



Monksdown Mail

Where Children Come First

Friday 10th November

Designated Safeguarding Leads :



Mrs Russell Mrs
Dakin
Deputies-Mrs Price
and Mrs Stewart

Happy Retirement Mrs Hayes

On Friday we held a special assembly to say goodbye to a much loved member of staff. Mrs Hayes has worked at Monksdown for 25 years and her talents, kindness and dedication to the children during this time has been very much appreciated. We wish Mrs Hayes a long, happy retirement.



Revolting Children

Year 4 had a good sing along when they visited The Light Cinema in New Brighton to watch Matilda the Musical.

Here are their views:

"I liked the song 'Sometimes you have to be a little bit Naughty' "

"The thing I liked about Matilda was that we had our own seats and we got to sing along with the music. The song I liked was 'Revolting' at the end with all the chockeys and when Mrs Trunchball got thrown out of the school"

"I really enjoyed the trip to see the musical of Matilda because it was fun to watch and very exciting because that was the first ever time I went to a cinema and Matilda is my favourite film"

"What I liked about the Matilda musical the most was the song 'Sometimes you have to be naughty', because it was so good"

"From the Matilda trip I enjoyed the lighting and scenery, I also liked everything that I saw on the way there like the river and beautiful nature. I also liked the songs and stories Matilda sung and told. I loved everything about the Matilda musical trip.



Our Stars!

- ★ N: Poppi Wakefield - Taylor
- ★ R.1: Meera Amer
- ★ R.2: Rosie-Mae Statham
- ★ R.3: Enzo Davies
- ★ 1.1: Mitchell Williams
- ★ 1.2: Amelia Szydlowska
- ★ 1.3: Iris Dwyer
- ★ 2.1: Daren Albukhari
- ★ 2.2: George Maines
- ★ 2.3: Jessica Hoos
- ★ 3.1: Sophia Henderson
- ★ 3.2: Leo Kenwright
- ★ 3.3: Alexander Lin
- ★ 4.1: Regan O'Brien
- ★ 4.2: Michael McNally
- ★ 4.3: Lyla Jay Turner
- ★ 5.1: Mayah Aadum
- ★ 5.2: Alex Luga
- ★ 5.3: Glory Babalola
- ★ 6.1: Annabelle Lockley
- ★ 6.2: Xiao Chen Kuang
- ★ 6.3: Nelly Wu

Next Week
Anti Bullying Week

Wednesday 15th
November

9am—ASD Coffee
Morning

Classes 3.1 and 5.2
Everyman Cinema and
World Museum trip

Thursday 16th November

Classes 5.1 and 5.2
Everyman Cinema and
World Museum trip

Friday 17th November

Children in Need— spots,
yellow or Pudsey

An enORMEously good time

On Tuesday, Year 6 enjoyed a trip to Llandudno as the finale to their geography topic. Packed lunches were devoured at the end of the pier before a pleasant but blustery walk part way up the Great Orme. Here everyone soaked up the amazing view across Llandudno Bay and spotted many of the physical and human geographical features studied in class. The children then ventured into the town centre and used questionnaires to find out where people had travelled from and why.



Please can you help support our Christmas Fayre ?



Non-Uniform Days

We will be holding three Non-Uniform Days and ask your child to contribute different donations each week.

Friday 24th November – Toiletries – Any (unused) toiletries e.g. shower gel, bubble, bath, deodorant etc.

Friday 1st December – Something Chocolatey ...

Friday 8th December – Bring a bottle– sauce, soft drinks, alcohol (please bring all glass bottles straight to the school office)



Raffle Prizes

If you, or anybody you know, could donate any prizes for our raffle it would be greatly appreciated – please send in any information of what you can offer before next Friday so we can begin to advertise the wonderful prizes which will be on offer!

Stalls

If you, or somebody you know, would like a stall at the fair to sell any homemade produce, we will have a limited number of stalls available. The cost of a stall will be £20, please send information of your stall to your child's teacher by next Friday (17th November) and we will inform you as soon as we can if we can accommodate your stall.

We hope this will be a fantastic day, so as much support as possible would be greatly appreciated.

Children in Need



On Friday 17th November we will be celebrating Children in Need in school.

Children may wear something yellow, spotty or Pudsey themed to school that day for a small donation to this charity.



Health and Safety Notice

Whole grapes are considered a choking risk for young children. If your child brings grapes into school as part of their packed lunch or snack please can you ensure they are cut into halves.

Thank you

Christmas Fayre

At Monksdown Primary School



Saturday 9th December 2023 at 11am

Santa, Stalls, Snacks and lots more...



Dates for your Diary

Thursday 16th November	Year 4 Pop Up Club—Christmas Focaccia—Invitation Only 3pm—4:30pm
Friday 17th November	Year 5 Pop Up Club—Christmas Tree Garlic Bread—Invitation Only 3pm—4:30pm
Thursday 23rd November	Taste Film Year 3—American Night—3:15pm—5pm
Friday 24th November	Year 6 Pop Up Club —Apple Stollen—Invitation Only—3pm—4:30pm
Thursday 30th November	Year 1 Pop Up Club — Gingerbread Workshop—Invitation Only 3pm—4:30pm
Friday 1st December	Year 3 Pop Up Club— Linzer Cookies—Invitation Only 3pm—4:30pm
Friday 8th December	Reception and KS1 Panto 'Treasure Island' Year 4 Pop Up Club—Christmas Shortbreads—Invitation Only 3pm—4:30pm
Saturday 9th December	Christmas Fayre 11am
Tuesday 12th December	Y3 and Y4 Christmas Carols — Parents Invited 2pm Reception and KS1 Christmas Dinner —Wear your Christmas Jumper R1 Christmas Crafts and Carols 1:30pm Parents Invited
Wednesday 13th December	R3 Christmas Crafts and Carols 1:30pm Parents Invited Year 2 Pop Up Club—Chocolate Bark and Christmas Wands Invitation Only 3pm—4:30pm Y2 Christmas Play 10am Y1 Christmas Play 2pm KS2 Christmas Dinner —Wear your Christmas Jumper
Thursday 14th December	R2 Christmas Crafts and Carols 1:30pm Parents Invited Y1 Christmas Play 10am Y2 Christmas Play 2pm
Friday 15th December	Y5 and Y6 Christmas Carols — 2pm Parents Invited
Monday 18th December	Y5 and Y6 Party Day—Christmas Party Lunch—Party Clothes
Tuesday 19th December	Y3 and Y4 Party Day Christmas Party Lunch—Party Clothes
Wednesday 20th December	Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2 Party Day—Christmas Party Lunch—Party Clothes
Thursday 21st December	Children break up at 2pm.

Attendance Tournament



Autumn Term 2 Week 1

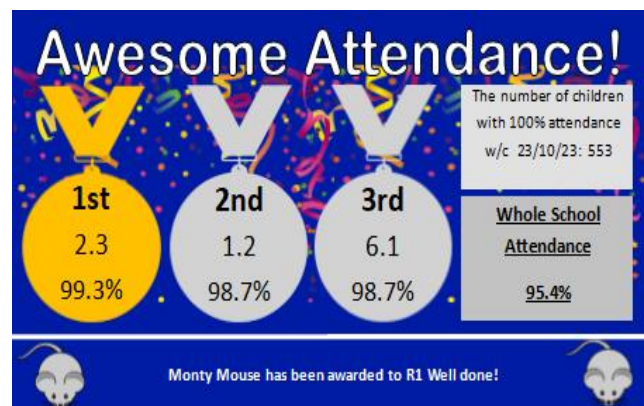
Monksdown Attendance Table

Class	Wins	Losses	Draws	Points	Bonus Points	Total
1.1	5	2	0	15	11	26
2.1	6	1	0	18	8	26
2.3	6	1	0	18	7	25
4.1	5	2	0	15	9	24
5.3	5	2	0	15	7	22
1.2	4	3	0	12	9	21
1.3	4	3	0	12	7	19
3.2	4	3	0	12	5	17
4.2	3	4	0	9	7	16
5.1	3	4	0	9	5	14
3.3	3	4	0	9	4	13
6.1	3	4	0	9	4	13
6.2	3	3	1	10	2	12
5.2	2	5	0	6	2	8
4.3	2	5	0	6	1	7
2.2	1	5	1	4	2	6
6.3	2	5	0	3	3	6
3.1	1	6	0	3	2	5

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

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

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



Well done to Class 1.1

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MICROTRANSACTIONS

Microtransactions (often abbreviated as "MTX") are digital purchases made within an app or game to unlock extra features or additional content such as new levels. A popular sub-set of these are loot boxes, which contain a selection (usually random) of virtual items: from character skins to game-changing equipment like better weapons. Microtransactions (and loot boxes in particular) are now widespread in apps and games, but concerns persist that they normalise gambling and can foster addictive behaviours – especially among younger players.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GATEWAY TO GAMBLING?

Microtransactions have been criticised for promoting gambling-adjacent behaviour in children. Research has also suggested that exposure to the loot box system could affect the likelihood of a young person suffering gambling harms later in life: children who purchased or used loot boxes in the last 12 months were found to be more likely to have gambled during the same period, as well.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Microtransactions (and loot boxes especially) could lead to young people displaying compulsive behaviour. Loot boxes are designed to be addictive, and the sought-after prizes they contain are dispensed at random. This means that young gamers might not get what they want straight away, causing them to spend more money as well as additional time gaming.

PAYING TO WIN

In many popular games (the FIFA series being a notable example), microtransactions make it far easier to succeed – which is a concern because children can often find it difficult to keep track of their spending. Once a child starts making in-game purchases, they may continue buying to keep up with their friends and other players – sometimes without recognising the mounting real-world cost.

EXCLUSIVE CONTENT

DATA COLLECTION

To allow a young person to complete microtransactions, many app and game developers collect personal data such as their name, address, email, geolocation information, photos, payment details and so on. Even if this data remains secure (which is by no means guaranteed), there's always the chance that it will be used – and possibly sold on to third parties – for marketing purposes.

AFFECTING DAILY ROUTINE

Online games tend to revolve around repeated loops of activity that can affect purchasing decisions and potentially influence children's spending patterns. This could lead to your child not only handing over more money but also adjusting their daily routine to match the game's schedule – potentially impacting more important elements of their day, such as homework and family time.

SATELLITE SPENDING

If you've linked a payment method like a debit card or a PayPal account to your child's game or app, it's wise to keep a close eye on their microtransactions to ensure they aren't racking up a large bill, letting a child have access to your card (if they're still too young to have their own) or other means of payment could also lead to them spending beyond the apps and games they normally use.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DO YOUR RESEARCH

It's important to have a serviceable idea of whether the games your child plays use the loot box system (even if it goes by a different name) or include the option of buying items, equipment and so forth. If so, it's crucial to help your child understand that this costs actual money, and that they shouldn't feel pressured into making any purchases.

CHAT ABOUT 'CHANCE'

It may help to explain to your child that many microtransactions involve an element of chance: they could pay money and still not get what they want in return. Emphasise that – while not usually costing much individually – these in-app and in-game purchases can soon add up. Talk to your child about how spending their money in a game or app means they have less to use in the real world.

(GIFT) CARDS ON THE TABLE

Investing in an in-game currency gift card can be a useful way of helping your child get to grips with budgeting. If you buy, say, a £10 V-Bucks Fortnite gift card, monitor how long it takes them to spend it. When they come to you asking for more, you could make it the starting point for a conversation about how quickly that money went and how they could earn their next gift card.

STOP SPENDING AT SOURCE

You might decide that the wisest strategy is to remove the potential for spending money on microtransactions. If so, most games, apps and devices have options in their settings to help you manage what your child can spend – or to disable that function altogether, preventing them from buying additional items for their games or boosted functionality for certain apps.

WATCH FOR THE SIGNS

If you're worried that your child's passion for a particular game or app may tempt them into habitual spending on microtransactions, it's important to remember the indicators of addictive behaviour. Irritability, a lack of concentration and prioritising recreational screen time ahead of homework or mealtimes could all be signs that you need to have a conversation about a more balanced routine.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Rogers is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of over three decades in the industry. Previous to her editor of technology for the popular, Carly's now a freelance technology journalist, writer and consultant.



National
Online
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

@nationalonline_safety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonline_safety

@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No Safety is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 06.11.2023

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	
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



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
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	