



Monksdown Mail

Where Children Come First



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



Friday 6th October 2023

Good Mornin' Good Mornin' We'll Smile the Whole Day Through and Hope You Do Too!

Who wouldn't have a wonderful day when greeted each morning by our Year 6 House Captains? Meeting and greeting our families as they come to school each morning really does start the day in a positive way. Good job children!



You will also see this team of children organising our first parent - teacher meeting of this academic year. Your child should have brought a letter home today explaining the arrangements and asking you to request a preferred day and time. Meetings take place on **Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th October 3.15pm - 5.50 pm**. With the exception of :

Class 4.1 (Mr Corrigan) Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th October 3.15pm - 5.50 pm

Class 6.3 (Mrs Ferrigan) Tuesday 24th and Thursday 26th October 3.15 pm -5.50 pm

Food Glorious Food

Harvest celebrations this week were lead by Josh Keeley from Bethel Church. Josh always has the children gripped by his inspiring stories and interactive assemblies. His action packed and thought provoking stories bring biblical messages into the modern world.

Thank you so much for your generous donations of food for our Monksdown Pantry.

Year 6 children had the opportunity to attend an extremely thought provoking performance of "Reckless" at The Royal Court Theatre this week. This got them thinking, debating and questioning the actions people in today's society take.



Our Stars!

- ★ N: Esme McLoughlin
- ★ R.1: Frankie Rankin
- ★ R.2: Samuel Olusanjo
- ★ R.3: Kane Williams
- ★ 1.1: Kailen Stuart
- ★ 1.2: Alan Parzecki
- ★ 1.3: Oliver Krzewinski
- ★ 2.1: Noah Farron
- ★ 2.2: Nathan Murney
- ★ 2.3: Isaac Mills
- ★ 3.1: Freddie Aspinall
- ★ 3.2: Spencer Rowlands
- ★ 3.3: Wyatt Ryan-Keouski
- ★ 4.1: Isla O'Connell
- ★ 4.2: Jacob Loughlin
- ★ 4.3: Riley Lowndes-Nurse
- ★ 5.1: Merna Benesa
- ★ 5.2: Melanie Mucha
- ★ 5.3: Holly McArdle
- ★ 6.1: Mylie Meese
- ★ 6.2: Adrian Silwa
- ★ 6.3: Hallie Miller

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 10th October

Rock Kidz Years 3-6

Tea & Talk
9am—KS2 Hall

Wednesday 11th October

Rock Kidz Early Years and
Years 1 and 2

Cross Country Race 3
Stanley Park 3.15 pm

Let's Get Rocking With Rock Kidz !

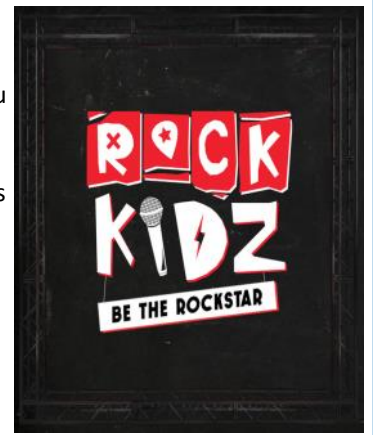
On the 10th and 11th of October, Rock Kidz will be coming to school. They are amazing, you might have seen them on Twitter/Facebook etc.

Their message is all about positive affirmations and believing in yourselves, they do this through rock battles, songs and dancing.

We are asking the children and staff to come to school dressed as a Rock Star on the following days:

Years 3 - 6 Tuesday the 10th

Nursery, Reception Year 1 and Year 2 on Wednesday 11th of October.



Downward Dog

Does that phrase mean anything to you? Our Well-being Warriors found out their bodies could bend and stretch into positions they didn't know existed. Whether it be Happy Baby, Mountain or Sphinx Pose our group of warriors felt the benefit of some time out of class to chillax! As you are aware one of our school priorities promote health and wellbeing. We believe yoga and mindfulness improve both physical and mental health. The staff have now received training in order to deliver these sessions to the children to allow them to redirect energy positively, helping them calm their minds and bodies especially during anxious times.

This group of children will be leading relaxation classes each Wednesday in the playground huts.



Take a Breadth of Fresh Air

A few snaps from the Clean Air Conference the Eco Club attended last Friday.

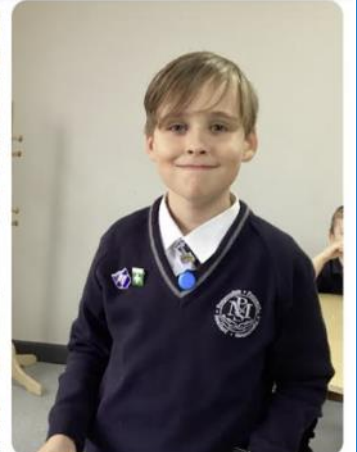


Year 6 classes ventured into the City Centre to watch Reckless – a play to raise awareness and support eradicating racism, hate and discrimination. After the show the children met the actors and representatives from the Anthony Walker foundation.



Breakfast at Tiffany's for 100% Attendance

Well Done to class 1.1 for all being in school and on time every day last week. A special breakfast organised by our Children's Attendance Champions was enjoyed by all. Class 3.3 will enjoy theirs next week as they also had 100 % attendance.



Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 10th October	Rock Kidz Years 3-6 50p donation
Wednesday 11th October	Rock Kidz Early Years, Years 1 and 2 50p donation Cross Country Race 3 Stanley Park 3.15 pm
Monday 16th October	Flu Vaccinations Nursery—Year 6 Cross Country Race 4 3pm-5pm Clarkes Gardens Recycle Week and Scarecrow Project
Tuesday 17th October	1.1 and 1.2 Martin Mere Trip
Wednesday 18th October	1.3 Martin Mere Trip LFC Foundation Sport in School
Thursday 19th October	Autumn Trail
Friday 20th October	LSFS Year 6 Boys' Trip 12:30pm—3:30pm Jeffrey Humble
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
Friday 10th November	LSFA Yr6 1:00pm Girls Cup Jeffrey Humble
Wednesday 15th November	9am ASD Training Team Coffee Morning
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 Information for Years 5 and 6

Our Year 6 children and families will soon be deciding which secondary school they would like to attend. This is a very important decision and you need to be fully informed about the criteria, choices and process.

Each individual school will have their own admissions policy and open evening. Please visit the websites where this information will be displayed.

It is vital that you attend the individual school's admission evenings with your child in order to help you make your choices.

Year 5 parents and children should also visit the schools as preparation may be needed during the coming year in order to support applications ,particularly for schools that are over subscribed or where an entrance exam is required.

We will be holding sessions on **Tuesday 17th October at 3.00 pm and Thursday 19th October at 3.00pm** to help families to complete the online application form. Please bring your child with you to the sessions as they can also ask any questions and be part of the process.

Please make the most of these sessions when we can also answer any questions you have.

Open Evenings - October 2023

Recommended submission date: Friday 20th October 2023

Closing date for applications: Tuesday 31st October 2023

Offer Date: Friday 1st March 2024

PE Days

In order to maximise PE session time we have decided it would be beneficial for our children to come to school wearing full PE kit—**navy blue shorts and white t shirt with school logo**—including training shoes or pumps. During the colder months a pair of plain jogging/tracksuit pants can be worn with our navy blue school jumper and of course an outdoor coat. Tracksuit bottoms must be **navy blue** with minimal amount of logos please.

This is optional, children may still come to school wearing a full uniform and get changed for PE during the school day if you wish.

School Uniform

Our school policy is that ALL children wear **black, sensible school shoes suitable for polishing**. Children should NOT wear training shoes for school even if they are black. If you are experiencing any difficulties with this matter, please speak to your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

Trainers may be brought into school for playtimes and lunchtimes if needed and worn on PE days if your child opts to wear PE kit to school on this day.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Head Lice

This is a gentle reminder to continue to check your child's hair for head lice and treat if necessary.
Thank you.

Attendance Tournament

Autumn Term 1 Week 4

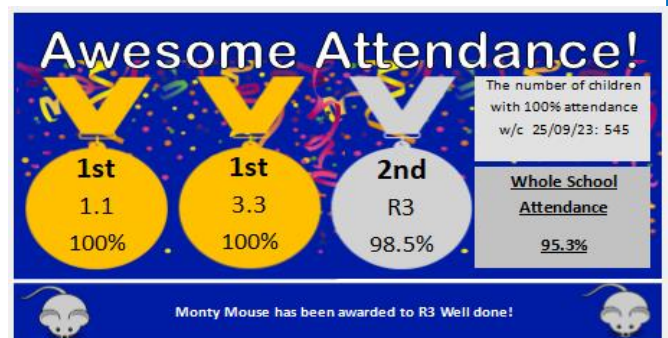


Monksdown Attendance Table

Class	Wins	Losses	Draws	Points	Bonus Points	Total
1.1	3	0	0	9	7	16
1.3	3	0	0	9	6	15
2.3	3	0	0	9	3	12
5.3	2	1	0	6	3	9
4.1	2	1	0	6	3	9
2.1	2	1	0	6	3	9
5.1	2	1	0	6	3	9
3.3	2	1	0	6	3	9
1.2	1	2	0	3	4	7
4.2	1	2	0	3	4	7
6.3	1	2	0	3	3	6
6.2	1	1	1	4	2	6
3.2	1	2	0	3	1	4
6.1	1	2	0	3	1	4
4.3	1	2	0	3	0	3
2.2	0	2	1	1	0	1
3.1	0	3	0	0	0	0
5.2	0	3	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.

Tea & Talk

Well-Being Warriors
would love parents/
carers to come to
'Tea & Talk' on Tuesday
at 9am in the KS2 hall.

TEA & TALK

Have a natter.
Raise money.
Change lives.



Hold a Tea & Talk and
raise funds to help us
create a world with good
mental health for all.



To order your free event pack:

Visit
mentalhealth.org.uk/tea-talk
Call 020 7803 1123

Good mental health for all.

Registered Charity No:
England 801130, Scotland SC059714,
Company Registration No. 2350846.



Join us for Tea & Talk

Have a natter.
Raise money.
Change lives.



Where:

In School

When:

Tuesday 10th October at 9am

Contact:

Pupil Well-Being Warriors

We're holding a Tea & Talk and raising funds to
help create a world with good mental health for all.

mentalhealth.org.uk/tea-talk



Good mental health for all.

Registered Charity No:
England 801130, Scotland SC059714,
Company Registration No. 2350846.



TEA & TALK

Mental Health Foundation



Have a natter.
Raise money.
Change lives.

Hold a Tea & Talk
and raise funds to
help us create a
world with good
mental health for all.

To order your free event pack:

Visit
mentalhealth.org.uk/tea-talk
Call 020 7803 1123

Good mental health for all.



Registered Charity No:
England 801130, Scotland SC059714,
Company Registration No. 2350846.



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

AMONG US

A multiplayer 'social deduction' game set in outer space, Among Us enjoyed a surge in popularity in 2020, and has since maintained a dedicated fan-base (globally, around 80 million regular players each month) thanks to its unique nature, simple premise and ease of access across numerous platforms. The game's on-screen action revolves around danger, disguise and deception – and there are certain parallels to be drawn with some of the real-life risks that parents and carers of young Among Us players need to be aware of.



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SENSITIVE PREMISE

In Among Us, up to three players are secretly assigned to be alien imposters, tasked with murdering their colleagues while the survivors try to unmask them. While the concept's not far removed from traditional games like Wink Murder or TV shows such as The Traitors, some parents may feel uncomfortable about their child playing a video game in which deception and killing are prioritised.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

The on-screen death of characters may be fundamental to the gameplay of Among Us, but the majority of the animations depicting this are deliberately cartoonish and only appear very briefly. However, it's worth bearing in mind that the game has a PEGI age rating of 7 – meaning that certain elements (however heavily stylised they may be) could still upset some younger players.

CHAT BETWEEN PLAYERS

With up to 15 people participating in each game online, a large part of Among Us' appeal is speculating with fellow players who the imposters might be and making accusations. This dialogue through the in-game text chat can occasionally become heated – and could, of course, involve your child being put into contact with people (including adults) who they don't know in real life.

GOING OFF PLATFORM

While Among Us provides basic ways to communicate, many gamers prefer to use external services such as Discord: a popular app which offers voice and video chat functions. These undeniably make cooperation easier, but also create a potential route for children to hear inappropriate language – or for strangers to message them privately in an environment which isn't regulated by the game itself.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

Among Us is free to download on mobile devices, and costs less than £5 to obtain on console and PC. A related longer-term pitfall, though, is that the game also includes options to pay for upgrades such as removing ads on the mobile version or adding cosmetic touches to characters (such as different costumes). It's certainly possible that a child could spend a significant sum without realising it.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONSIDER SOFTER ALTERNATIVES

Although Among Us is hugely popular with young gamers, it's possible that some children might find the murder themes unsettling. If so, plenty of similar social deduction games are available (in both digital and traditional board game formats) which downplay the potentially grislier elements: some centre around undercover spies, for instance, and there's even a Marvel superheroes-themed variant.

CHAT ABOUT CHATting

You might feel it's prudent to talk to your child about the risks associated with voice chat while gaming, explaining in particular that strangers online aren't always who they claim to be. Keeping the conversation relaxed will reinforce your child's confidence that they can always come to you with any online concerns – not just about Among Us, but any potential future issues as well.

DISCUSS DISCORD

In general, Discord is an excellent app for keeping online communities together because of its use of dedicated individual servers, which allow comprehensive control over who can join – and who can't. Once you're familiar with the platform, you could set up a secure server for your child and their friends to communicate during games of Among Us, with no access for people they don't know.

AMONG US, AMONG FRIENDS

When your child and their friends get together, they can enjoy a private game of Among Us by choosing a 'local' lobby – that is, only people connected to the same Wi-Fi (your home network, for example) can enter. This prevents any random online users – who may be total strangers – from joining and removes the need for voice chat, as the players are all physically in the same location.

STOP SURPRISE SPENDING

If you're concerned about the possibility of your child racking up an unexpected bill on Among Us' microtransactions, you could consider using a prepaid card with a set limit. Likewise, you could specify in the game's options that adult authorisation is required for every purchase – or you could make sure that no payment methods are enabled on the device that your child plays the game on.

Meet Our Expert

Daryl Cummings is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports at GO4Games and has worked in the gaming media for around ten years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new apps, he's also a parent who understands the value of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and games, his articles have been published on influential sites including EVO and Tech Radar.



NOS
National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

@nationalonline_safety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonline_safety

@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 04.10.2023

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
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

Website: www.monksdownprimary.co.uk Fax: 0151 256 6281
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



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
39						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