



# Monksdown Mail

Where Children Come First

Friday 15th December

Designated Safeguarding Leads :



Mrs Russell Mrs  
Dakin  
Deputies-Mrs Price  
and Mrs Stewart

## Merry Christmas

Dear Families of Monksdown,

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas from the whole team. However you are spending the holiday we hope it is filled with love, laughter and lasting memories.

Autumn term has been packed with activities, celebrations, charity events visitors to school, educational visits and of course we had our Ofsted inspection. This has all been in addition to the staff and children working extremely hard covering the National Curriculum and ensuring the very best opportunities for learning are taking place each and every day.

One highlight of the year has to be the amazing Christmas productions performed by the children and watched by so many parents, carers, family and friends. It was wonderful to see the confidence in our children and the smiles on their faces.



Thank you to those of you who attended the Christmas Fayre. The excitement of the games, the smell of the food, the cheeriness of Santa, the wonder of the reindeer and the warmth of your company all combined to make a great atmosphere and a special day. Thanks to the staff for giving up their time to make the day such a success and especially to Mr Allen for coordinating the whole event.



Our fabulous kitchen staff served Christmas lunch to over 500 children and staff this week and there was certainly plenty of tasty treats to go round. I struggle serving up to a family of 4! It was not just the turkey that was stuffed!

Next week we have our special party day celebrations and attendance reward assemblies and will finish at **2pm on Thursday 21st December** ready for a well deserved rest.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Warmest regards

Mrs Price



## Our Stars!

- ★ N: Nova Dainty
- ★ R.1: Ayesha Diab
- ★ R.2: Lillie Shrimpton
- ★ R.3: Colin Lomas
- ★ 1.1: Olivia-Grace Bonner
- ★ 1.2: Lucas Devine
- ★ 1.3: Bui Wong
- ★ 2.1: Harlow Hughes
- ★ 2.2: Layla McRoberts
- ★ 2.3: Armita Timareh
- ★ 3.1: Olivia Themistokolopoulos
- ★ 3.2: William Mahmoud
- ★ 3.3: Sydney Wright
- ★ 4.1: Ruby-Leigh Carney
- ★ 4.2: Xuan Gao
- ★ 4.3: Isabella Highton
- ★ 5.1: Victor Chelkowski
- ★ 5.2: Ahmed Tannerah
- ★ 5.3: Madison Irvine
- ★ 6.1: Mariam Diab
- ★ 6.2: Mohammed Virani
- ★ 6.3: Isla Timmins

## Important Dates

**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.

**All children return to  
school Monday 8th  
January.**



## Thank you and Goodbye

Next week we say goodbye to our much loved staff members, Mr Swanson, Mrs Williams and Mrs McGlinchey. We wish them every success in their future endeavours.

### Community Spirit

Year 2 walking club ended the half term with a trip to West Derby Neighbourhood Church for some hot chocolate, a Christmas singalong and Christmas dance off!



### 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 <https://liverpool.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-admissions/>

*Class of*  
**2024**

# Attendance Tournament



## Autumn Term 2 Week 5

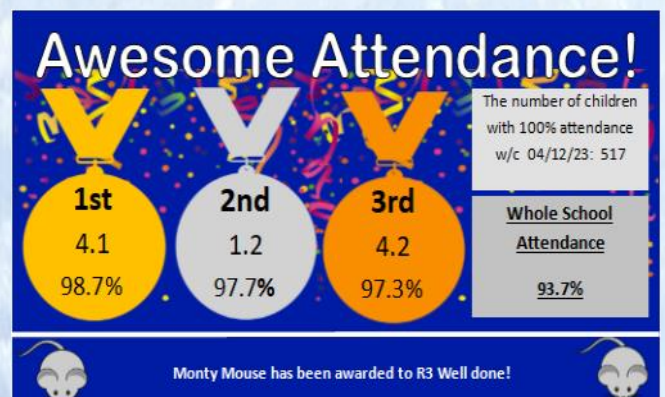
**Monksdown Attendance Table**

Class	Wins	Losses	Draws	Points	Bonus Points	Total
1.1	5	0	0	15	6	21
6.2	4	0	0	12	8	20
4.1	4	0	0	12	4	16
4.2	4	0	0	12	1	13
2.2	4	0	0	12	0	12
2.1	3	0	0	9	2	11
1.2	3	1	0	9	2	11
6.1	2	1	0	6	4	10
2.3	3	0	0	9	1	10
4.3	2	1	0	6	3	9
3.3	2	1	0	6	3	9
1.3	0	1	0	0	8	8
3.2	2	0	0	6	2	8
5.2	2	1	0	6	2	8
6.3	2	1	0	6	2	8
5.3	2	1	0	6	0	6
5.1	1	0	0	3	2	5
3.1	0	1	0	0	3	3

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





# 12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like pinging phone notifications, the lure of games consoles and online Boxing Day sales, that can be more difficult than it sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season ... Yule be glad you did! Merry Christmas!

## CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

Get out the paper, glue and scissors and have a go at hand-making cards or gift tags. You could also create your own decorations to add a uniquely personal touch to the Christmas tree.

## NATURE QUEST

Try a scavenger hunt in the garden or your local park. Challenge yourself and your family to find natural treasures that are symbols of this time of year – like holly or pinecones, say.

## CAROL KARAOKE

Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol karaoke night. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.

## WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE

How about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmases gone by? Unleash your creativity while you enjoy reliving those magical holiday moments.

## TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALLING

Get down your thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday in a notebook or diary – you could also list some of your main goals for the new year.

## WRAP IT UP

Take time to get inventive with some luxurious gift wrapping. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons and bows to make parceling up those presents into a creative adventure.

## WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Delight in the great outdoors with some gentle walks over the holiday. The family can all wrap up warm as you add to your step count and savour the crisp winter air together.

## BE A SEASONAL CHEF

Get the whole family working together in the kitchen for some Christmas cooking. Choose a recipe and whip up a festive feast that all of you can enjoy.

## ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY

Christmas is a perfect time for sparkling stories. Get cosy and lose yourself in a brilliant book, from Dickens to Dr Seuss or a more modern favourite by Chris van Allsburg or Tom Fletcher.

## SNOWY SCULPTURES

If we're fortunate enough to get a white Christmas this year, make the most of the opportunity by having a family snowman-building competition!

## GAMES NIGHT GALA

Dive into some old-school fun with a tech-free games night. Classic board games and card games have stood the test of time for a reason!

## GOODWILL TO ALL

You and your family could spend a day volunteering – perhaps at a food bank or helping a local charity. After all, kindness and thinking of others are part of what Christmas is all about.

## Meet Our Expert

Melissa Atwood designs and delivers the UK's only specialist programme for young women's qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering young leaders and equipping them with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of people and personal is prioritised.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



The Liverpool ASD Training Team are providing a series of virtual drop-in advisory sessions via zoom. They are for parent/carers wishing to talk in a private one to one setting or in a group setting about any questions or concerns they may have about their child. You do not require a diagnosis of ASD to book your place.

## Date and time for 1:1 session

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023

9.30– 10.15
10.30 – 11.15
11.30 – 12.15
1.00 – 1.45
2.00 – 2.45

## Date and time for Group Q & A session

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Time 9.30am – 11.00am

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024







Time 1pm – 2.30pm

To book your place please email your choice of date and time and you will be emailed a zoom link.

[asdtrainingteam@liverpool.gov.uk](mailto:asdtrainingteam@liverpool.gov.uk)

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Clubmoor Children's Centre, Utting Avenue  
East, L11 1DQ, to book a session please call  
01512338500


Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday/Friday
<p><b>Sleep Course Training - 2 week course</b> <b>Please contact the centre for a space on the next course.</b> Talking about the importance of sleep and top tips to help your little one sleep through the night! *Please call to book a place* </p> <hr/> <p><b>Tiny Tasters - 6 weeks course - 1.30pm - 2.30pm</b> starting 8th January 2024 Join our healthy food programme with your child and learn together to make healthy for children 10months to 4 years, prepare and make recipes to taste and enjoy. <b>This service is booking only</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Mighty Movers - 6 week course</b> <b>1.30pm - 2.30pm - starting 19th February 2024</b> Active play explores movement and music for children from age 2yrs - 4yrs. Learn new ideas and activities to do at home with the children. To book a place give us a call. </p>	<p><b>Bump, Birth &amp; Beyond,</b> <b>Tuesday, 4:00pm 6pm</b>  Are you expecting a baby? Come along and join us for our antenatal sessions covering baby development, care, safe sleeping &amp; infant feeding, run over two sessions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 23rd &amp; 30th January 24</li><li>• 20th &amp; 27th February 24</li><li>• 19th &amp; 26th March 24</li></ul><b>*Please call to book*</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Clubmoor Sensory Room</b> Using our sensory room is a great way to support your child's need for sensory input and stimulation and can be a great way to develop emotional regulation or just to relax, have fun and enjoy the space!  To book the Sensory Room please contact our team on 0151-233-8500 - open every day 9.30am 3.30pm.</p>	<p><b>Nurture Programme -</b> <b>9.30-11.30am(Term time)</b> Course begins - please contact the centre for a space on the January course.  10 week programme which helps adults understand and support their child's feelings and behaviour and become more positive. <b>This service is booking only</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Clubmoor &amp; Ellergreen Big Help Debt Advice Service - Fortnightly - 12pm - 3pm -</b> Experienced advisors will be on hand from 12pm to 3pm to provide free and confidential advice on all forms of debt. <b>This service is booking only</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Creative Support - 12 - 2pm</b> Creative Support offers personalised social care for individuals who would need support, housing, mental health, and other needs. <b>This service is booking only</b></p>	<p><b>Introduction to solids - 1pm - 2.15pm -</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thursday 18th January</li><li>• Thursday 22nd February</li><li>• Thursday 21st March</li><li>• Thursday 18th April</li></ul> A session held for parents to help you recognise the signs that your baby is ready for solid foods.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Baby Cafe - 1pm - 2.15pm</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thursday 25th January</li><li>• Thursday 29th February</li><li>• Thursday 28th March</li><li>• Thursday 25th April</li></ul> A session held for your baby all about good foods. <b>*booking required*</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Energy Project Plus - 9.30am - 12.15pm</b> <b>1st Friday of each month -</b> Advice and guidance on all issues relating to energy debts and other debts. <b>*Contact Centre for Details*</b></p>



Scan the QR Codes for our  
Instagram & Facebook pages



CAECC2006



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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](mailto: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](http://www.monksdownprimary.co.uk) Fax: 0151 256 6281  
Email: [Monksdown-ao@monksdown.liverpool.sch.uk](mailto: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 7<sup>th</sup> 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
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	



## Calendar 2024/25

# Calendar 2024/25

## September 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
35							1
36	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
37	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
38	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
39	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
40	30						

## October 2024

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

## November 2024

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

## December 2024

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

## January 2025

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

## February 2025

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

## March 2025

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

## April 2025

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

## May 2025

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

## June 2025

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

## July 2025

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

### Bank holidays 2024/25 UK

26 August '24	August Bank Holiday	26 December '24	Boxing Day	18 April '25	Good Friday	5 May '25	Early May Bank Holiday
25 December '24	Christmas Day	1 January '25	New Year's Day	21 April '25	Easter Monday	26 May '25	Spring Bank Holiday

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