



Monksdown Mail

Where Children Come First



Designated
Safeguarding
Leads : Mrs Russell
Mrs Dakin
Deputies- Mrs Price
and Mrs Stewart



THE STONE AGE

Class 3.1 and 3.2 were out an about this week on a trip to The Storybarn at Calderstones Park as part of their History topic The Stone Age.

Whilst there they discovered how important trees and nature were during this time and how bark was used for plasters and sap for medication. who would have guessed that acorns were used to make bread?

Learning about how people in The Stone Age moved the stones around - not an easy job when they weighed an average of three tonnes - was certainly an eye opener . All agreed that when moving the stones around that the task was so much easier when working as part of a team.

The children enjoyed a 'fact hunt' around the area, racing to find the answers to all of our Stone Age questions and finished the day creating their very own modern day cave drawings. They left messages and pictures for people in the future showing them all the important things in our lives today. Class 3.3 will be experiencing this in December.

What an incredible day!



Our Stars!

- ★ N: Lara Roubé Hartmann
- ★ R.1: Roman Scully
- ★ R.2: Sorosh Ashty
- ★ R.3: Edward Rocon
- ★ 1.1: Rowan Hughes
- ★ 1.2: Keylani Siles-Hernandez
- ★ 1.3: Isaac Kelly
- ★ 2.1: Izabela Golda
- ★ 2.2: Sophia Kirby
- ★ 2.3: Connor Williams
- ★ 3.1: Neive Aldridge
- ★ 3.2: Setayesh Ashty
- ★ 3.3: Tehilah Manuwa
- ★ 4.1: Louie Donnelly
- ★ 4.2: Poppy Livell
- ★ 4.3: Elizabeth Chelkowski
- ★ 5.1: Josie Smith
- ★ 5.2: Jovina Ramesh
- ★ 5.3: Shaanly Ganapathy
- ★ 6.1: Francis Kryś
- ★ 6.2: Helena Piekarek
- ★ 6.3: Charlie Kelly

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 24th October
Parent/Carer Evening
3:15pm—6:00pm

Wednesday 25th October
Parent/Carer Evening
3:15pm—6:00pm

Class 4.1
Wednesday 25th &
Thursday 26th

Class 6.3
Tuesday 24th &
Thursday 26th

LFC Foundation Sport in School
Thursday 26th October

Full Governors Meeting 9:30am

Year 5 Saxon Experience Day in
school—Costume needed

Friday 27th October
School closes at 2PM
for half term

Year 1 visit to Martin Mere

Year 1 visited Martin Mere this week and enjoyed seeing lots of different types of birds such as flamingos and Canadian geese. The children all now have a challenge to complete 10 outdoor nature activities before half term so that they can earn their 'Guardian of the Wild' badges.



Next week we will be holding a fund raising event to support the Cash for Kids charity.

We are still running our Silver Coin Challenge – we are asking for children to donate any spare silver coins to their class jar.

Raffle tickets will be on sale for 50p per ticket from Monday 23rd October and the raffle will be drawn on Thursday 26th October.

Lots of exciting prizes to be won.

Toy Table Top Sale - Wednesday 25th October- We ask families to donate any unwanted pre-loved toys (bikes, dolls, doll houses, lego, trains, LOL's, computer games etc.) and bring into school on Tuesday 24th October.

Sponsored Dance-A-Thon all classes will take part in a sponsored Dance-a-thon on Tuesday 24th October – could all sponsor money please be sent into school by Friday 27th October please.

TASTE *Film*

**Get your tickets for Year
2 Italian Night in school.
Includes movie, chef hat,
pizza or pasta, soft
drinks & popcorn...**



Friday 10th November
AT 3.15PM - 5.00PM
TICKETS £4.00



Tickets are available now, so grab your classmates
for a night of movies and delicious food!



FOR MORE INFORMATION
www.monksdownprimary.co.uk



The October Half Term Eat 2 Meet programme starts on the 30th October 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 half term 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 Halloween themed activities such as pumpkin carving, apple bob, Halloween crafts making spooky masks, boxing, football, music, dance, cycling, cooking, podcasting, basketball, arts and crafts, drama, zumba, 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 the nearest scheme is visit <https://merseyplay.com/october-half-term-eat-to-meet/>

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 24th October	Parent/Carer Evening 3:15pm—6:00pm
Wednesday 25th October	Parent/Carer Evening 3:15pm—6:00pm LFC Foundation Sport in School
Thursday 26th October	Full Governors Meeting 9:30am Year 5 Saxon Experience Day in school—Costume needed
Friday 27th October	School closes at 2PM for half term
Monday 30th September — Friday 3rd October	Half Term Holiday
Wednesday 8th November	Year 4 Matilda Sing-a-long The Light Cinema New Brighton ASD Coffee Morning 9:00am 11am-12pm Open Day for New Parents of September Intake
Thursday 9th November	Classes 3.2 and 3.3 FACT Cinema and World Museum Trip
Friday 10th November	LSFA Yr6 1:00pm Girls Cup Jeffrey Humble Year 2 Taste Film Night 3.15 pm –5.00 pm
Wednesday 15th November	9am ASD Training Team Coffee Morning Classes 3.1 and 5.2 Everyman Cinema and World Museum Trip
Thursday 16th November	Classs 5.1 and 5.3 Everyman Cinema and World Museum Trip
Friday 17th November	School Learning Council Visit to Parliament
Week of Monday 20th November	Art Week
Tuesday 21st November	Maritime Museum Trip
Wednesday 22nd November	Maritime Museum Trip

Important Changes to School Calendar

Dear Parent and Carers,

To mirror neighbouring schools term dates, and after careful consultation with the staff and Governors, it has been agreed that the following changes will take place to this academic year's term dates. Please see calendar below.

School will be closed on:

Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Thursday 4th January 2024

Friday 5th January 2024

Therefore, Christmas holidays will begin on Friday 22nd December (finish at 2pm on Thursday 21st December 2023) to Friday 5th January 2024 (return to school on Monday 8th January 2024 8.55am).

School will remain open on:

Monday 22nd July 2024

Tuesday 23rd July 2024

Wednesday 24th July 2024 (finish at 2pm) last day of term.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend

Mrs Price

Calendar 2023/2024



School Open

School Closed

Bank Holiday – school closed

September 2023

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
35					1	2	3
36	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
37	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
38	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
39	25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2023

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
38							1
40	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
41	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
42	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
43	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
44	30	31					

November 2023

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44			1	2	3	4	5
45	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
46	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
47	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
48	27	28	29	30			

December 2023

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
48					1	2	3
49	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
50	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
51	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
52	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
4	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
5	29	30	31				

February 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5				1	2	3	4
6	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9	26	27	28	29			

March 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9					1	2	3
10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
12	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
13	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
17	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
18	29	30					

May 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
18			1	2	3	4	5
19	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
20	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
22	27	28	29	30	31		

June 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
22						1	2
23	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
24	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
26	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
28	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
29	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
30	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
31	29	30	31				

August 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31				1	2	3	4
32	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
33	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
34	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
35	26	27	28	29	30	31	

Attendance Tournament

Autumn Term 1 Week 6

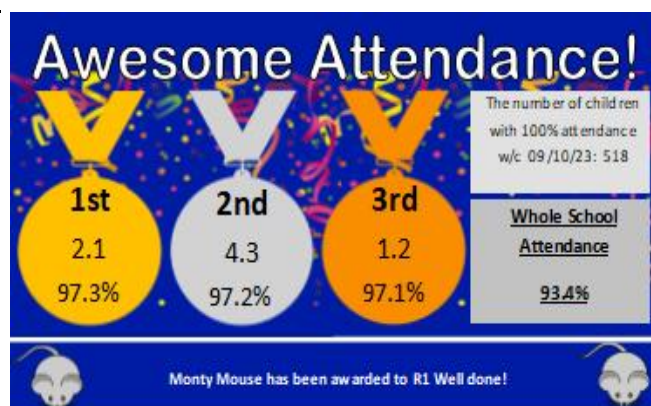


Monksdown Attendance Table

Class	Wins	Losses	Draws	Points	Bonus Points	Total
1.1	4	1	0	12	9	21
2.3	5	0	0	15	5	20
1.3	4	1	0	12	7	19
4.1	4	1	0	12	6	18
2.1	4	1	0	12	5	17
1.2	3	2	0	9	7	16
5.3	3	2	0	9	5	14
6.2	3	1	1	10	2	12
4.2	2	3	0	6	5	11
5.1	2	3	0	6	3	9
3.3	2	3	0	6	3	9
3.2	2	3	0	6	3	9
6.1	2	3	0	6	2	8
4.3	2	3	0	6	1	7
6.3	2	3	0	3	3	6
2.2	0	4	1	1	0	1
3.1	0	5	0	0	1	1
5.2	0	5	0	0	0	0

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.

EA SPORTS FC 24

After two decades of holding the official FIFA licence, EA Sports' phenomenally successful football video game series has embarked on a solo run at goal. This season's iteration marks the debut appearance of a new name and branding, but don't let those fool you – EA Sports FC 24 is still a very similar proposition to last year's FIFA 23. Popular features such as Ultimate Team remain a big focus, meaning that potentially costly in-game spending is still among the line-up of risks that parents and carers should be aware of.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

RECURRING RELEASES

EA Sports FC 24 effectively picks up the FIFA template – meaning that after a year, we can expect EA Sports FC 25 to hit the shelves. Updates between versions of the FIFA franchise tended to be minor, but young fans of the game are almost certain to want the new edition in around 12 months' time, so they can keep playing with updated team kits, players and squad lists.

OFFENSIVE VOICE CHAT

FFA 23 introduced cross-platform play, and EA Sports FC 24 goes a step further with Clubs, Seasons and Ultimate Team cooperative modes across PlayStation 5, Xbox Series X and S, and PC. That's exciting news for young gamers who love to play with friends online – but connecting a much wider audience does potentially open lines of communication between children and far older online gamers.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

In FIFA, Ultimate Team proved to be a profitable innovation for developers Electronic Arts (EA), and is now found in many of their other titles. Players spend in-game currency to recruit better footballers for their team, but this process can take a frustratingly long time – so young fans may be tempted to skip the grind by paying real-world cash to unlock that coveted star midfielder.

CONTROL SPENDING

If your child enjoys Ultimate Team mode, check that your payment details aren't linked to their account. Bundles of FC Points (the game's currency) start at just £1, so multiple payments can easily slip under the radar. You could consider setting your child an in-game allowance, perhaps through a prepaid card, which will help them to realise that online spending has a real-world effect.

DEFEND AGAINST SCAMMERS

EA does contact players via email (although not to ask for usernames or passwords, so watch out for that scam tactic), but never through the game itself – so be wary of incoming messages and consider blocking and reporting suspected spam. Your child should avoid buying coins (the in-game currency) from external sites it could end with them losing their money and being banned from the game.

AVOID EXTRA TIME

Many parents of young football-oriented gamers worry about their child playing too much EA Sports FC. There's now also a companion mobile app, which can also often provide another indicator that a child is struggling to disengage from the game. You could initiate discussions around set hours of play - or take stronger action by utilising the parental controls on their console or phone.

SHOW TOXIC CHAT THE RED CARD

Playing EA Sports FC 24 with friends is highly enjoyable, but if competitive types start to turn toxic online, it can ruin everyone's fun. You could occasionally listen in on the voice chat of your child's game for any warning signs that things may be about to boil over. This goes double when playing online with strangers: voice contact with unknown players can be turned off in the game's settings.

CELEBRATE THE VARIETY

Ultimate Team may be the game's 'star player', but there's plenty more to do in EA Sports FC 24 – including modes which allow access to all of football's big names without needing to spend money on packs to unlock them. This new version of the game includes even more women's teams, marking another step forward in representation, an important subject to discuss and celebrate with children.

Meet Our Expert

[illegible]

 **National
Online
Safety®**
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <http://www.bbc.com/news/health-2014-04-10>. Accessed 10 April 2014. For more on punishing predatory gamers, see <http://www.who.int/news-room>.

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Incentives

Early Years -



The Early Years class with the best attendance each week will be treated to a visit from Monty and his chocolate companions.

Individual Rewards -



100% attendance each term - a token to spend in the prize shop plus a certificate
97%+ attendance each term - a certificate

Improved attendance against the previous term - a token to spend in the prize shop

Class Rewards -



Key Stage One and Two winners of the half termly attendance tournament enjoy a day out at the park
100% attendance for the whole week - a special celebration breakfast in class

Meet the Team

Our Children's Champions are dedicated to promoting attendance throughout the school and ensuring that every child's voice is heard. They play a fantastic role in boosting attendance.



Our staff members are also here to lend a helping hand. Every adult at Monksdown has your child's best interests at heart. We are committed to working together with you to ensure your child attends school regularly. If you have any questions or concerns related to attendance, please don't hesitate to reach out to a member of our team. We are always here to assist and support you in any way we can.



We understand the importance of your child's attendance at school, and we believe it plays a crucial role in their growth and development.

There is a clear connection between regular attendance and academic progress, and we're committed to supporting your child's educational journey. We are here to collaborate with you to ensure your child can come to school regularly, enjoy learning, and spend quality time with their peers. Together, we can make a positive impact on their education.

Did you know?

175 NON SCHOOL DAYS		175 days to spend on family time, visits, hobbies, shopping, household jobs and other appointments.				
365 DAYS IN EACH YEAR	10 days absence	19 days absence	29 days absence	38 days absence	47 days absence	
180 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH YEAR	180 DAYS OF EDUCATION	179 DAYS OF EDUCATION	180 DAYS OF EDUCATION	172 DAYS OF EDUCATION	165 DAYS OF EDUCATION	
365 DAYS IN EACH YEAR	100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%
	GOOD Best chance of success, sets your child off to a flying start.	WORRYING Less chance of success, makes it harder to make progress.	SERIOUS CONCERN Not fair on your child.			

Good Attendance -

100% = 0 weeks learning missed
95% = 1 week 4 days learning missed

Poor Attendance -

90% = 3 weeks 4 days of learning missed
At this level of absence your child will be classed as a persistent absentee.
At this level of absence, the Education Welfare Officer (EWO) would be involved.
85% = 5 weeks 3 days of learning missed

If your child is absent from school for 1 week they would miss about 5 hours of Maths and 5 hours of English!

Our Approach to Attendance and Supportive Measures

According to legal requirements, schools must keep records of absences and the reasons for them. To ensure everything is in order, please reach out to us as soon as possible on the first day of your child's absence and provide a reason. The most convenient way to do this is through our StudyBugs App.

Alternatively, you are welcome to send us an email or give our school office a call.

Contact us at:

Email: monksdown-ao@monksdown.sch.uk

Phone: 0151 226 1606 (Option 1)

Remember, if no reason is given, it will result in an unauthorised absence mark for your child. We're here to assist you every step of the way!

- We believe in the importance of regular attendance and typically do not authorise absences without a valid reason.
- If we haven't received communication from you regarding your child's absence, you can expect a friendly phone call or text message from our team.
- Our attendance monitoring is diligent and if we notice any concerns with your child's attendance, we will reach out to you through a letter.
- In the event that attendance challenges persist, we'll kindly request a meeting with you to discuss how we can work together to support your child's attendance at school.
- If, despite our collective efforts, there is no improvement in attendance, we may need to involve the Education Welfare Officer (EWO) and this could potentially lead to legal action as a last resort. We aim to work collaboratively to prevent reaching this stage.

Punctuality

Please make sure your child arrives at school on time each day. Doors open at 8.50am ready for lessons to begin at 8.55 am.

Do you know how much learning children miss out on?

Minutes late per day	Equal days worth of
5 Minutes	3.4 Days
10 Minutes	6.9 Days
15 Minutes	10.3 Days
20 Minutes	13.8 Days
30 Minutes	20.7 Days

How can you help?

- Please make sure your child arrives on time, ready for a great day at school.
- It's a great idea to prepare packed lunches, school bags, and breakfast items the night before to start the day smoothly.
- Consider setting an alarm at a reasonable time to ensure you have enough time to get everyone up and ready in a relaxed and stress-free manner. Your child's mornings will thank you!



Monksdown Primary School

Where children come first

Chair of Governors:
Mr M. Reynolds
Headteacher:
Mrs J Price

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Email: Monksdown-ao@monksdown.liverpool.sch.uk Telephone: 0151 226 1606
Address: Monksdown Road, Norris Green, Liverpool, L11 1HH Twitter: @monksdownschool

Important Information about School Attendance

Thursday 7th September 2023

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/carer takes a child on holiday without prior permission from the school, the Local Authority may issue a **Penalty Notice of £120 per parent per child**, reduced to **£60 per parent per child** 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.

Kind Regards

Martin Reynolds
Chair of Governors

