



# Monksdown Mail

Where Children Come First

Designated Safeguarding Leads :



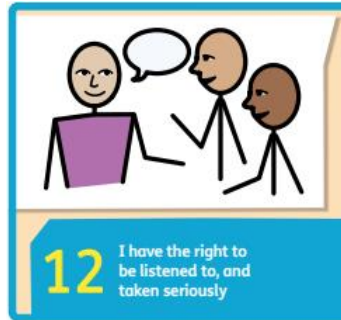
Mrs Russell and  
Mrs Stewart  
Deputy-Mrs Price

Friday 8th November 2024

Dear Families of Monksdown,

Welcome back after our half term break.

We were delighted to be part of this years Anti Bullying Project at St Georges Hall performing in with our choir who performed songs using their voices and sign language.



The children met the Lord Mayor of Liverpool and the comedian John Bishop.

The children were outstanding and represented our school and the community superbly



Furthermore some of our Year 2 and Year 5 pupils worked collaboratively to create poppies that will be donated to the bombed out church for their remembrance display this weekend. If you visit please look out for our wonderful poppies.



Kindest Regards

Mrs Price

## Our Stars! ★

Nursery	Gabriel Bakare
R1	Esme McLoughlin
R2	George McKenzie
R3	Lily Sedgwick
1.1	Rosie-Mae Stathom
1.2	Roman Scully
1.3	Heidi Hincks
2.1	Olivia Bonner
2.2	Eliza McKenzie
2.3	Kingsley Gould
3.1	Luca Shimka
3.2	Lilianna Piekos
3.3	Lily Mogan
4.1	Ethan Dawes
4.2	Aryana-Khan Arabzai
4.3	Reegan Lawrence
5.1	Dylan Brearley
5.2	Parisa Ng Yuet
5.3	Elsie-May Clegg
6.1	Shaanly Ganapathy
6.2	Hugo Leonard
6.3	Elisha Galvez

## Important Dates

Monday 11th November  
Remembrance Day

11-15th November Anti-Bullying Week

Bike-a-bility for 5.3

Wednesday 13th November  
Poet Dan Worsley visiting and the Library reopening after school

Friday 15th November  
Children in Need Day—please wear something yellow and any donations would be appreciated

## Jewellery Reminder

Please remember jewellery and nail varnish must not be worn to school. Children with pierced ears may wear simple small stud earrings.

THANK YOU



## Parking Notice

Please be extremely careful when parking and driving around school. We ask that you leave home five minutes earlier and park in the roads slightly away from school to avoid congestion in the immediate vicinity.

When dropping children off at breakfast club please be aware of children crossing the roads before reversing or driving away.

Thank you



## Parent Volunteers



We are looking to have a bank of parent volunteers to assist us on trips. This might be in your own child's class but could be in other year groups. This would involve filling in a DBS form.

If this sounds like something you are interested in, please request a DBS form from the office. You will need to provide 2 forms of ID when you return the form.

## Monksdown Library Reopening

On Wednesday 13th November we will be reopening our Library with the help of our wonderful guest Poet Dan Worsley. The Library will be open just after 3pm on Wednesday

Then it will be fully open from the 18th November with specific days for different year groups:

Monday—Nursery and Reception

Tuesday Year 1 and Year 2

Wednesday Years 3-6

Dan is a children's author and performance storyteller. He visited last year and will be returning on Wednesday 13th November to perform a selection of his stories and to deliver some writing workshops. Dan will have copies of all six of his books (£5 each/cash only) available for purchase after school on Wednesday 13th November. If any children in Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 would like to purchase a copy on the day, he will be happy to sign and personalise the pupil's books after school.



## Key Stage 1 Reading Challenge

We have designed 9 fun and exciting different ways we would like you to try when reading. As you complete each challenge, draw a smiley face into the box, or if you have some stickers at home, use a sticker for each challenge. You do not need to complete the challenges in order - which one would you like to complete first?

We would love to see some photographs or videos of you reading in some of these places, please upload them to X (formerly Twitter) and tag Monksdown Primary School. In your post please use the hashtag @MonksdownReads. You can also hashtag your child's class.

#class11 #class12 #class13 #class21 #class22 #class23

Please bring your completed grid back into school by Friday 13th December,.

If 15 children in your class complete the challenge you will win a games afternoon

If 20 children in your class complete the challenge you will win a movie afternoon

If all children in your class complete the challenge you will win a lucky dip surprise.... Could be a party afternoon.... Could be a picnic..... could be something else..... wait and see!



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

## 1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

## 2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

## 3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

## 4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

## 5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

## 6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

## 7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

## 8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

## 9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

## 10 REFLECT AND LEARN

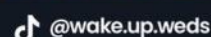
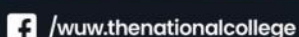
After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

## Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at:



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