



Newsletter – December 2024

Headteacher's Update

We have made it to the end of another exciting term! The run up to the Christmas holiday is always one of my favourites, as we get to enjoy performances and other fun activities together. Thank you to everyone who works so hard behind the scenes to organise these things for staff, and to you, our families for joining in and supporting these. We are so proud of everything the children have achieved this term - they deserve a good rest over the break!

From all of our team here at Monkwick Junior School, we hope you have a wonderful Christmas and New Year, and we look forward to seeing you all back on **Monday 6th January 2025!**

Festive Period

Children have enjoyed a wonderful festive period this December. They attended 'Jack and the Beanstalk', held at Thomas Lord Audley, we raised £87.50 for Save the Children on Christmas Jumper Day, we had the Y3, Y4 and Y5 Christmas Assemblies, Christmas Dinner day for everyone and the Christmas Crafternoon! A big 'thank you' to our kitchen staff for Christmas Dinner - we served nearly 200 children within an hour! We also welcomed parents and carers into school to celebrate class assemblies with Gamma and Zeta, who showed off lots of the things they had been learning.

It was lovely to see lots of you attending the assemblies - all of our year groups did a fantastic job.

Trips and Visits

Year 3 walked to St Margarets Church to learn all about Christianity, and have produced some wonderful Christmas cards for local shops, care homes, hospitals and forces. Year 4 enjoyed a Drumming workshop. Year 5 has been especially busy - they completed 10 weeks of swimming lessons, a 'Wonderdome' came to school where the children learnt about Earth and Space in science and completed their Advantage project 'Start with a Fiver', making a profit of £370. Well Done! Year 6 took part in a Poetry workshop, and some children took part and completed Bikeability. It's been a very busy half term!

Attendance

We want to say thank you to all our children and families for helping us to improve and achieve our attendance goals this half term. We are so proud of all of the children for trying their very best and having a positive attitude towards school everyday.

As a reward, children that achieved 100% attendance this half term attended the 'Polar Express' movie afternoon with hot chocolate, marshmallows and cream. It was lovely to see everyone having a great time. Let's keep up the good work and keep your eyes peeled for our February half term rewards announcement!

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone that came to the Scholastic Book Fair between the 14th - 19th November 2024. It was lovely to see so many children excited about reading. From the books sold, we now have a donation of £240 to spend on some nice new books for our children.



School Council

Our School Council team organised a non uniform day for Children in Need & World Diabetic Day on Friday 15th November. They chose the theme and produced posters to advertise the event, and raised £173.50!

OPAL Update

OPAL has started, and is now in place at lunch time - this will be an ongoing, developing project. We have Chalk Zones in both playgrounds and Cardboard Box Zones where children can enjoy making their own creations from robots to Amazon delivery trucks. The children also now enjoy 'Free Flow Friday' where they can play on both playgrounds.

In January, we will introduce the water play zone. We have started to set it up and the children are showing a big interest. Please could you send your child/children to school with coats or a water proof, as children will be outdoors whatever the weather!

We are looking for the following to be donated if you can help - pallets, tarpaulins, pots and pans!

Watch this space for more updates - we also will add updates to the OPAL parents information display board which is inside the reception area.

Dates for the Calendar:

January 2025:

Monday 6th: All children return to school

Friday 17th: Y4 Medical Mavericks

Tuesday 21st: Y3 Dance Days

Thursday 30th: Y5 Roman Day

February 2025

Friday 7th: Y6 Careers Afternoon

Wednesday 12th: Parents Evening

Friday 14th: Last day of term

HALF TERM: Monday 17th - Friday 21st

Monday 24th: Non Pupil Day

Tuesday 25th: All children return to school

We hope that you all have a lovely festive break, and look forward to welcoming you back on **Monday 6th January 2025**