



Monks Risborough

Church of England Primary School

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

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What a super STEM week the children have had at school!

This afternoon, we all enjoyed an opportunity to take ourselves on a learning walk around the school- seeing all the amazing learning. It is incredible how one topic has captured the children's curiosity in so many ways.

YR had fun turning the classroom and outdoor area into different polar destinations... spotting the odd polar bear and penguin upon their travels. They watched transfixed during the sea ice investigation as a poor polar bear's home melted before their eyes.

Y1 dabbled with polar explorer yoga and enjoyed creating northern lights artwork. During an investigation, they were thrilled to find out how blubber can keep you warm and were technology experts, tracking polar bear on the computer.

Y2 spent their week exploring the Arctic and Antarctic with a focus on the animals found there. They gained a good understanding of how the polar bears keep warm by carrying out an ice and lard investigation. They also huddled like penguins and were able to design their own experiments to test the difference in temperature using thermometers.

Y3 had a blubber-ly week designing igloos, terrific transportation devices and even a boat out of a single piece of paper! Unfortunately, it could not hold as much cargo as the RRS Sir David Attenborough, but the children enjoyed asking and answering many questions about the ship and its explorations, using scientific vocabulary.

Y4 enjoyed working together to build igloos out of sugar cubes. They investigated buoyancy and the effects of salt water. They also enjoyed exploring what organisms lived in the Arctic and creating their own creatures who had adapted to this habitat. The children also got the opportunity to see how well they could withstand cold with a blubber hand!

Y5 imagined they had visited Antarctica and wrote postcards about their experience. They investigated insulating materials and reported back using their ICT skills. The children had fun splitting colours using chromatography.

Y6 had a fantastic week learning all about the polar regions. They enjoyed working together to create a budget for their own Antarctica exploration. They designed their own ROV devices that could be engineered to enable research on unknown creatures that live in the sea. They had amazing visitors helping them to develop an understanding of: insulation; the effects of anti-freeze; how the body copes in the cold environments, and an exploration of Antarctica. They created their own insulated boxes to keep ice cubes frozen.

We would like to give a very sincere thank you to all the members of the community and to all the parents who gave up their time to help us. The children participated in many investigations, experiments and explorations involving ice, cold climates and climate change. They listened intently to fascinating talks and slides on an Antarctic adventure holiday and were amazed by many parents' photographs and travel logs of the arctic. The children even found out about the neutrino telescope.

Thank you also to **all** the parents, you have listened, discussed and supported the topic at home with your children, helping them to deepen their understanding.

Thank you to our super science coordinator, Miss Gehnich and to our marvellous maths coordinator, Miss Robinson for planning such a wonderful week.

Note from the Friends:

Auction of Promises

Thank you to everyone who supported the event which raised a whopping £4497.84! An extra special thank you to Nikki Cory and Bindy Wright for organising.

As always, we endeavour to give the very best nurturing and care to all the children across the school so if you have any concerns, or alternatively, if you have any positive comments, please do catch up with me.

Warmest Regards,

Mrs Swain

Deputy Headteacher

POLITE REMINDER THAT THE SCHOOL GATES CLOSE AT 8.45AM

Dates

October

Monday 29th

Tuesday 30th
Wednesday 31st

First Day of Term

Flu Nasal Spray for Rec, 1,2,3,4, & 5
Open Morning Reception 9.30am - 11am

November

Thursday 1st
Friday 2nd

Open Morning Reception 9.30am - 11am
Individual Photographs 9am
School Disco

Wednesday 7th
Thursday 8th

Kestrels to Chiltern Open Air Museum
U11's Boys Football Cup Competition

Monday 12th

Anti-Bullying Week

Thursday 15th

Tag Rugby Kestrels & Hawks to PRS 12.30pm

Tuesday 20th

Tag Rugby Falcons & Eagles to PRS 12.30pm
Book Look

Thursday 22nd
Friday 23rd

Hawks meet up with Oakridge School at PRS
Mufti Day for Christmas Hampers

Monday 26th
Wednesday 28th

School Council Meeting
Uni Hoc Wrens & Kites at PRS 12.30pm
Parents Curriculum Evening 7pm - 8.30pm

Friday 30th

Bottle Mufti Day for Christmas Fair
Parent Forum Meeting 2.15pm

December

Saturday 1st

Christmas Fair

Wednesday 5th
Thursday 6th

Robins, Wrens & Kites Nativity to Community 10.30am
Robins, Wrens & Kites Nativity to Community 10.30am

Wednesday 19th

Last Day of Term

January 2019

Wednesday 2nd

Thursday 3rd

INSET DAY

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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