



Monksdown Mail

Where Children Come First

Friday 24th November

Designated Safeguarding Leads :



Mrs Russell Mrs Dakin
Deputies-Mrs Price and Mrs Stewart

Takeover Day

It was World Children's Day on Monday and we set our Year 6 children the task of taking over part of the staff roles and responsibilities. I can't explain how proud I am of every single one of them! They rose to the challenge and showed, yet again, how strong and talented the children of Monksdown are. Delivering lessons about children's rights displayed their compassion, understanding and vision. The children described it as their best day ever and while they thoroughly enjoyed it not one of them expressed the desire to become teachers any time soon!



Our Stars!

- ★ N: Jasper-Samuel Highton
- ★ R.1: Mia Zhen
- ★ R.2: Danil Mahmoud
- ★ R.3: Aurora Lomas
- ★ 1.1: Corey Charlesworth
- ★ 1.2: Talia Ghazi
- ★ 1.3: Florence Davies
- ★ 2.1: Raitis Grinvalds
- ★ 2.2: Matilda Brearley
- ★ 2.3: Logan Barrow
- ★ 3.1: Franky Briscoe
- ★ 3.2: Anthony Jennings
- ★ 3.3: Ashton Ratchford
- ★ 4.1: Jewel Azubuike
- ★ 4.2: Jack Chen
- ★ 4.3: Arda Kahraman
- ★ 5.1: Piper Bamber
- ★ 5.2: Nevaeh McGivern
- ★ 5.3: Bernardo Rocon
- ★ 6.1: Nicole Wlasiuk
- ★ 6.2: Nicholas McKay
- ★ 6.3: Max Madine

Next Week

Wednesday 29th November
2.1 Trip Maritime Museum

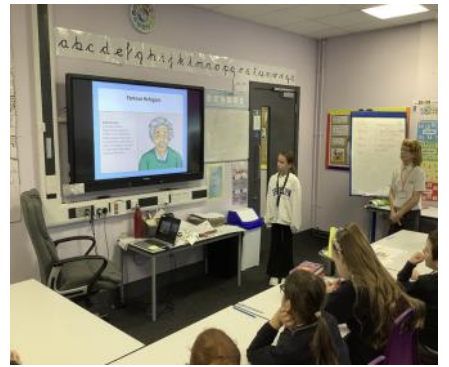
Thursday 30th November
3pm
KS1 Phonics Workshop
KS1 Hall

Year 1 Gingerbread Workshop—Invite Only

Friday 1st December
Flu Vaccine Catch Up

Non Uniform Day - Bring Chocolate

Year 3 Linzer Cookies Workshop - Invite only



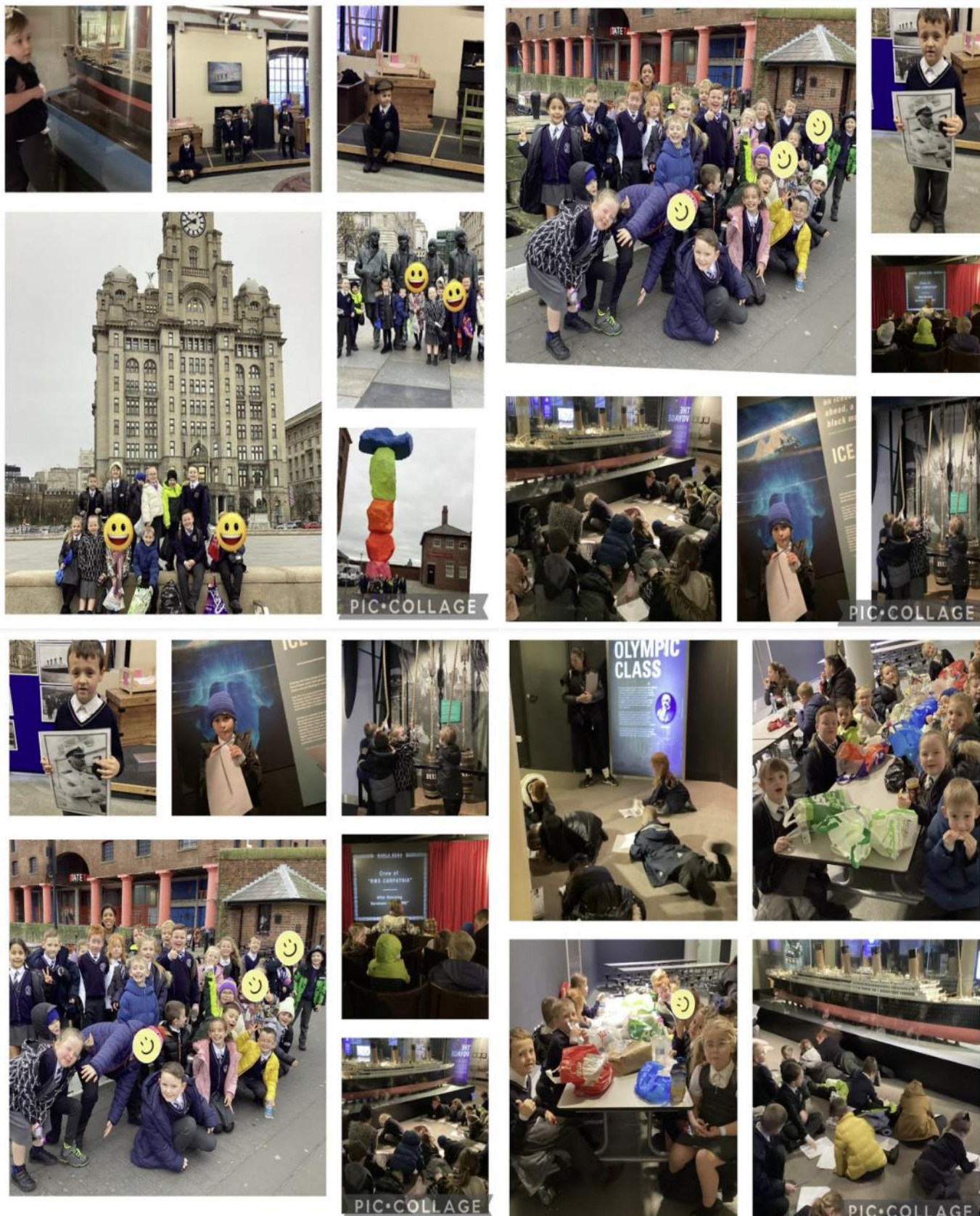
LonDONE us proud

The School Council had a wonderful time visiting the capital city. The day was spent exploring and seeing the sights. Highlights were The Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace and a tour of The Houses of Parliament. The children were in awe of the people who had walked the corridors they were actually standing in, the decisions that had been made and the history that had taken place. The group were invited to sit in the House of Commons and listened to a debate. Unbelievably, it was the very campaign we, as a school, have been driving, 'Free School Meals For All'. It was such a wonderful trip with so many laughs and memories made. Mrs Price, Mrs Ferrigan and Mrs Daly were so proud of all of the children .



All aboard

Year Two classes have been out and about in our wonderful city this week. A trip to the Maritime Museum discovering Liverpool's seafaring past and sea life. The compelling exhibition allowed the children to explore Liverpool's central role in the Titanic story.



Educate

We made it into National Education Union magazine this week. Take a read for yourselves.



Monksdown pupils at Labour Party conference in Liverpool with MPs Ian Byrne and Kim Johnson

Star letter

Superhero pupils take free school meals message to TV's This Morning

OUR names are Mia, Helena and Nelly and we are year 6 pupils at Monksdown Primary School in Liverpool. We have been supporting the NEU's free school meals (FSM) for all campaign.

You may think that we are from just a normal school, but it is full of children who have superpowers and can change the world. Free school meals are important to families at our school and we have done several things over the past few months to support the FSM campaign.

We filled a book with hundreds of letters addressed to Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, trying to persuade him to allow all children to have free school meals, and it was delivered to number 10 Downing Street. Over the next few days our teachers were on radio stations talking about our letters. We felt important and proud that we had done this and that we had made people listen to something that was so important.

In July we held a protest in our school playground and everybody – from reception to year 6 – came out onto the playground to sing about what we wanted. Parents came, our MP, our local newspaper the Liverpool Echo and people who worked with our school. We then saw pictures of ourselves chanting in the Echo, on some TV stations and on Twitter.

Following our protest, some of the children and staff were invited to go on the TV show This Morning and be interviewed. We all watched, and we were just so shocked that everybody was interested in what we were saying, that we had a voice, and that we were able to stand up for what we believe is right.

As a school we were told about the Labour Party coming to Liverpool. We have studied democracy and the rule of law in school and so we know that if a new election happens Labour might come into power. So we went to stand outside the Labour Party conference and hand out leaflets and talk to the MPs to tell them how important FSM for all is.

We are extremely proud of our school and of what we have achieved in a few months. We have learnt that we all have a voice and that you are never too young to change things. If we stand together and work with each other to put our message across then maybe we will change the world.

Our teachers always tell us to respectfully share our opinions and our thoughts, and that what we have to say is important. We have seen the power our voices have and we personally think that no matter how big or small you are we can all change the world for good.

We will continue to stand with our local MP Ian Byrne and other organisations to try to get free school meals for all, to ensure that all children are well fed and that nobody has an empty belly.

Mia Smith, Helena Piekarek and Nelly Wu, Monksdown Primary School, Liverpool

The editor writes: Well done, you should all be very proud of yourselves.

■ See page 9 for more on child poverty

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 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.

Important Information

Online application forms for Reception places for September 2024 must be completed by **Monday 15th January**. If your child was born between the 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 you must complete the online form. Please note even if your child currently attends our nursery you must also complete the form. Please visit www.liverpoolcitycouncil.gov.uk.



Fundraising

Grand total for our recent charity events:

Danceathon £1726.07

Children in Need £350.46

Thank you for your generosity.

Tea and Talk

Thank you to all those who attended the latest Tea and Talk session. The next session will take place on Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 9am. A MHST Practitioner will be available to help with referrals for anxiety or worries.

Christmas Fayre

At Monksdown Primary School



Saturday 9th December 2023 at 11am

Join us for:

Real Reindeer

Meet Santa

Make reindeer food

Design and make your own bauble

Lots of food and drink

Festive fun and games including:

- *Tombolas*
- *Elf off the shelf*
- *Splat the Elf*
- *Antler Hoopla*

**All children must be
accompanied by an
adult**



Dates for your Diary

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
Tuesday 5th December	Nursery Stay & Play 10:15am—11:30am Reception and KS1 Panto 'Treasure Island'
Wednesday 6th December	R1 Christmas Crafts and Carols 1:30pm Parents/Carers Invited
Thursday 7th December	R2 Christmas Crafts and Carols 10am—11:30am Parents/Carers Invited R3 Christmas Crafts and Carols 1:30pm Parents/Carers Invited
Friday 8th December	Year 4 Pop Up Club—Christmas Shortbreads—Invitation Only 3pm—4:30pm
Saturday 9th December	Christmas Fayre 11am
Tuesday 12th December	Y3 10am Y4 2pm Christmas Carols — Parents/Carers Invited Reception and KS1 Christmas Dinner —Wear your Christmas Jumper
Wednesday 13th December	Year 2 Pop Up Club—Chocolate Bark and Christmas Wands Invitation Only 3pm—4:30pm Y2 Christmas Play 10am Parents/Carers Invited Y1 Christmas Concert 2pm Parents/Carers Invited KS2 Christmas Dinner —Wear your Christmas Jumper
Thursday 14th December	Y1 Christmas Concert 10am Parents/Carers Invited Y2 Christmas Play 2pm Parents/Carers Invited
Friday 15th December	Y5 10am Y6 2pm Christmas Carols — Parents/Carers 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 2



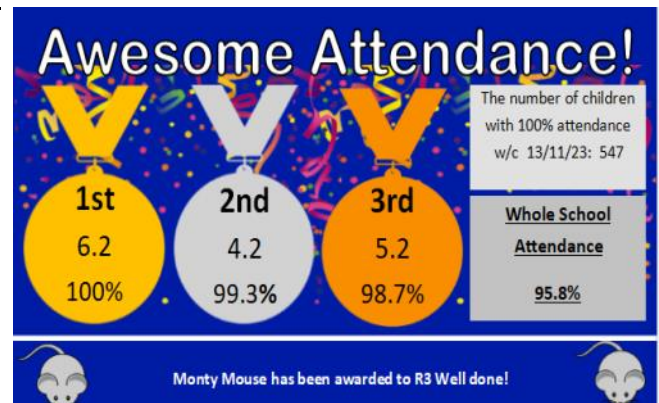
Monksdown Attendance Table

Class	Wins	Losses	Draws	Points	Bonus Points	Total
6.2	2	0	0	6	6	12
1.2	2	0	0	6	2	8
1.3	2	0	0	6	2	8
3.3	2	0	0	6	1	7
3.1	2	0	0	6	0	6
5.3	2	0	0	6	0	6
5.2	1	1	0	3	2	5
5.1	1	1	0	3	1	4
1.1	0	2	0	0	3	3
2.1	1	1	0	3	0	3
4.2	0	2	0	0	3	3
4.3	1	1	0	3	0	3
2.3	0	2	0	0	2	2
3.2	0	2	0	0	2	2
4.1	0	2	0	0	2	2
6.3	0	2	0	0	1	1
6.1	0	2	0	0	1	1
2.2	0	2	0	0	0	0

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



Top Tips for Safer Online Shopping on

BLACK FRIDAY AND CYBER MONDAY

Black Friday and Cyber Monday have become established as two of the year's biggest shopping events, giving consumers the opportunity to snap up a stash of stunning bargains. While this is generally good news, of course, the resultant retail frenzy can lead to people dropping their guard – especially online. In previous years, a seasonal surge in cyber-crime has seen schemes such as phishing emails and credit card scams being unleashed on unwary buyers. Our guide has some essential pointers on keeping your details – and your money – safe while you shop.

ENSURE A SITE'S SECURE

Before inputting sensitive information (like your card details) into a website, check that the site's secure. The key thing is to look for a padlock symbol in the address bar and check that the URL begins with "https://" – the "s" indicates that the web address has been encrypted with an SSL certificate. Without that, any data entered on the site could be intercepted by criminal third parties.

TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS

If a deal seems too good to be true, then it probably is. Be especially wary if a site offering unbelievable discounts doesn't look professional (for example, if it's covered with pop-up adverts or it looks particularly outdated) – this often serves as a red flag that the seller might not be entirely trustworthy. Minimise risk by sticking with well-known, reputable retailers instead.

REVIEW BANK STATEMENTS

Even if you've followed all our tips, it's probably worth checking your next bank statement for any unusual transactions. Criminals know that on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, lots of people make numerous purchases online; they're hoping that any stolen money will get lost in the crowd of other transactions. If you see a payment or payee you can't identify, raise it with your bank straight away.

BEWARE OF SUSPICIOUS EMAILS

Black Friday and Cyber Monday often bring a significant spike in phishing emails, as criminals use the events' sense of urgency as cover for stealing personal information. Even if they look legitimate, be wary of emails requesting you to do something unusual or suspicious: providing your personal details in exchange for access to last-minute deals, for example, or clicking on a link to an unfamiliar site.

CHECK IT'S THE REAL DEAL

It's not just cybercriminals you need to be wary of. Research has shown that some online retailers increase the price of certain items in the weeks before Black Friday and Cyber Monday – enabling them to then advertise "discounts" (which, in reality, have simply restored the cost to normal levels). Use an online price comparison tool to verify whether these "reductions" truly equate to a saving.

MINIMISE MICROTRANSACTIONS

Black Friday and Cyber Monday promotions extend to digital items as well as physical ones. Some gaming companies will offer discounts on in-app and in-game microtransactions such as loot boxes. If you're concerned about how much your child might spend on these upgrades, you can restrict their ability to make purchases (via their device's settings) or remove any linked payment methods.

SET STURDY PASSWORDS

A strong, unique password is one of the most straightforward ways to protect yourself from cyber-crime. As most of us have multiple online shopping accounts, it can be tempting to use the same password for them all – but this puts your personal data at greater risk. You could try using a password manager to create a different, robust password for each online retailer that you visit.

DITCH THE DEBIT CARD

Where possible, it's safest to shop online with a credit card (as opposed to a debit card) because it offers additional protection. If a purchase is made fraudulently on your credit card, there's a fair chance of your bank reimbursing you. Should criminals obtain your debit card details, however, they could empty your account in moments – and it can be difficult to recover your money.

RESIST THE INFLUENCE

Recommendations from social media influencers are another thing to remain vigilant for on Black Friday and Cyber Monday. While many of these will be legitimate, remember that influencers are often paid to promote products – and to publicise deals that aren't quite as amazing as they might seem. Don't feel pressured into buying purely on their advice; look at everything with a critical eye.

TAKE CARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media scammers are more active on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, as they know people are hunting for deals online. These scammers tend to concentrate on platforms such as Facebook and Instagram, posting malicious links that can compromise shoppers' personal details. Other scammers, meanwhile, falsely advertise products in an attempt to trick users out of their hard-earned cash.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Hays is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously a member of TechRadar's editorial team, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and researcher.



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

@nationalonline_safety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonline_safety

@national_online_safety

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MEASLES

Don't let your child catch it

– get them vaccinated with the MMR vaccine

The number of young people catching measles has risen. It's never too late to be vaccinated. You need two doses of MMR one month apart to be fully protected against measles, mumps and rubella.

It's time to make measles a disease of the past.

If you have symptoms of measles, stay at home and phone your GP or NHS 111 for advice. **STAY AWAY** from GP surgeries and A&E departments – you could spread the illness to others.

Measles symptoms include: high fever; sore, red, watery eyes; coughing; aching and feeling generally unwell; a blotchy red brown rash, which usually appears after the initial symptoms.



UK Health
Security
Agency

NHS

Starting nursery?

When your child starts nursery they will be learning and playing with more children. If they are not up to date with their jabs, they could be at risk of catching preventable diseases.



Check their personal health record (Red Book) and contact their GP surgery to ensure your child has had all their routine vaccinations. To get the best protection for your child, they need to have had two doses of MMR vaccine and be up to date with all their routine vaccinations.

For a full checklist of all the vaccines and the ages at which they should ideally be given visit:

www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations

Scan here: MMR for all leaflet



qrco.de/MMRFORALL

immunisation

Helping to protect everyone at every age

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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.			
100% attendance	95% attendance	90% attendance	85% attendance	80% attendance	75% attendance
180 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH YEAR	160 DAYS OF EDUCATION	135 DAYS OF EDUCATION	110 DAYS OF EDUCATION	85 DAYS OF EDUCATION	60 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



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
6					1	2	3
7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10	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	