



Monksdown Mail

Where Children Come First



Our school's
Designated
Safeguarding
Leads : Mrs Russell
Mrs Price,
Mrs Stewart

Friday 14th July 2023

Audiences left wanting more!!!

Dear Families of Monksdown,

The end of term is always so enjoyable with concerts and celebrations that show off all that the children have achieved. This year is no exception and this week's performances of Oliver have been incredible - you have such talented children! Audiences considered themselves "at home" and it really was "worth the waiting for".

Well Done to all involved!



May I take this opportunity to wish you a wonderful summer holiday and thank you all for your continued support in ensuring your children achieve their very, very best. We look forward to children returning on **Monday 4th September**.

Kindest Regards

Mrs Price

Our Stars!

- ★ N: All of Nursery
- ★ R.1: Hanna Ligers
- ★ R.2: All of R2
- ★ R.3: All of R3
- ★ 1.1: Dawid Silva
- ★ 1.2: Lori Jennings
- ★ 1.3: Hallie Curran
- ★ 2.1: Leah Hall
- ★ 2.2: Eunice Adepoju
- ★ 2.3: Max Jackson
- ★ 2.3: Ela Ozturk
- ★ 3.1: Jessica Draper
- ★ 3.2: Elsie-May Clegg
- ★ 3.3: Anastasia Susinska
- ★ 4.1: Ahmad Tannerah
- ★ 4.2: Yuelin Chen
- ★ 4.3: Mason Baines
- ★ 5.1: Connor Pinto
- ★ 5.2: Alfie Thompson
- ★ 5.3: Isla Dennis
- ★ 6.1: Paulina Golda
- ★ 6.2: Kady Rust
- ★ 6.3: Neveah Fowler

IMPORTANT NOTICES

When children return in September please ensure your child is wearing the correct school footwear — black sensible shoes that are suitable for polishing.

School policy does not allow trainers.

**Year 6 Leavers'
Assembly
Tuesday 18th July
10am**

We are the Champions

We have been successful in two recent events. Overall winners in the Debating Competition and winners for the second year running at Table Football. What can I say? Your children are amazing.



Dish the Fish Rish

I am sure you have seen our school's involvement in the campaign urging the Government to provide a free school meal for ALL Primary Schools. I am so proud of the children writing letters to Rishi Sunak urging him to provide free school meals for struggling families across the country.

As the cost of living crisis deepens and more families struggle to keep children fed throughout the day, there are increasing calls for universal free school meals to try and tackle hunger and poverty issues in the country. Our children felt they could make a difference and set about changing the policy to help other children and families in England.

As part of a week of action demanding free school meals for all, we held a protest on the playground, met with members of the Feeding Liverpool Action Group as well as a sneaky spot on This Morning. Move over Hollie, Mrs Russell is in town!



Winter Uniform for September

- Navy blue cardigan/jumper with grey stripe at the neck with school logo
- White shirt
- Navy blue and silver grey striped tie
- Grey skirt / Grey trousers
- Grey or Navy socks or tights
- **Black sensible school shoes (suitable for polishing)**
- **No trainers**



PE Kits

- Navy Blue PE Shorts
- White T-Shirt with school logo



All items with school logo can be purchased from F&J Uniform or Brienda's Muirhead Avenue.

Other items may be purchased from local supermarkets.

Breakfast Club 23/24

If you require a place in Breakfast Club for September 2023 please apply using options below.

QR Code



Website

The application form is also available via a link on our website.

School Meals



Meals at Monksdown are high quality and mean the children have a healthy and nutritious lunch each day. School meal prices are £2.00 per day. Money should be paid a week in advance payable every Monday. Please pay online via School Money where possible. Otherwise money should be placed in a sealed envelope clearly labelled with your child's name, class and the amount. All children in KS2 pay for a school meal unless they are packed lunch or Free School Meals. If you think your child is entitled to a Free School Meal please apply via the Liverpool City Council Website.

Summer Term Attendance Tournament



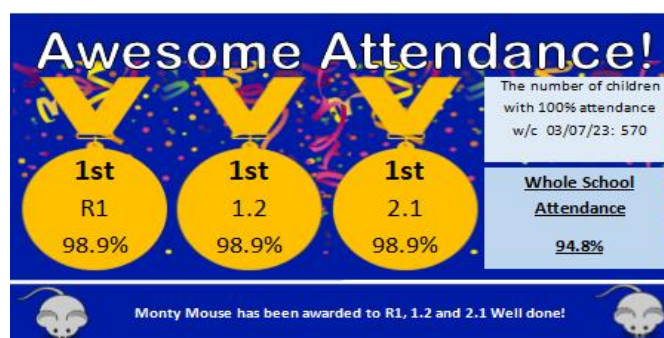
Summer Term 2 Week 4

Monksdown Attendance Table

Class	Wins	Losses	Draws	Points	Bonus Points	Total
3.1	3	1	0	9	5	14
1.3	2	2	0	6	5	11
2.2	3	1	0	9	2	11
3.2	2	2	0	6	0	6
5.2	2	2	0	6	3	9
1.2	3	1	0	9	3	12
1.1	1	3	0	3	1	4
4.1	1	3	0	3	0	3
4.3	3	0	0	9	1	10
6.3	2	2	0	6	0	6
2.1	3	1	0	9	3	12
5.1	2	2	0	6	0	6
6.2	3	1	0	9	0	9
2.3	2	2	0	6	0	6
3.3	0	3	0	0	0	0
4.2	1	3	0	3	1	4
5.3	1	3	0	3	1	4
6.1	1	3	0	3	0	3

Well done to all winning classes and those who received bonus points.

	Bonus
96% +	1 point
98% +	2 points
100%	3 points



The class with the most points will receive a day out to Croxteth Park.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AI VIRTUAL FRIENDS

Artificial Intelligence – particularly in terms of how it generates natural language – has seen significant development over the last six months, with companies releasing new AI-based software or adding an AI element to existing apps (such as Snapchat for example). One form of AI to become especially popular has been the 'AI friend' or chatbot, as children eagerly experiment with these new-found computer-generated companions. There are now numerous apps available with this 'virtual friend' functionality, with the likelihood of it being added to other successful platforms soon.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

AI chatbots may not always be able to recognise when content is age inappropriate or harmful and should be filtered out. So there's a possibility that children could be exposed to offensive language or explicit material while conversing with their virtual friend. The companies producing such AI solutions are also unlikely to take responsibility for any content that their algorithms generate.

REDUCED SOCIAL CONTACT

An excessive reliance on chatbots for social interaction could potentially cause a child to begin reducing the amount of face-to-face communication they have, leading to social isolation. If young people become dependent on chatbots to provide companionship, it could very likely hinder the development of their real-life social skills.

LACK OF SENSITIVITY

Chatbot software isn't always sophisticated enough to pick up on subtle emotional cues or recognise signs of distress in children, as most humans would. It might therefore fail to respond appropriately. AI misinterpreting what it's being told or replying insensitively to a young user who's already struggling could potentially impact a child's emotional wellbeing or exacerbate any existing emotional issues.

UNINTENTIONAL BIAS

AI companions are only as reliable as the information they've been programmed with. The algorithms they use, therefore, may unintentionally promote bias, stereotypes or discriminatory behaviour (as many originate from the USA or the UK, for instance, they can display a distinctly western-centric worldview). This could lead to children developing skewed attitudes and behaviours.

COGNITIVE LIMITATIONS

Although many are now undeniably advanced, AI-powered chatbots still have limitations in terms of understanding complex concepts, context and nuance. Depending heavily on chatbots to help with learning or solving problems may stunt the development of a child's own powers of critical thinking, creativity and ability to engage in open-ended discussions with other people.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Chatbots typically collect data about users, including personal information and conversations. This is ostensibly to improve their performance as they gradually learn about our behaviour – but many experts are warning that there may be significant risks associated with how this information is stored and used (the possibility of potential breaches or misuse by third parties, for instance).

Advice for Parents & Carers

CHAT ABOUT CHATBOTS

If your child is already expressing an interest in AI apps, a relaxed, natural chat should help you to discover which ones they're aware of and how they're using them (or are planning to). Discuss these options with your child and perhaps do your own research to ensure you think they're suitable. Once you're totally happy, you could sit with your young one and begin exploring AI chatbots together.

CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If your child is keen to engage with AI chatbots, encourage them to do so in a safe environment: ideally in a shared space at home, so you can easily keep an eye and ear on their progress. Set up appropriate content filtering measures in advance – and gently remind them that you'll be close by and ready to help with any questions or concerns that may arise.

FIND A BALANCE

Work alongside your child to establish the right balance in terms of how they might use AI-powered chatbots – and when it's appropriate. It's important to make sure that children are still getting plenty of opportunities to learn to solve problems for themselves, as well as building their interpersonal skills through face-to-face conversations with friends, family members and teachers.

TAKE CONTROL

As with any form of app or game, when it comes to AI chatbots we'd strongly recommend that you consider employing parental controls (either on the device being used or within the software itself) to manage which apps your child can download and use. This is particularly important for younger children, who may be more at risk of being upset or frightened by inappropriate content.

RECOGNISE THE RISKS

It's unlikely that most children will have even considered the potential risks attached to having a virtual companion. So it's probably wise to explain some of the possible hazards and challenges of AI chatbots to your child. In particular, emphasise that AI isn't a real person (however much it might sound like one) and may occasionally tell them something that isn't entirely impartial or accurate.

Meet Our Expert

A Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Ivelly Henderson is the Director of IT at a large teaching school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that we become more aware of the data around technology, as well as the benefits.



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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Summer 2023

Summer holidays are finally here! This is the timetable of activities that we will be running during the summer holidays.

Exciting news! Our Summer Timetable is here at Clubmoor & Ellergreen Children Centre. Join us for a fantastic lineup of fun and enriching activities for children and families throughout the summer months. From arts and crafts, SEND sessions to outdoor adventures, there's something for everyone to enjoy! Stay tuned for our upcoming posts and updates, so you don't miss out on the summertime fun. Get ready for a season filled with laughter, learning, and wonderful memories. See you soon!

Please check out our Facebook page and our new Instagram @caecc2006 for updates.

For more information, please contact the Children Centre Team on 0151 233 8500

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
24 th July	25 th July	26 th July	27 th July	28 th July
All about Baby - 10.30am - 11.30am	Umbrella Group - 10am - 11am Active through football with LFC foundation at Norris Green Park - 11am - 12.00pm Musical Movers - 1.30pm - 2.30pm	Storytime - Norris Green Library - 10.30am - 11.15am	Active through football with LFC foundation at Clubmoor Recreation Ground - 11.00pm - 12.00pm Sensory Stay & Play (SWAN) 1.30pm - 2.30pm	Summer Activity Stay & Play Group - 10am - 11.15am
31 st July	1 st August	2 nd August	3 rd August	4 th August
Staff Training Day	Umbrella Group - 10am - 11am Active through football with LFC foundation at Norris Green Park - 11am - 12.00pm Musical Movers - 1.30pm - 2.30pm	Colossal ART - 10am - 11.30am	Active through football with LFC foundation at Clubmoor Recreation Ground - 11.00pm - 12.00pm Sensory Stay & Play (SWAN) 1.30pm - 2.30pm	Staff Training Day
7 th August	8 th August	9 th August	10 th August	11 th August
All about Baby - 10.30am - 11.30am	Active through football with LFC foundation at Norris Green Park - 11am - 12.00pm Umbrella Group - Brolly Walk, Gather & Talk event. - Croxteth Country Park - 10am - 12pm Musical Movers - 1.30pm - 2.30pm	Storytime - Norris Green Library - 10.30am - 11.15am Liverpool ASD Training Team - Q & A Sessions - Baby Massage - 10am - 11am	Active through football with LFC foundation at Clubmoor Recreation Ground - 11.00pm - 12.00pm Sensory Stay & Play (SWAN) 1.30pm - 2.30pm	Summer Activity Stay & Play Group - 10am - 11.15am
14 th August	15 th August	16 th August	17 th August	18 th August
All about Baby - 10.30am - 11.30am LivPAC - Coffee Morning with Sensory Stall - 10am - 12pm	Umbrella Group - 10am - 11am Active through football with LFC foundation at Norris Green Park - 11am - 12.00pm Musical Movers - 1.30pm - 2.30pm LivPAC - Introduction to Sensory Processing - 12.30pm - 3pm	Storytime - Norris Green Library - 10.30am - 11.15am Liverpool ASD Training Team - Q & A Sessions - Baby Massage - 10am - 11am	Active through football with LFC foundation at Clubmoor Recreation Ground - 11.00pm - 12.00pm Sensory Stay & Play (SWAN) 1.30pm - 2.30pm	Summer Activity Stay & Play Group - 10am - 11.15am
21 st August	22 nd August	23 rd August	24 th August	25 th August
All about Baby - 10.30am - 11.30am	Active through football with LFC foundation at Norris Green Park - 11am - 12.00pm LivPAC - Introduction to Autism - 10am - 12.30pm Colossal ART - 1.15pm - 2.45pm - ALL STAFF	Storytime - Norris Green Library - 10.30am - 11.15am Baby Massage - 10am - 11am	Active through football with LFC foundation at Clubmoor Recreation Ground - 11.00pm - 12.00pm Sensory Stay & Play (SWAN) 1.30pm - 2.30pm	Summer Activity Stay & Play Group - 10am - 11.15am
28 th August	29 th August	30 th August	31 st September	1 st September
Children Centre Closed BANK HOLIDAY	Active through football with LFC foundation at Norris Green Park - 11am - 12.00pm Umbrella Group - 10am - 11am Musical Movers - 1.30pm - 2.30pm - LN	Storytime - Norris Green Library - 10.30am - 11.15am Baby Massage - 10am - 11am	Active through football with LFC foundation at Clubmoor Recreation Ground - 11.00pm - 12.00pm Sensory Stay & Play (SWAN) 1.30pm - 2.30pm	Summer Activity Stay & Play Group - 10am - 11.15am

First Issued 5th July 2022

Reissued 5th September 2022

Reminder 21st April 2023

Reminder 12th June 2023



IMPORTANT LETTER ABOUT TAKING CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL DURING TERM TIME

Dear Families of Monksdown,

Monksdown Primary School is determined to do everything they can to ensure your child has the very best start in life. An essential part of this is that every child is punctual and attends school. As a parent or carer, you have an important part to play. Your child has the right to a good education and **you** have a legal responsibility to ensure that they go to school on time, all of the time.

Pupils should only be absent from school if:

- They are too ill to attend

- They have a medical appointment that can't be arranged out of school hours

- There are exceptional circumstances

- Advanced permission has been granted from school

Leave of Absence during term time:

Parents/Carers do not have a right by law to take their child on holiday during school term-time.

Only in **exceptional circumstances** may school grant leave of absence for a holiday. A written application to the Head Teacher or myself, Chair of Governors, must be made in order for the school to consider this. If a parent/carers takes a child on holiday without prior permission from the school, the Local Authority may issue a Penalty Notice of £120 per child, reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days. **Even if a leave of absence is permitted it still counts as an absence and is recorded as Unauthorised.** Permission simply means a fixed penalty will not be issued.

If you are experiencing issues with your child's attendance the school's attendance team are there to support. Please contact the school should you require their help.

I have attached the school calendar dates for 2022-2023 for your information.

Kind Regards

Martin Reynolds



Date: 9 June 2023

Dear Parent or Guardian

The Summer HAF programme starts on the 24th July and there are lots of great activities happening over the school holidays. Children and young people, from reception to age 16 (including year 11 leavers), who are eligible for benefits related free school meals, will be able to access hundreds of activities throughout the summer holidays including specific provision available for children with SEND or additional needs, at no cost. There's a great range of activities across the city including boxing, football, music, dance, cycling, cooking, discos, films, basketball, arts and crafts, drama, ~~bbq's~~, water games, trips out and much more! Every day there will be a range of fabulous meals available with many schemes holding family events as well.

To find out where your nearest scheme and all the details of what is on click on this link - <https://merseyplay.com/summer-haf-holiday-activities-food-2023/> or visit www.Merseyplay.com and click on the Summer HAF link.

When you have chosen an activity, you will need to contact that organisation to book a place. Each organisation will have either a telephone number, email address or online booking system. If your child has any additional needs or dietary requirements then please discuss this with the organisation when you book. There is no central booking system so please read the details of the programmes on the website and ring the providers directly.

- ☐ If you want to know how to register or how to check if your child is eligible for free school meals then please click on the link <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>
- ☐ You will need your national insurance number or an asylum seekers support number.
- ☐ If you are struggling with the cost of living then please click: <https://www.liverpool.gov.uk/cost-of-living/>
- ☐ If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk. Click on the link to find out how to register <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/>
- ☐ If your child is not eligible for benefits related free school meals you may be eligible for support with childcare costs - <https://www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator>

Liverpool City Council is working with Mersey Play Action Council, Sutton Croft and the local schools, voluntary and community organisations, and childcare providers to deliver the Summer HAF programme. The programme is funded by the Department for Education.

The Liverpool Family Information and SEND Directory also provides a wealth of useful information and support for families - [LFISD](#).

Regards

Sally Dobbing

Sally Dobbing - HAF Project Manager

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