



Monks Risborough Church of England Primary School

A learning community- encouraging success, celebrating achievement, strengthened by God.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Spring Term is generally the 'quiet term' within the school year. However, the past two weeks have been very eventful! I was particularly impressed with the number of children who came to school last Thursday (there was 100% attendance in the Foundation Stage), demonstrating a very positive commitment towards their learning and our school value of 'responsibility'. Equally, the next two weeks are also filled with many exciting learning and sporting opportunities.

The ethos and approach to our curriculum has developed steadily, driven forward by a very creative and ambitious staff team. Our approaches to English and Maths are highly embedded and we are now working hard to build on our solid curriculum base and develop excellence in our practice within other areas. An example of this is that we are currently in the initial stages of working towards the Primary Geography Quality mark, demonstrating a strong commitment towards excellence in teaching within this area. Next term we will also be creating a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) focus group, involving parents, teachers and governors, so that we can forward plan and fully utilise the wealth of opportunities we have in these areas. If you have any ideas for these areas, please do contribute!

Where did Wally go?...just about everywhere!

Our 'Book Week' based on the books 'Where's Wally' was a great success. We believe that engagement and enjoyment are two essential ingredients in learning. Our School Council stated that this particular week had been their most enjoyable of the school year and the impact was backed up by the amazing work children produced across the school. The focus on illustration enabled your children to strongly consider the importance of how information is presented and what this conveys to the reader - much of the work was simply stunning. The staff team would all like to thank the parents who gave up their time to give exciting and informative talks to the children about different geographical places around the world; the children gained so much learning from this and had a great time too. Thank you also to the parents who helped to run our Book Fair, and to the children who bought books. We have raised £350 to spend on new books for the school.

Perfect Parking - Politics in Action

Bill Bendyshe-Brown, our local Risborough councillor, visited the school on Wednesday. In Worship he talked to the children about his role within the community and how the council works to help us. Prior to meeting with the children I was able to talk to him about the concerns we have as a community about the speed people drive along the Aylesbury Road and within Worship we made the link between the role of our Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSO's) in encouraging road safety and how their concerns, as children, are raised at Bucks County Council. Next week is our 'Perfect Parking Week,' along with our School Travel Team these children care passionately about keeping all of us safe. Please help them by parking considerately. Perfect parkers will receive, from the JRSO Traffic Wardens, a reward which can be displayed in their car.

Next week, as I am attending training, I will not be in school on Thursday or Friday. The following week I will be accompanying our Year 6 children to Calshot Activity Centre in the New Forest, where they will be carrying out a number of geographical, environmental and adventurous activities by (and on) the Solent. Should you have any concerns regarding your children, school or safeguarding, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mrs Swain.

A Message from James

Mothering Sunday All Age Family Service at St. Dunstan's, March 11th at 10 am:

For many centuries 'Mothering' Sunday has been observed as a day when we give thanks to God for the Church, which like a mother, nurtures us in our spiritual life. It is also a time when we give thanks for our own human mothers and for all who show qualities of mothering to others. Everyone is invited to an all age family service at St. Dunstan's at 10 am at which the **Junior Choir** will sing. Rev James Tomkins 01844 275944 jamestomkins@btinternet.com

Monks Monkeys: Fun for babies, toddlers, children under five plus their parents/carers. This is held weekly at St Dunstan's Church Hall, Monks Risborough on Thursdays during term time from 2 pm to 3 pm. Each session includes 'action' songs, a Bible story, time for the children to play, adults to chat and refreshments to be served. On the 4th Thursday of the month we meet in the Church for a special craft activity. There is no need to book, just come along on the day. If you would like more information please contact: Rev James Tomkins (01844) 275944 jamestomkins@btinternet.com

As always, my priority is your child's happiness, welfare and learning. Should you have any concerns regarding any of these, please don't hesitate to get in contact with me.

Best Wishes,

Tom Baskerville
Head Teacher

Attendance

Over the last two weeks 148 children have 100% attendance. This week 7 children were late, 8 children attended medical appointments. There were 3 children absent due to holidays or other unauthorised absences.

POLITE REMINDER THAT THE SCHOOL GATES CLOSE AT 8.45AM

Dates

March

Thursday 8th	Book Look after school
Friday 9th	Film Club
Monday 12th	Perfect Parking Week
Tuesday 13th	Cross Country KS2 at Monks Risborough School 1.15 pm
Wednesday 14th	Schools in Harmony Rehearsal 9.15 am Netball Match at Monks Risborough School 3.30pm
Thursday 15th	Cross Country KS1 at Speen 1pm
Friday 16th	Hawks outcome in classroom 2.30pm Rehearsal 9 am Energize Performance 7 pm The Swan Theatre
Saturday 17th	Energize Performance 2 pm The Swan Theatre
Monday 19th	Eagles to Calshot Falcons outcome IT Suite & classroom
Tuesday 20th	Falcons Bikeability
Wednesday 21st	Falcons Bikeability
Thursday 22nd	Falcons Bikeability
Friday 23rd	Kites Great Fire of London Day in Hall Sports Relief in school details to follow
Sunday 25th	Friends Muddy Monks Run
Monday 26th	Mufti & Easter Fair 3.30 pm
Tuesday 27th	Kites outcome 2.30pm Robins outcome to Eagles 2.15pm
Wednesday 28th	Easter Service KS2 Robins, Kestrels, Hawks, Falcons & Eagles 9.30am Wrens outcome in Hall 2.30pm
Thursday 29th	Schools in Harmony Performance 7pm Easter Service KS2 Wrens, Kites, Hawks, Falcons & Eagles 10.30am Kestrels to Ashmolean Eagles outcome 2.30pm
Friday 30th	Last Day of Term Good Friday

April

Monday 16th	First Day of School
Tuesday 17th	Provisional day for Robins visit to Bekonscot
Wednesday 18th	Netball match at Monks Risborough School 3.30pm
Friday 20th	Disco
Tuesday 24th	Book Look after school
Wednesday 25th	Netball match at Monks Risborough School 3.30pm
Saturday 28th	Mr Baskerville's Bingo & Quiz

May

Monday 7th	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 22nd	Book Look after school
Thursday 24th	Last Day of Half Term
Friday 25th	INSET Day

SCHOOL TERM DATES

	School opens on the morning of	School closes on the afternoon of
	Monday 19 th February	Thursday 29 th March (Good Friday 30th March)
Summer 2018	Monday 16 th April	Thursday 24 th May (NB. INSET day Friday 25th May)
	Monday 4 th June	Tuesday 24 th July
Autumn 2018	Thursday 6 th September (NB. INSET day Wednesday 5th September)	Friday 19 th October
	Monday 29 th October	Wednesday 19 th December
Spring 2019	Thursday 3 rd January (NB. INSET day Wednesday 2nd January)	Friday 15 th February
	Monday 25 th February	Friday 5 th April
Summer 2019	Wednesday 24 th April (NB. INSET day Tuesday 23rd April)	Friday 24 th May
	Monday 3 rd June	Wednesday 24 th July

For the complete calendar of school dates please see the website www.monksrisboroughprimary.com

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