



Monks Risborough

Church of England Primary School

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

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to a new school year at Monks Risborough. I hope you have had a wonderful summer holiday with your children; they have certainly come back well rested and raring to go with their learning! The beginning of the year always brings much excitement as the children become used to new routines, get to know their classrooms and teachers, as well as the exciting learning they are going to be undertaking.

Through a number of changes we have made to the organisation of the school and staffing, we expect to increase the educational and sporting opportunities, as well as the progress in learning for your children.

Primary Geography Quality Mark

Monks Risborough is a school that values all areas of the curriculum and I am delighted to be able to inform you that Monks Risborough has been awarded the Primary Geography Quality Mark Bronze Award. This award recognises the high quality learning opportunities the children receive in school, as well as our wide range of outdoor learning opportunities, including: developing skills in our rich local environment, residential and school trips. This award also recognises the commitment the school places on developing and embedding this subject across the curriculum. I would especially like to thank Mrs Healy, our Geography Coordinator, for leading our school in achieving this award.

Timetable Changes

We have made a number of changes to our school timetable to maximise learning time in the morning when children are at their best. Our Daily Worship has moved to the afternoons and lunchtime will now begin at 12.30pm for children in KS2. Through staggering lunchtimes slightly, we are able to ensure there is even greater support and opportunity on the playground for children in all key stages, as well as more space for them to play. You will be provided with your child's timetable when you attend the meet the teacher meetings over the next few days.

At 8.45 each day, all children will take part in a daily mile or wake and shake, giving them a healthy start and ensuring they feel energised and ready to learn. Mr Leslie, our new Sports Assistant, will also be on the playground during playtimes creating games and other active opportunities with your children.

A Tasty Lunch

Thank you for going online and signing up to our new hot meals service delivered by 'Innovate'. They have come very highly recommended and have already helped to improve our lunchtimes by providing additional staff to serve the food, as well as a delicious menu. Their service model has already enabled far greater lunchtime support on the playground by our own midday supervisors. We want our lunches to be delicious and a pleasant experience for your children so please do email Innovate if you have any concerns about their service and keep me updated.

Uniform

I understand that a number of parents were unsure of whether their children should return to school in summer or winter uniform. Having reviewed the website, I apologise as this wasn't clear and we have changed the wording for future clarification. Please could all children be in their winter uniform by the 18th September as this is when they will have their class photographs.

Extra-curricular Clubs

Clubs will begin on the week beginning Monday 24th September. Giving our staff two full weeks before clubs begin, enables them to have much needed time to set up their classes at the beginning of the term. We are very fortunate that all members of staff run a club and once again we will be able to offer such a wide range of opportunities. A sign up list for extra-curricular clubs will be available next Friday.

Reception Parents Coffee Morning

On Monday we welcome our Foundation Stage/Robins Class children to the school. If you are a parent who has children starting in this year group, you are invited to a Welcome Coffee on 10th September for tea/coffee and biscuits organised by our Friends. Please see the attached poster for further details

<https://www.monksrisboroughprimary.com/current-events.html>

A few upcoming reminders

Inset Day Friday 21st September

Meet the teachers please see information below

Harvest service Monday 8th October 9.30am

I hope your children have enjoyed their first two days back at school and have started to settle into their new classes. As always, the well-being, happiness and progress of your children are my main priorities. My door is always open, please do make an appointment to come and see me if you have any concerns regarding these areas.

Best wishes

Tom Baskerville

POLITE REMINDER THAT THE SCHOOL GATES CLOSE AT 8.45AM

Dates

September

Wednesday 5th	INSET DAY
Thursday 6th	First day of School Parent Consultations for Robins
Friday 7th	Parent Consultations for Robins
Monday 10th	First Day for Robins
Tuesday 11th	11+ Practice Test Kites Meet the Teacher 8.40am
Wednesday 12th	Kestrels Meet the Teacher 8.40am
Thursday 13th	11+ Test Wrens Meet the Teacher 8.40am
Friday 14th	Hawks Meet the Teacher 8.40am
Monday 17th	Falcons Meet the Teacher 8.40am Eagles Meet the Teacher 8.40am
Tuesday 18th	Class Photographs
Thursday 20th	Jeans 4 Genes Day
Friday 21st	INSET DAY

Monday 24th	<i>Book Look After School</i>
Thursday 27th	<i>Wrens to Oxford Arboretum</i>
Friday 28th	<i>Eagles to PRS for Play 9.30am</i>
	<i>Parent Forum Meeting 2.15pm</i>

October Black History Month

Tuesday 2nd	<i>Individual Photographs</i>
Thursday 4th	<i>School Census Day</i>
Monday 8th	<i>Harvest Service St Dunstan's 9.30am</i>
Friday 12th	<i>Dads in School Morning</i>
Monday 15th	<i>STEM Week</i>
	<i>Parents Evening 5pm – 8pm</i>
Wednesday 17th	<i>Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6.30pm</i>

Friday 19th
 Monday 29th
Wednesday 31st

Last Day of Half Term
 First Day of Term
Open Morning Reception 9.30am - 11am

November

Thursday 1st **Open Morning Reception 9.30am - 11am**

December

Wednesday 5th **Robins, Wrens & Kites Nativity to Community 10.30am**
Thursday 6th **Robins, Wrens & Kites Nativity to Community 10.30am**

Wednesday 19th Last Day of Term

January 2019

Wednesday 2nd **INSET DAY**
 Thursday 3rd First Day of Term

SCHOOL TERM DATES

	School opens on the morning of	School closes on the afternoon of
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 6th May Bank Holiday)
	Monday 3 rd June	Wednesday 24 th July
Autumn 2019	Wednesday 4 th September (NB. INSET days Mon 2nd & Tues 3rd September)	Friday 25 th October
	Monday 4 th November	Thursday 19 th December
Spring 2020	Tuesday 7 th January (NB. INSET day Monday 6th January)	Friday 14 th February
	Monday 24 th February	Friday 3 rd April
Summer 2020	Monday 20 th April	Friday 22 nd May (Monday 4th May Bank Holiday)

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

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