



Monksdown Mail

Where Children Come First

Friday 12th January

Designated Safeguarding Leads :



Mrs Russell Mrs Dakin
Deputies-Mrs Price and Mrs Stewart

Happy New Year

A very warm welcome back to all our children and families. We didn't have the best start to the new term due to the closure on the first day. Thank you for your understanding as we worked with United Utilities to rectify the issue.

Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

This week, the Government have launched a major national drive to improve school attendance. This is something we are very passionate about at our school and we fully support this initiative. Every day in school matters and regular attendance plays a pivotal role in helping our children achieve more during their school lives and beyond.

Sporting News

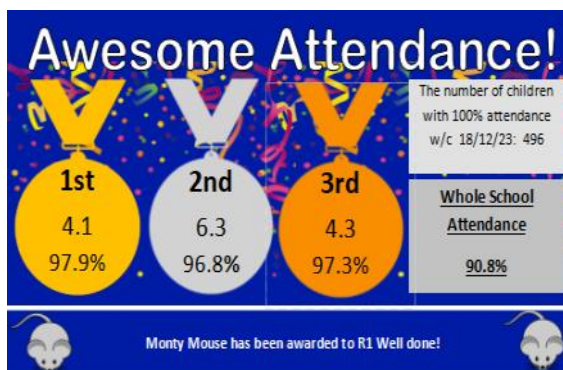
A new term means more sporting opportunities for the children to compete in. Children from Year 4 took part in a Boccia tournament and children from Year 6 attended a Volley Ball session. They showed great adaptability, team work and determination.



Happy Holidays

Our school calendar is attached to every newsletter. Please look carefully at the term dates in order to book any family holidays during the times when school is closed. I would like to remind all parents and carers of our policy in regards to holidays. We do not authorise any holidays taken during school time. Holidays taken will incur a fine issued by the Local Authority of £60 per child per parent.

Congratulations to Class 1.1 for winning the Attendance Tournament for the Autumn Term. They will now enjoy a trip out of school.



Our Stars!

- ★ N: All Nursery
- ★ R.1: Millie Hodge
- ★ R.2: Esme Kemp-Wright
- ★ R.3: Vienna Siles Hernandez
- ★ 1.1: Joseph Gardner
- ★ 1.2: Adam Chelowski
- ★ 1.3: Ruby Wheatley
- ★ 2.1: Olivier Chojnacki
- ★ 2.2: Luca Eaton
- ★ 2.3: Nathan Morris
- ★ 3.1: Eren Erdogan
- ★ 3.2: Daisy Alker
- ★ 3.3: Kelly Chen
- ★ 4.1: Elsie-May Clegg
- ★ 4.2: Kian McKeown
- ★ 4.3: Isabella Kirby
- ★ 5.1: Caglar Ozturk
- ★ 5.2: Freddy Jones
- ★ 5.3: Nathan Williams
- ★ 6.1: Rose Ward
- ★ 6.2: Alyssa Vaughan
- ★ 6.3: Adam Curran

Week Ahead

Monday 15th January

Year 4 Chinese New Year -
Ribbon Dancing

It's Your Child's Life - Parenting
Course 9:15am - 11:15am

Wednesday 17th January

Sale Sharks Rugby Foundation

Thursday 18th January

School Council at Town Hall
Matball Competition - Dixon's
Academy Croxteth

Friday 19th January

Family Learning Parent/Carer
Maths Workshop KS1 9:30am -
11:30am

Dates for your Diary

Monday 15th January	Year 4 Chinese New Year - Ribbon Dancing It's Your Child's Life - Parenting Course 9:15am - 11:15am
Wednesday 17th January	Sale Sharks Rugby Foundation
Thursday 18th January	School Council visit to The Town Hall Matball Competition - Dixon's Academy Croxteth
Friday 19th January	Family Learning Parent/Carer Maths Workshop 9:30am - 11:30am
Monday 22nd January	Festival of Reading Early Years
Wednesday 24th January	Early Years and Year 1 Reading Event Day
Friday 26th January	Family Learning Parent/Carer Maths Workshop 9:30am - 11:30am
Monday 29th January	Year 6 Reading Event Day Years 4 & 5 Festival of Reading
Tuesday 30th January	Years 3 and 4 Reading Event Day
Wednesday 31st January	Year 2 Reading Event Day
Thursday 1st February	Years 1 and 2 Festival of Reading
Friday 2nd February	Family Learning Parent/Carer Maths Workshop 9:30am - 11:30am
Monday 5th February - Friday 9th February	Childrens' Mental Health Week
Tuesday 6th - Thursday 8th February	NOW Festival - The Lighthouse ASD Training Course for Parents/Carers 9:00 - 10:00am
Thursday 8th February	Inter School Choir Performances 10:00am - 12:00pm Year 4 Roman Experience Day - Dress up as a Roman
Friday 9th February	Family Learning Parent/Carer Maths Workshops 9:30am - 11:30am SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2PM
Monday 12th - Friday 16th February	Half Term

What Children & Young People Need to Know about **FREE VS HATE SPEECH**

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called 'hate speech' and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives...

The Human Rights Act 1998 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn't have been achieved without it.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for homes, schools and businesses, a collection of hundreds of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the original launch into the LGBTQ+ app, the world's first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.

GLOBAL
EQUALITY
COLLECTIVE

The
National
College

NOS
National
Online
Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlineafety

@national_online_safety

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Courses

Beauty and Therapy Courses

Our beauty and therapy courses will help you to gain knowledge and skills to work towards a recognised qualification and build skills for life, learning and work.

What courses are on offer?

Courses starting **8 January 2024** for 5 weeks
Introduction to Seasonal Aromas for health and wellbeing.
Introduction to Beauty & Therapy

Courses starting **19 February 2024** for 15 weeks
Introduction to Beauty Therapy (Entry)
Introduction to Complementary Therapies (Level 1)

How to enquire about a course?

If you are interested in studying any of the courses listed above, please complete the online form below. Select 'Beauty & Therapies' from the dropdown options and add the course name when prompted.

Enquire about a course now

Alternatively visit:

liverpool.gov.uk/als / courses / request a skills check and then select Beauty and Therapies from the drop down box, complete the form and a member of staff will contact you.



Courses

Vocational Courses

Our vocational courses will help you to gain knowledge and skills to work towards a recognised qualification and build skills for life, learning and work.

Courses we offer from January 2024

Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Schools
Level 2 Award Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools
Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Autism

How to enquire about a course?

If you are interested in studying any of the courses listed above, please complete the form below. Select 'Vocational' from the dropdown options and add the course name when prompted.

Enquire about a course now

Alternatively visit:

liverpool.gov.uk/als courses / request a skills check then choose the course from the drop down box, complete the form and a member of staff will contact you.



19. Apr.

GLISTON UNIVERSITY METRO MAYOR LIVERPOOL ADULT LEARNING CENTRE



Lifelong Learning, Skills & Employment Support

January 2024

We are excited to launch our **new adult learning courses** from January 2024. We are offering a wide range of valuable learning experiences for all ages from 19 years and over. We offer courses for your personal development, to assist you in your work and for your wellbeing. Courses include English, Maths, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Essential Digital Skills and Vocational Courses.

Adult Learning Centres

Norris Green L11 1DQ T: 0151 233 8530	Granby Street L8 2TU T: 0151 233 2400	Park Road L8 6SE T: 0151 233 2430	Newsham Drive L6 7UH T: 0151 233 1809
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Contact one of our centres above to join a course.

Functional Skills - English and Maths, GCSE - English and Maths are FREE, many others are FREE if you are earning less than £31,640 per annum.

We support our residents to

BELIEVE. ACHIEVE. SUCCEED.

REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

Contact Centre: 0151 233 3026

Email: Adult.Education.Queries@liverpool.gov.uk

Visit: liverpool.gov.uk/als

@liverpoolals

@liverpool_als

Click on the QR code for more information about the courses listed below.

Many of our courses are **FREE** when in receipt of certain benefits and these are marked with ***/****

Granby Street

Business Administration - For Employment**
Catering - Budget Cooking for Health and Wellbeing**
Catering - Sweets, Cakes and Biscuits**
Customer Care - Customer Care for Employment**
Interpreting - Understanding Community Interpreting L1 Award**
ICT For All - Beginners**
ICT For All - E3**
ICT For All - L1**
ICT For All - L2**
Sewing - Creative Craft - Garment Making - L1 Award**
Volunteering - L1 Award **

Newsham Drive

ICT For All - E3**
ICT For All - L1**
ICT For All - L2**

Park Road

ICT For All - E3**
ICT For All - Beginners**
ICT For All - L1**
Interpreting - Understanding Community Interpreting L1 Award**
Interpreting - Preparing for Interpreting Certificate L2**
Languages - Arabic - Beginners
Languages - Spanish - Beginners
Sewing - Creative Craft - Garment Making - for Health and Wellbeing**

Do you need help towards finding work?

We have dedicated employment teams based at the Adult Learning Centres and outreach across the city to support you in your journey towards finding work.

Visit: <https://liverpoolinwork.co.uk/>

E: liverpoolinwork@liverpool.gov.uk

T: Liverpool in Work 0151 233 5312



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
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

Data provided 'as is' without warranty