



Monks Risborough

Church of England Primary School

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

Dear Parents,

I trust you have all had a lovely half term break. The children have come back to school energised and fully engaged in their learning.

Poppy Appeal

We will be selling items for this year's Poppy Appeal from Monday. If you wish your child to be able to purchase a poppy or another item, please ensure that your child has some money in school from Monday.

Staff INSET Day – Our Amazing Brains

On Monday, our staff undertook training in relation to addressing mental health and academic resilience. I have attached a link of a TED talk that focuses on the concept of neuroplasticity. Although the talk discusses research with stroke victims, it is extremely interesting in relation to developing an understanding that everyone's brain is constantly changing and anyone can learn.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LNHBMFCznE>

Remember, Remember, Wednesday 29th November!

Parents E-Safety Curriculum Evening

Alison Watts, who will be leading the evening, has provided the following information to give you further insight into this very important evening:

Parents know how important the internet is to children and young people. They use it to learn, play, socialise and express themselves in all types of creative ways. This may be through sharing photos and videos, blogging, gaming, or even developing their own apps. It is a place of amazing opportunities.

The technology children use in their daily lives can seem daunting. Parents may worry about the risks they can face online, such as bullying, contact from strangers, as well as the possibility of access to inappropriate or illegal content.

This presentation and discussion session aims to help parents understand how their child uses the internet and to help them stay safe.

Year 6 – Gurdwara Visit by Hannah Fairall

On Wednesday we went on a memorable trip to the Gurdwara, a place where Sikhs go to worship God. Everyone had a brilliant time learning loads of new things, three wonderful volunteers from the Gurdwara showed us around and taught us about Sikhism. Everybody in year 6 had a great time. We learnt about the 5k's and Evie, Riley and Mr Gouldstone got to try a real turban on. Before we entered we had to take our shoes off, cover our heads and wash our hands, Sikhs greet each other by saying "Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh", meaning "The Khalsa belongs to the Lord God! So the victory belongs to God!"

Please read the feedback the Gurdwara has sent through to our school, regarding our Year 6 visit this week – Well done Year 6!

Hello Miss Robinson,

I wanted to say how overwhelmed I am by today's visit by your Year 6. Their understanding demonstrated about the 5k's was exemplary and beyond something I can comprehend. They were so positive and confident in their answers as well and the respect and attention they showed was very inspiring.

They are a credit to their parents, their school, the teaching staff and above all themselves. This most definitely has been the most thought provoking and enjoyable visit for us to host so far.

Would you be able to ask the children to relay their understandings of the 5k's as I wanted to directly quote their answers during future visits with different schools.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity of hosting such a worthy visit.

Kindest Regards,
Nirmal

Safeguarding Update – Non-Attendance at Clubs

If your child attends any after school club (paid or voluntary) at Monks Risborough, it is essential that you contact the **school office** if they are not going to be attending for a particular session. Please be aware that it is essential that this notification is made by a parent not your child. By doing this, all staff members can be sure of the whereabouts of your children. Within the office we keep a register of all clubs children attend. By informing the office staff, club leaders will not need to spend time addressing where specific non-attendees are. If you fail to inform the school office staff on 3 occasions, your child will be removed from the club as it impacts on the club time for other children. Additionally, if your child is unwell and does not come into school, please can you inform the office staff if they should also be attending a club when you are phoning up to report an illness.

Collecting children at the end of the school day

If your child is to be collected at the end of the school day, by someone who is not on your list of permitted adults collecting your child, e.g they are going to someone's house for a play date, then you must inform the school office before the end of the school day so that the teacher may be informed.

Mrs Bloxham

For personal reasons, Mrs Bloxham will be leaving Monks Risborough at Christmas. I would like to thank her for the hard work she has put in over the last year and the flexibility she has provided in covering so many classes. Class Teacher's PPA (planning, preparation and assessment) time is technically covered by Mrs Chapman so I will inform you when an appointment has been made to cover the remainder of her maternity leave.

Children in Need Mufti Day

This year's Children in Need Mufti Day will be on Friday 17th November. On that day children can come to school dressed in yellow and/or spots to match Pudsey Bear, the Children in Need mascot. We are keen to support this cause and would kindly ask for a donation of £1.

Children in Need is a UK charity that aims to allow children to have a happy, safe childhood and a chance for them to reach their potential. They currently support 2,400 projects all across the country. The projects they fund help change the lives of disadvantaged children and young people in the UK.

Thank you for your support.

Pride in our Appearance

Thank you for sending your children back to school in their full winter uniform. Across the school the children look much smarter. Please remind your children that they need to have their hair tied up if it is below their shoulders and nail varnish should not be worn.

For your information, updating our school uniform has been mentioned a number of times at Parent Forums and we will be looking into changes to this ready for the next academic year.

Dress your Best for Individual and Family Photographs

Next Wednesday a photographer will be taking individual and family photographs throughout the school day. Please can you ensure your child comes to school looking their smartest.

Children learn best when the school and parents work in partnership with each other. Please do come in and speak to the teachers or myself if there is anything that is concerning you as the well-being of your child is our first priority.

Best Wishes,

Tom Baskerville

Head Teacher

Dates

2017

November

Friday 3rd

Tuesday 7th

Wednesday 8th

Thursday 9th

Disco

Open Morning for Reception & Year 3 September 2018 intake 9.30am

Individual & Family Photographs

Open Morning for Reception & Year 3 September 2018 intake 9.30am

Friday 10th
Saturday 11th

Kestrels to Chiltern Open Air Museum
Adults Curry & Quiz Night 7.30pm

Monday 13th
Tuesday 14th
Wednesday 15th
Friday 17th

Anti-Bullying Week
Eagles & Falcons Tag Rugby at PRS 1pm
Kestrels & Hawks Tag Rugby at PRS 1pm
Children in Need ***Wear spots &/or yellow clothes***

Friday 24th

Mufti Day for Christmas Hampers
Children's Film Night 3.30pm

Wednesday 29th

Parent Curriculum Evening 7.30pm
Uni Hockey at PRS Wrens & Kites

December

Saturday 2nd

Monday 4th
Thursday 7th
Friday 8th
Wednesday 13th

Christmas Fair

Carols in Community 6pm
Nativity to Parents 1.45pm
Nativity to Parents 1.45pm
Christmas Lunch Whole School
Christmas Concert 7pm School Hall
Christmas Party Falcons & Eagles 1.30pm
Christmas Party Kestrels & Hawks 1.30pm
Christmas Service at St Dunstan's Church KS2 Robins & Kites 9.30am
Christmas Party Robins, Wrens & Kites 1.30pm
Christmas Service at St Dunstan's Church KS2 & Wrens 9.30am

Thursday 14th
Friday 15th
Monday 18th

Tuesday 19th

Last Day of Term

SCHOOL TERM DATES

	School opens on the morning of	School closes on the afternoon of
Autumn 2017	Wednesday 6 th September (NB. INSET days 4 th & 5 th September)	Friday 20 th October
	Tuesday 31 st October (N.B INSET day Monday 30 th October)	Tuesday 19 th December
Spring 2018	Thursday 4 th January (N.B INSET day Wednesday 3 rd January)	Friday 9 th February
	Monday 19 th February	Thursday 29 th March (Good Friday 30 th March)
Summer 2018	Monday 16 th April	Thursday 24 th May (NB. INSET day Friday 25 th May)
	Monday 4 th June	Tuesday 24 th July
Autumn 2018	Thursday 6 th September (NB. INSET day Wednesday 5 th September)	Friday 19 th October
	Monday 29 th October	Wednesday 19 th December
Spring 2019	Thursday 3 rd January (NB. INSET day Wednesday 2 nd January)	Friday 15 th February

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)

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