

# Monkton Church of England Primary School

**Compassion      Courage      Justice**

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



Dear Parents/Carers,

March 2025. No 6

What a busy term it has been so far! Thankfully, Spring is finally on its way, and we're definitely feeling the sunnier vibes! Our OPAL playtimes have been brilliant, especially with the sunshine encouraging children to enjoy the sandpit, swings, and tree climbing. Tennis is also proving to be a hit!

This term, our students have had some fantastic opportunities, with trips to London and a visit to the nature reserve as part of Science Week. What an exciting way to bring their learning to life! There are more amazing events to look forward to, including swimming lessons starting next week. It's fantastic to offer the whole of Key Stage 1 and 2 the chance to swim as part of our inspirational and ambitious curriculum.

A special thank you goes to our wonderful parents for their support with the pond area. We're at the very beginning of developing this space into a nature corner, and your help is invaluable. The pond area is being developed as a result of the wonderful sponsorship money raised at the beginning of the year with our Mini Mudder but we are also very fortunate and grateful to have received a substantial grant from GlobalGiving, arranged by our wonderful parent, Mr Sidders. We also appreciate the donation of the bell tent, which will be used for various purposes, including serving as our circus school/performing arts zone during OPAL playtimes. The community of Monkton, I believe, has never been stronger and we can really feel the impact that positive school/family relationships can have. It's amazing and we never take you for granted!

And finally...a huge congratulations to our Year 6 pupil, Rose, who will be appearing in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at The Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury in April. What a superstar! We can't wait to hear all about it.

Looking forward to the rest of the term with many more exciting things ahead!

Warm Regards

Mr C Marston

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Monday 24th March**, Swimming program begins

**Thursday 27th March**, Hearing, vision and NCMP screening for YR R and YR 6

**Friday 28th March**, PTA Spring Disco

**Wednesday 2nd April**, Caterlink Easter Menu

**Thursday 3rd April**, Last Day of Term 4

**Tuesday 22nd April**, First day of Term 5

**Monday 5th May**, Bank Holiday

**Thursday 8th May**, VE day—special menu from Caterlink

**Monday 19th May**, Sports Day



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

## TERM 5 After School Clubs



**Football Fun Factory** will run every Monday from 28th April to 19th May 3:15pm to 4:15pm, sessions cost £5. No club on 5th May as this is Bank Holiday. 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 the website shortly and will be notified to parents.



**Khickster Entertainment** will be running Musical Theatre club on Wednesdays and Arts and Crafts on Thursdays. The cost is £6.00 per session or you can pay for the whole term - 5 weeks for £25.00. Please book using the Khickster Entertainment Website

[www.khicksterentertainment.co.uk/book](http://www.khicksterentertainment.co.uk/book) using the password MONKTON.

### FOREST SCHOOL

Forest School will continue to run every Friday in Term 5, please see the adjacent schedule.

Please ensure children come to school wearing appropriate clothing on their Forest School day - this includes a waterproof coat and trousers. We have a limited number of waterproof 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	25/04/2025
Class 3	Week 2	02/05/2025
Class 1 & 2	Week 3	09/05/2025
Class 4	Week 4	16/05/2025
Class 3	Week 5	23/05/2025
Class 1 & 2	Week 6	06/06/2025

### 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 Wraparound Care Term 5

Kimberley and her team provide wraparound care after school each day. 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.



### PTA Spring Disco 28th March 4.30pm to 5:45pm in the hall

Our brilliant PTA will be hosting the Spring Disco, MC Mars and DJ Mac playing all the latest tunes, The cost is £2.50 and there will be a tuck shop, gift stall and lucky dip. You can get your tickets now on Arbor Parent Portal/App. Sign up closes at midnight on Tuesday 25th March.

# Class News

This term, Class 1 dived into the world of dinosaurs, uncovering fascinating facts and engaging in hands-on activities. They created fossils, erupted volcanoes, and dug for bones in their own Dinoland. Inside, they became dinosaurs and archaeologists, bringing learning to life through play. Their creativity soared during free play, leading to some wonderful projects.

A special visitor, Miss Allen's tortoise Zak, added to the excitement. The children decided he walked like a stegosaurus and ate like a triceratops!

In maths, the children are making fantastic progress. They loved exploring patterns, their number bonds to 10 are coming along well, and they have started to explore subtraction.

Early writing skills remain a key focus, with children producing wonderful pieces. A highlight was creating a whole class book, *That's Not My Dinosaur*—look out for it in the shops!

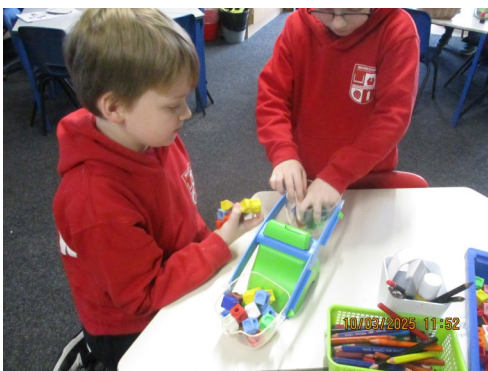
Next term, we look forward to growing plants and flowers and discovering the world of minibeasts.



We've had a fantastic time in Class 2 this term, learning about the Magnificent Monarchs who shaped our history, from Alfred the Great to Charles II. The children have really enjoyed diving into these royal figures and their impact on the past. We're especially excited for this Friday, when we will be dressing like royalty! The children will pose for a portrait in their royal attire and will also try their hand at drawing a monarch-inspired portrait.

Looking ahead, next term we will be moving into Geography, focusing on Coastlines. We will explore both the human and physical features of coastal areas, as well as learn important safety tips for when we're at the beach. It promises to be an exciting and informative topic, and we're eager to start!

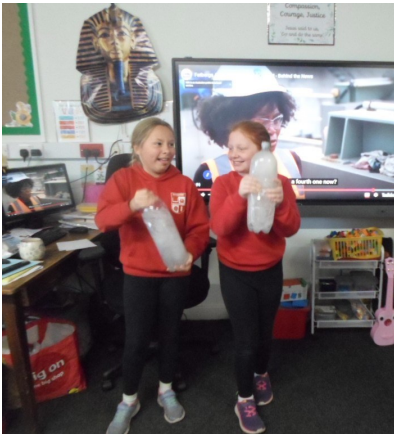
Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to a fun and productive term ahead.





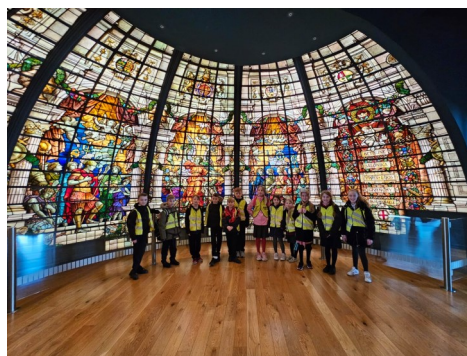
Class Three have been extremely busy this term! We had fun dressing up as Egyptians, explored simple machines in the sandpit, made electrical circuits using LEDs and copper tape in science and had a great time exploring stories and characters on World Book day. In science week, our class focus was thinking how we can make positive changes to the environment. We investigated the best and worst things to flush down the toilet to reduce water pollution- fun but yucky!

This week we had a wonderful time exploring the story of Holy Week at Monkton church- everyone had such a great time!



Class 4 had a fantastic trip to the National Maritime Museum on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March to enhance their understanding of the Polar Regions and the well-known explorers that ventured into the deepest and most dangerous parts of the North and South poles. Each child showed great enthusiasm and demonstrated all they had learnt about the polar regions in our topic lessons throughout term 3 and 4.

To finish off our time in the museum, we had lunch in a very sunny albeit chilly Greenwich park and playtime in their Cove playground. All children were an absolute credit to our school and to their adults!



# School Notices and Subject updates

## Pupil Absences

Can we just remind all parent/carers that if your child is ill, please **telephone or email the school office before 9:am on each day** of absence unless other arrangements have been made. We also kindly remind you that when you need to take your child out for appointments/early pickups or late arrivals you notify the office directly. This ensure everything runs smoothly and we can assist you as quickly as possible.

## Music Subject update—Mrs J Guilder

It has been such an exciting time for the children at Monkton and their musical learning journey! It's amazing that Class 3 have been working on ukulele lessons all year and are gearing up for their second performance. It takes so much courage and determination to perform, and it's clear that they're building great resilience through their music lessons.

iRock's success is also fantastic! It's always inspiring to see children take pride in their growth and get the chance to showcase their talent. I'm sure their second performance on Friday 28th March will be another great milestone.

It sounds like they'll be a wonderful celebration of their hard work and progress to end the term!

## World Book Day

We wanted to take a moment to celebrate the fantastic World Book Day that our school has just experienced! It was an exciting day filled with creativity, learning and joy.

A special congratulations to all the children who participated in the Potato Decorating competition! We saw some truly imaginative and thoughtful designs, and it's clear that a lot of time and effort went into each one. Well done to our winners and all who took part—you should be incredibly proud of your hard work and creativity!

The costumes this year were absolutely amazing! There were some wonderfully unique choices, and we loved seeing the children transform into their favourite characters. It was inspiring to see such a variety of creative ideas.

In addition to the fun costumes and designs, the classes also enjoyed fantastic activities linked to their favourite books. The children had a great time listening to adults read their favourite stories in unusual places around the school. It was a fun and meaningful way to bring books to life and encourage a love of reading.

Thank you to all the children for their enthusiasm and to the parents for your support in making this day so special. We look forward to continuing to celebrate books and reading throughout the year!

