'*

Dear Parents/Carers,

December 2024 No. 4

And here it is, the end of Term 2. I would like to start my section of this newsletter by thanking all of our amazing staff, teachers, TA's, office staff, kitchen team, cleaners and of course Tony for all of their hard work over the last term. As a Monkton Family, everybody plays their part in making learning fun and ensuring children meet our high expectations, whether that be in the classroom, on the playground or during special, extra-curricular events.

This term has been packed with events. Our PTA Christmas Fair was fabulous and it was lovely to see so many children, parents and extended families enjoying the many stalls and games that Mel and her team had set up. I think we need to have a special shout-out to Mel. It's not an easy job (and it is a job) to lead the PTA but the events this term, and last, have been wonderful and just enhanced our school so much, so Mel and the PTA – thank you.

The Class 1 and 2 Nativity was also a joy to behold. All of the children acted and sang so superbly. The courage required to stand-up and deliver lines and lyrics to a packed hall cannot be underestimated. The children were all confident and acted so professionally – it was fantastic and a great event to get everyone in the festive mood. Also, that day, was our Parent Book-Look. I hope you get lots out of coming into school, having a look around and seeing your children's work. The children thrive when sharing their work with you and we could all tell by their faces that they absolutely loved you all being in the classroom with them.

And finally, The Christingle which never fails to get me all Christmassy. Thank you to all the families who came along to celebrate the meaning of Christmas and thank you again to the PTA for making the Christingles. It was fantastic to hear the children singing along to the sound of the organ.

I don't want to talk about next term or 2025 yet as I don't want to wish the next couple of weeks away so I will finish by saying MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE. Stay safe and we'll see you on the other side!

Mr Marston



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Thursday 16th January** Special menu from Caterlink—details were sent out on 9th December

**Monday 20th January**, Young Voices concert at the O2

**Thursday 6th February**, Class 3 Trip British Museum

**Friday, 14th February** Last Day of Term 3

Please do check the school calendar on our website regularly, as further events may be added: <https://monkton.kent.sch.uk/calendar>





## TERM 3 SCHOOL CLUBS



**Choir**—there will only be 2 more choir sessions on 6th and 13th January before they attend Young Voices on 20th January. There will be no charge for the final 2 sessions.



**Football Fun Factory** will run every Monday from 6th January to 10th February 3:15pm to 4:15pm, sessions cost £5. The club is open to all year groups. Booking and payment must be made in advance via the Football Fun Factory website. The new link will be on our website at beginning of January.

### FOREST SCHOOL

Forest School will continue to run every Friday in Term 2, please see the adjacent schedule.

Please ensure children come to school wearing appropriate clothing on their Forest School day - this includes a water-proof coat and trousers. We have a limited number of water-proof trousers and coats in school but cannot guarantee they will fit your child. After Forest School, children will get changed into their school uniform. Please ensure uniform is brought into school in a named bag.

CLASS	WEEK	DATE
Class 4	Week 1	10/01/2025
Class 3	Week 2	17/01/2025
Class 1 & 2	Week 3	24/01/2025
Class 4	Week 4	31/01/2025
Class 3	Week 5	07/02/2025
Class 1 & 2	Week 6	14/02/2025

### Breakfast Club

Just a reminder that children need to be booked onto breakfast club in advance. This ensures that we have sufficient staff and resources available each morning. You can find details of how to register and pay for your child on the school website <https://www.monkton.kent.sch.uk/breakfast-club>

### Khickster Entertainment After-School Care Club

Kimberley and her team will be offering a brand new activity in Term 3.

**Wednesdays: Musical Theatre**—the children will work on exciting routines from popular musicals and will learn material to perform to family members and friends in the last week. Cost for this will be £27 for the 6 week programme.

They will continue with the following activities in Term 3 between 3:15pm and 4:30pm. Cost is £6 per session or £30 for 6 weeks

**Tuesdays: Arts and Crafts:** including clay modelling, painting, weaving and more.

**Thursdays: Specialised Sports Coaching:** featuring kick-boxing, basketball, archery and more.

They provide 3 options for after-school care, as follows:

- Option 1: 15:15 - 18:00 after-school care including a small dinner/hot snack: £15.00
- Option 2: 15:15 - 16:30 after-school care only: £6.00
- Option 3: 16:15 - 18:00 after-school care (following a school-led club) including a small dinner/hot snack: £10.00

Bookings must be made online at: [www.khicksterentertainment.co.uk/book](http://www.khicksterentertainment.co.uk/book), using the password MONKTON.

These clubs are available to view and book on their website.

Kimberley would love to hear what clubs your children would like to attend, and will endeavour to make their wishes reality.





# Class News



Class 1 have been having a wonderful few weeks, combining Christmas with their learning. The children have loved sharing the story of 'The Snowman and the Snow Dog' and talking about what they liked to do in the snow. They have acted out the story, retold it using puppets and have drawn some wonderful Snow Dogs of their own. The children have also been writing their letters to Santa and we think he will be super impressed with how they have used their sounds to write.

The children were so excited to come into school to find their role play had been turned into 'The North Pole'. We have had children turning into Santa delivering presents, reindeer flying through the air and elves making presents. We also can't wait to show our parents all our Christmas craft at the end of the term!



This term Class 2 have definitely been feeling the Christmas Spirit, from our trip to Quex where we met the man himself to writing our own versions on The Snowman and the Snow Dog. The children have been encouraged to use their experience in the woodlands to describe settings and re-write the story changing the pet the boy made. They are so close to finishing writing these now and we cannot wait to read and share these with each other.

We have also focused more on Geography this term, learning about the United Kingdom. Hopefully the children haven't driven you too mad with our continents song. It is very catchy and helps them to recall some key knowledge needed for the end of Key Stage One, plus they really enjoy it!





This term, Class Three have focused on the Viking invasion of Britain and completed their study of *How to Train your Dragon* by Cressida Cowell.

The children have been fascinated by their R.E. topic- exploring the origins of Sikhism. This has led to some excellent reflective discussions and deep thinking. In science, we have enjoyed a chilly exploration of changing states of matter and investigated how to quickly thaw a frozen dragon egg.

Highlights of our term have been designing packaged healthy snacks; beautiful gymnastic routines and more recently the study of our delightful Christmas text, 'How Winston Delivered Christmas'. Term 2 has been so much fun and we are looking forward to our new year topic, Ancient Civilisations (with an exciting trip on the horizon!).



It's been an incredibly busy term in class 4 this term. Year 6 had an incredibly successful trip to Canterbury Cathedral on 12th November, where certain children were selected to write and read prayers to a very full cathedral, including members of the Diocese.

We also had a very successful trip to Kent Life on 26<sup>th</sup> November. All the children have really immersed themselves in our Britain at War topic and it's a shame that it is coming to an end, as there is still so much to learn and lots more questions to be answered!

