



Monks Risborough Church of England Primary School

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

Newsletter 6 **Friday 28th April**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Being the first newsletter I have written since the Easter break, I belatedly welcome you back to the start of the Summer Term. The children have settled back quickly to their learning and there is a calm and purposeful atmosphere that pervades the school.

Muddy Monks, Easter Fair, School Discos ...Fabulous Friends!

On Sunday, the Friends organised our first ever Muddy Monks trail run. Over 30 people from across the Princes Risborough community took part and it proved to be a great success. The 5K and 10K courses that had been meticulously planned and set up enabled runners to experience the beauty (and challenge) of running through our Chiltern countryside. I was also impressed with a few of our children who took on this challenge. Being the first time the event has been held, a significant amount of planning went into this event and I would like to say thank you on behalf of everyone associated with the school, for the time the Friends have put into its creation. I am very sure that it will become a key date on every runner's calendar for years to come.

In addition to Muddy Monks our fabulous Friends also organised a wonderful Easter fair and two Easter discos that marked the end to our Spring Term. These were both highly enjoyable events that enabled the school community to come together as well as raising vital funds that will enable us to continue to offer your children up to date resources to deliver our curriculum and again, I thank you on behalf of the school.

Year 2 Tennis

On Wednesday a number of our KS1 pupils took part in a tennis competition against our local liaison group schools. They all represented our school superbly, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship and behaviour, as well as finishing in a very credible third position – Well done KS1!

School Clubs

Having sent out our clubs letter earlier in the week, it has been brought to my attention that there is only one club for KS1. Unfortunately the letter had omitted that Mrs Ind will be running an Art Club for Yr1 & 2 on Thursday lunchtimes. In order to also provide an additional active club, I will run a Multi-skills club for Yr1 & 2 on Tuesday lunchtimes, for whoever wishes to take part. Permission slips for those wishing to take part are available from the school office or on the school website. www.monksrisboroughprimary.com/extra-curricular-activities.html

Parish Volunteers

We are very fortunate that a number of parishioners from St Dunstan's Church have agreed to volunteer to hear children read across the school on a weekly basis. It may well be that some of your children have already met some of our local parishioners and we warmly welcome them to our school, as we look to strengthen our links with St Dunstan's for the benefit of the whole of the Monks Risborough community.

Summer uniform

As we have now begun the Summer Term, please can I remind you that it is time to put on the summer uniform. Our uniform requirements can be found on the following link www.monksrisboroughprimary.com/uniform.html Please can I also remind you that children should have black trainers in school. As well as looking smart for games, there are often other activities that the children wear trainers for, such as school productions and black trainers ensures that all children remain looking smart and uniform.

Peters Lane, Monks Risborough, Bucks. HP27 9LZ Tel: 01844 345590 Reg. Charity No. 1073117
Email: office@mrisborough.bucks.sch.uk Head Teacher: Mr T Baskerville





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Holiday Attendance

I have received a number of holiday requests over the last half term. Unless there are very exceptional circumstances, I am not legally allowed to authorise these. Being a parent myself, I am fully aware of the costs associated with them but as a Headteacher, I am fully aware of the educational impact missing school has. As a Bucks County School, please be aware that we are required to follow their policies and procedures which are detailed below or can be seen on their website www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/education/education-support/attendance/

"Holidays during term time

Schools are not allowed to authorise requests for children to be taken out of school for a holiday during term time.

Requests for leave can only be granted by schools if there are exceptional circumstances, and holidays are not considered exceptional. Requests for leave must also be made to the school in advance, as the Department for Education has told schools that they cannot authorise any absences after they have been taken.

A penalty notice is a fine to parents or carers if they fail to ensure that their child/ren attends school regularly. Buckinghamshire County Council is responsible for issuing penalty notices on behalf of schools in the county.

If a penalty notice is issued, it will be one fine to cover the whole period of the absence. So the fine would be the same amount for an absence of five days or 10 days. For example, a parent could be issued with a £60 fine if their child misses one day of school each week over a five week period, whilst another parent might be issued the same fine for one two-week block of absence.

Penalty fines are £60 per child per parent if paid within 21 days, and £120 if paid between 22 and 28 days. If the fine is not paid, parents will be reported for prosecution."

School Travel Team

There have been a number of concerns about parking appropriately of late. The best way to overcome these difficulties is to raise awareness of road safety and encouraging children to walk to school. We will be relaunching our School Travel Team at a meeting on Monday 15th May. It is relatively small time commitment but vital in ensuring safety for all of our children. Our walk to school week will be from Monday 22nd May. Any parent who would like to get involved and offer something back to our school community is very welcome.

Note from James

Monday 1st May

MAY DAY Celebrations will take place outside St. Peter's Chapel in Owlswick when Owlswick Morris Dancers re-visit their name sake village at approx. 4.30pm

All welcome to come and watch, if it's a lovely day why not bring a picnic.

For more information contact Jane Rogers 01844 347906 or email rogers.owlswick@waitrose.com

As always, the education, happiness and well-being of your child is my main priority. If you do have any concerns about your child, please don't hesitate to contact me.

With best wishes,

Mr Baskerville – Head Teacher

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SCHOOL TERM DATES

	School opens on the morning of	School closes on the afternoon of
Summer 2017	Tuesday 18 th April (NB. Bank Holiday 1 st May)	Friday 26 th May
	Tuesday 6 th June (NB. INSET day Monday 5 th June)	Friday 21 st July
Autumn 2017	Wednesday 6 th September (NB. INSET days 4 th & 5 th September)	Friday 20 th October
	<i>Tuesday 31st October</i> <i>(N.B INSET day Monday 30th October)</i>	<i>Tuesday 19th December</i>
Spring 2018	<i>Thursday 4th January</i> <i>(N.B INSET day Wednesday 3rd January)</i>	<i>Friday 9th February</i>

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

(Please note changes to the calendar are in bold and italic)

Attendance

Attendance: March 6th – April 28th 2016

Reception	98%
Year 1	97%
Year 2	96%
Year 3	95%
Year 4	97%
Year 5	98%
Year 6	95%

Attendance: March 6th – April 28th 2017

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Year 1	97%
Year 2	95%
Year 3	98%
Year 4	95%
Year 5	95%
Year 6	96%

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