



MONKSDOWN NEWS

Check out our website at www.monksdownprimary.co.uk

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9th September 2016

Edition: Autumn 1

WELCOME BACK

We hope that you have all had a relaxing holiday and are ready for the new term ahead.

We would like to warmly welcome all our new children and their families who have joined our school community and we hope they will soon settle into our warm and friendly environment.

We also have some new members of staff who have joined us:

- Mrs Joynson will be teaching Year 4
- Awa Mbengue will be teaching French in the afternoons and assisting in Year 3 in the mornings.

We are very excited about working with them.

The new academic year has begun smoothly and our children have settled in well into their new classes. May I just say how smart everyone looks and it is good to see so many children wearing sensible, black school shoes. Training shoes are NOT acceptable as part of our school uniform and should only be worn for outside PE lessons. Pumps are needed for gymnastics and dance.

Please can you ensure all clothing is named, including PE kits. This way all lost items may be returned quickly.

School is not responsible for loss or damage of personal items that have been brought into school. All children are responsible for their own belongings.

Every Day Counts!

We encourage parents and carers to ensure their children attend school every day. Good attendance is celebrated with weekly class rewards, termly certificates and prizes plus an annual school trip paid for by school.

90% attendance = ½ day missed per week

80% attendance = 1 day missed every week

1 school year at 90% attendance = 4 whole weeks of lessons missed.

1 school year at 80% attendance = 8 whole weeks of lessons missed.

90% attendance of 5 years = ½ year missed

80% attendance over 5 years = 1 whole year missed

**THE BETTER THE
ATTENDANCE THE
GREATER THE
ACHIEVEMENT**

Punctuality and Attendance

School begins at 8.55am for all children in Reception, KS1 and KS2. Nursery children may enter from 8.30am (mornings) and 12.15pm (afternoons). It is of paramount importance that you bring your children to school ON TIME and collect them ON TIME every day. It is very distracting when children arrive late into school and miss vital parts of lessons as well as disrupting other children's learning. When children are not collected promptly at home time they can become very distressed which is upsetting everyone involved.

Don't wait for something big to occur. Start where you are, with what you have and that will always lead you into something greater – Mary Marin Morrissey

Download our APP!

Go to the Apple or Play Store and search for **Monksdown Primary**. Just follow the install instructions and you will have access to lots of useful information and receive instant notifications to your phone or tablet.

Book Sale

We will be holding a book sale in school next week. Books will cost 20p each or 3 for 50p. Please ensure your child has some money if they wish to buy books.



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS



The school photographer will be in school on Wednesday, 14th September for children in Reception and Years 1-6. All children will be photographed individually. If you **wish to have a family photograph** please inform Mrs Daly, in writing, by Tuesday, 13th September.

MONEY

ALL money (trip, dinners etc.) **MUST** be sent into school in an envelope – clearly marked with the child's name, class, amount and what it is for. Include the permission slip if it's for a trip.

MONEY WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IF IT'S NOT IN AN ENVELOPE.

UNDER **NO** CIRCUMSTANCES WILL MONEY BE ACCEPTED AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE.
IT MUST GO TO THE CLASS TEACHER.

After School Clubs

Our after school activity programme will commence from Monday 19th September. A separate letter will be sent out giving details. Please ensure your child is collected promptly at 4pm by a responsible adult.



PARKING



As the area around the school develops, parking will continue to be restricted. If travelling by car, van etc. please leave home in plenty of time to be able to park safely a short distance away from school (in adjacent roads) and walk to the school premises.

Your childrens' safety is of paramount importance.

The car park is for staff and parents of children with physical needs.

Please **DO NOT** park in the car park.

Children worked exceptionally well during their French sessions last year and their overall attitude to raising cultural awareness through their assemblies from research projects. Their hard work has paid off, resulting in an International Award from the British Council.

Our new website has gone live this week. Please have a look. We would welcome any comments you may have concerning it. This will also be available on our APP soon.