



Autumn Term 1 Newsletter 2019

Important Dates and Events

September

- Wednesday 4th** School re-opens for all staff and pupils
Monday 9th Welcome meetings for all classes 4pm
w/b Monday 16th After school activity clubs start
Thursday 26th JP Football League event



October

- Tuesday 1st** Year 3 trip to Monton Methodist Church for 'Experience Harvest'
Wednesday 2nd Year 5 trip to Jodrell Bank
Thursday 3rd PTA meeting 6pm all welcome
w/b Monday 7th Year 5J Bikeability course
Y5/6 Athletics Competition
Wednesday 9th Mrs Belcher's class to Inter-Schools Football Competition
Reception M Stay and Play 9-9.30am
Thursday 11th Reception W Stay and Play 9-9.30am
Friday 12th Nursery Stay and Play 9-9.30am
w/b Monday 14th Year 5P Bikeability course
Year 6 to Lledr Hall residential visit
Friday 18th School closes for half term holiday
Tuesday 29th School re-opens for Autumn Term 2
Wednesday 30th Drop- Ins for all classes 3.45-4.45pm



November

- Friday 1st** School photographs
Monday 4th Y3 Ancient Greece workshop
Wednesday 13th Open Evening for prospective new parents 6pm
w/b Monday 25th All after school activity clubs finish



December

Parent Teacher Meetings:

- Monday 2nd** EYFS, Mrs Belcher's class, KS1 4-8pm
Tuesday 3rd EYFS, KS1 and KS2 4-6pm
Wednesday 4th KS2 4-8pm

- Tuesday 3rd** Y4 trip to St Paul's Church for 'Experience Christmas'
Monday 9th EYFS Christmas Concerts pm
Tuesday 10th EYFS Christmas Concerts am and pm
Thursday 12th Y1 Christmas Concerts am and pm
Friday 13th Y2 Christmas Concerts am and pm
Monday 16th EYFS Christmas Parties
Tuesday 17th KS1 Christmas Parties
Wednesday 18th KS2 Christmas film afternoon and non-uniform day for all children
School closes for Christmas holiday.
School re-opens Monday 6th January



A very warm welcome back to school to our returning families and to those of you who are new to Monton Green! Last year was a great year for Monton Green and we are looking forward to achieving success together again this year. Our fantastic Y6 SAT results can be found on the next page.

Our school has continued to grow in size over the last few years, and we now have a full complement of two 30 place classes per year group in addition to our 30 place Nursery and our 10 place Resourced Provision for children with Moderate Learning needs. I am aware that most classes have parent-run WhatsApp groups where parents share information with one another, and I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that although these groups can be a fantastic way for parents to stay in contact with one another, they are not affiliated with school. School information can be found on our website – which is in the process of being updated – or by contacting the school office, where Mrs Muir, Mr Muir or Mrs Barker will be happy to help. School sends out information via a number of means, including email and text message and so it is vital that we have your up-to-date contact details.

If you have any questions about your child's learning or development in school, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance. It is very important that you give us the opportunity to resolve any concerns you may have. If, once you have spoken with your child's class teacher, you feel that your concern has still not been resolved, please do then make an appointment via the school office to speak with a departmental leader: Miss McMahan- Early Years; Mrs Hampson – Years 3 and 4; Mrs Riley – Years 5 and 6 and Assistant Head teacher in Key Stage 2; Mrs Belcher - lead teacher in the Resourced Provision, SENCO and Assistant Head teacher; Miss Wilson – KS1 leader and Deputy Head teacher; Mrs Robinson who is our Safeguarding Lead, or myself. We will endeavour to help you in any way we can. We would also like to hear your comments about what you think we are doing well!

Mrs Edwards - Head teacher.

Staff News

We are very pleased to welcome a number of new staff to Monton Green this term. Mr Pantelidis will teach in Y5 until Mrs Hopkins' return from Maternity leave, Miss Williams will teach in Reception Miss Robson will teach Year 3, and Mr Green will teach in Year 4. Miss Greenall also joins us as a Teaching Assistant.

Please see the following pages for class news, and visit the class pages on the school website for regular updates about children's learning.

If you would like your child to have a school lunch, please order online via School Grid (formerly Live Kitchen). If you prefer to send your child with a packed lunch, you may find the following website useful for ideas: <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes> We appreciate that parents like to vary the contents of their children's packed lunches, but I would like to remind all parents that in the interest of promoting health, fizzy drinks (other than water) and sweets are not allowed. Confectionery items such as chocolate-covered biscuits are acceptable as part of a balanced meal, but please do not send products containing nuts of any kind because of allergies. We aim to review our playtime snack policy this term, however in the meantime, all children continue to be able to order toast for mid-morning snack (this can be done via the school office), or may bring a piece of fruit to eat from home. Children in the Early Years and KS1 will continue to receive a free piece of fruit in school daily, as part of the NHS Free Fruit Scheme for schools.



This half term's theme for our whole school **JIGSAW** PSHE scheme of learning is called '**Being Me In My World**'. This unit of learning focuses on the children's rights and responsibilities as members of their classes and the school community as a whole.

Medicines in school

There is no legal duty which requires school staff to administer medicines in school – this is a voluntary role. In line with our Medical Needs policy, which can be found on our website, medicines should be given at home wherever possible. Any medicines to be given in school must be sent in in the original container and must be clearly labelled with your child's name and correct dose. No medicines will be given in school without parents' consent – the forms for this are held in the school office.

Y6 SAT Results 2019

Reading (Test) 2019	Writing (Teacher Assessment) 2019	Maths (Test) 2019	Grammar Punctuation and Spelling (Test) 2019	Reading, Writing & Maths combined figure 2019
83% Monton Green	95% Monton Green	83% Monton Green	98% Monton Green	71% Monton Green
73% national	78% national	79% national	78% national	65% national

We were delighted with our Y6 children's SAT results this year! The table above shows the percentage of children at Monton Green achieving the national standard in each subject, as well as the national average figure for comparison. As you will see, the figures for Monton Green are above the national figures in all subjects. As well as attaining well, our children made very good progress during their time at Monton Green, especially in Reading and Writing. These great results are due to the hard work of the children, the staff, and of course yourselves. Thank you for all of your support.



You may have noticed that over the holiday we have had solar panels fitted as part of a community scheme. We hope to reduce our electricity bills by up to 25%!



Leading Parent Partnership Award Update

Earlier this year, we asked for your views about how well you think we work together in partnership with parents and carers. We were delighted that you felt we are already getting lots of things right, and started work on strengthening our partnership even further in two areas: the information you get from school; and the way school helps you to support your child's learning.

We are now in the process of updating our website, and going forward I hope that this will enable you to more easily find information about school.

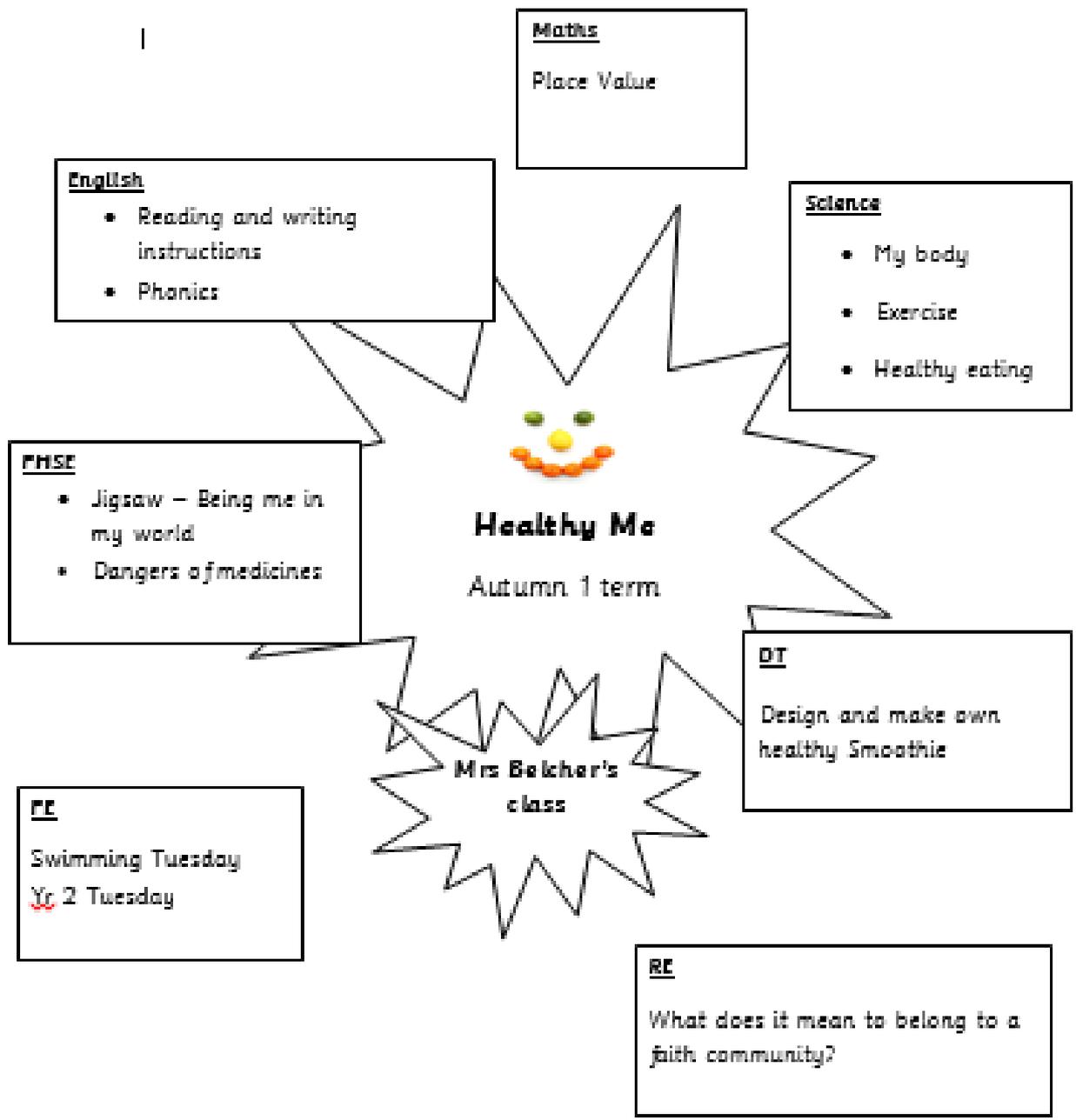
Our newly introduced Nursery and Reception Stay-and-Play sessions were hugely successful in the Summer Term, and so we will be running these for you again this year. We will also be running Drop-In sessions again for all year groups, where you will be able to come into your child's classroom along with your child and get involved in learning together.

We have been using Class DOJO as one of the ways in which we recognise and reward children's successes at Monton Green for a number of years now. For those of you with children who are new to school, please look out in the coming days for a letter from your child's class teacher which will enable you to sign up to receive alerts when your child gets points for good behaviour and learning. If your child is returning to Monton Green and you have not previously had the chance to sign up to receive DOJO alerts, please do speak to your child's class teacher who will organise this for you.

Please look out for more information along our LPPA journey via our newsletters and website; or contact Mrs Belcher or Miss McMahon via the school office if you would like more details in the meantime.

EYFS Climbing Frame

We have recently had our EYFS playground equipment repaired again. Can I please remind everyone that this equipment is for use by Nursery and Reception children only, and only under the supervision of school staff during the school day – for safety reasons, and to ensure we avoid further damage, children are not permitted to use the equipment at the start or end of the school day. Thank you for your help with this.



The Early Years

Welcome to a new school year! The children have all settled well and it is lovely to see them embracing school life. They have worked hard to learn new routines and are now starting to organise themselves independently in a morning - well done!

'This is me' will be our topic for the autumn term where we will learn about ourselves, families, houses and the body. We will look at how we are unique and paint portraits of ourselves reflecting this. In Jigsaw we will learn about the many different ways we are special and also how to build and develop friendships. We will also learn about the parts of the body and how we have changed over time. Nursery will also focus on 'People who help us' to learn about the roles of different adults in school.

This term a variety of religious festivals arise which we will learn about; including Rosh Hashanah and Diwali.

As autumn begins we will look at what we can hear and see around us and observe changes occurring. This will provide many opportunities for learning about media and materials and developing knowledge of the world around us.

Maths and English work will be based around our topic and linked to high quality texts. Initially our Maths work will focus on:

- Number recognition
- Counting with 1:1 correspondence
- Beginning to learn how to write numbers

In English we will be developing basic skills including:

- Pencil control and grip
- Learning letter formation in the cursive style
- Practising name writing

In Reception, we are beginning Phonics sessions shortly and are expecting all children to soon have an Oxford Reading Tree reading book. We ask that you practise frequently with your child as this will impact positively on their reading ability and confidence. Please write comments in your child's Reading Record to let us know how they are getting on at home. A meeting will be held for parents/carers to provide the opportunity to learn more about Phonics and also how to help your child at home.

Please do ensure that any items of clothing are labelled as we do often acquire lots of un-named lost property throughout the year.

As always, we are very grateful for any donations to the Early Years fund which can be made through the school website.

Please do speak to us if you have any questions or queries – we are always happy to help 😊

The Early Years Team.

Infant Newsletter

Year 1

English and Maths

In Year 1 we use a range of stories to continue to develop the children's love of reading and to develop their spoken language skills. The children also continue to take part in daily phonics sessions; we link their phonics learning to spelling and writing. Alongside this, the children will have opportunities to develop their fine motor and handwriting skills through a range of activities. Homework will be sent home on Friday to reinforce the phonics learning that has taken place that week.

Please return homework files by Tuesday. Thank you

It is vital to your child's reading progress that they practise applying their phonics skills in their own reading books by reading at home with you. Your child's school reading book will closely match their developing phonic knowledge. Please try to read with your child at least three times a week and make a note or sign their reading record. Thank you

Maths is also taught daily and there is a big focus on number work and counting at the beginning of the year. Maths homework will be set on Friday to reinforce the learning from that week.

Topics

Our first topic is 'Ourselves'. The children will begin by learning about the parts of the body and about keeping their bodies healthy. They will learn about the importance of hand washing and will try foods and make a healthy sandwich – a separate letter will be sent for this.

In History, Year 1 children will learn what 'the past' means and we will start by looking at how they have changed since they were babies – photos would be great! In Geography they will make simple maps based on the school environment.

In Art the Year 1 children will learn how to mix secondary colours and how to change colours and paint carefully.

In RE the children will learn about what it means to 'belong' and then continue to develop this understanding by learning about belonging to a faith.

PE kit is a white T-shirt, stretchy navy blue shorts and pumps or trainers.

Mrs Leyland PE – Tuesday

Miss Wilson PE – Wednesday

Year 2

English and Maths

The children continue to take part in daily maths and English lessons. Reading is taught daily and your child will continue to bring home a school reading book for reading to you at home. We also have daily spelling sessions; if you want to help at home, you can play spelling games with your child such as hangman, scrabble or online games. As part of the maths learning the children will be learning the 10 times table up to 10x12, this is also something you can practise at home.

Topics

Our first topic is 'healthy me'. The children will build on the work they did in Year 1 and will learn about the main food groups and be introduced to the 'eat well plate'. As part of this work, the children will design and make healthy food. Our English work will be based around stories and non-fiction books with a health theme.

Later in the term, the children will learn about The Gunpowder Plot in History and in Geography they will learn the names and location of the capital cities of the countries in Great Britain.

In Art lessons, the children will paint their own portraits and also learn about some artists famous for painting and drawing portraits e.g. Leonardo Da Vinci and the Mona Lisa portrait.

In RE the children will learn about what it means to 'belong' and then continue to develop this understanding by learning about belonging to different faiths.

Year 2's PE

Miss Leggott – Tuesday

Miss Matthews - Thursday

PE kit is a white T-shirt, stretchy navy blue shorts and pumps or trainers.

Homework will be set weekly and it should take approximately 15 minutes for each piece.

Also, when you read with your child during the week it would be helpful if you could make a quick note in their reading record.

Thank you

Miss Wilson, Mrs Leyland, Miss Matthews, and Miss Leggott

Lower Juniors

Welcome back to another school year!

Year 3

In English, the focus will be on stories with a familiar setting – we will be working with 'The Hodgeheg' by Dick King-Smith. Year 3 will explore how to write about settings and characters. We will also be exploring fiction texts in Guided Reading. Spelling, grammar and handwriting will be taught regularly. In Maths, our focus will be Place Value and mental calculations, as well as 2d shape later in the term. Our Science topic is Electricity and the children will make simple circuits. They will then apply their scientific knowledge to their DT project. Our RE work in Year 3 will be based around the question 'What is it like to be a Christian in Britain today?' In History, Year 3 will be learning about The Ancient Greeks and this will also be the focus for our Art topic, where the children will be making Greek vases. Children will be learning the numbers up to 10 and some basic classroom instructions in French; and in Computing, we will be using Scratch to begin learning how to write computer code, programming objects and characters to move and speak. In Music, we will be exploring R&B and learning about pulse and rhythm. Swimming is on Tuesdays for Mrs Hampson's class, PE is on Thursdays for Miss Robson's class.

Year 4

In Year 4 we are starting our year with an all-time favourite - The Ancient Egyptians. The children will find out about life in Ancient Egypt and, of course, about the pyramids, tombs and mummies. This subject will also be the focus for our English work. The children will be using non-fiction books and stories with an Egyptian theme to develop their reading and writing skills. Spelling, grammar and handwriting will be taught regularly. Our Maths work will begin with Place Value. In Science, our topic is Materials. The children will be learning about solids, liquids and gases. They will also be learning about rocks focussing on the properties of hardness and permeability. In RE the children will be learning about the Hindu religion. In French, children will be sentence building, using what they already know about colours and animals. Music will focus on the songs of ABBA. Computing will focus on coding - the children will learn how to create short computer programs to control characters and objects. PE will be on Thursdays for both Year 4 classes.

Our Jigsaw lessons for both year groups start with work about being a good class member, team building and being a good member of our school community. Maths and English homework for both year groups will be set online using My Maths and Cracking Comprehension. Spelling homework will be sent home weekly.

Year 5

Welcome to The Upper Junior Department!

This half term, we will be using both Fiction and Non-Fiction texts to teach aspects of reading and writing in our English lessons, where the children will be learning to write stories and newspaper reports with an Outer Space focus. Guided and/or individual reading will take place weekly for each child - please continue to hear your child read at home regularly, discuss new vocabulary with them, ask your child questions about the text, and comment in your child's reading record. Please help your child to remember to bring their school Reading Book and Reading Record into school each day. Spelling is taught daily as part of our English lessons and Handwriting lessons will take place on a twice weekly basis.

In Maths lessons this half term, Year 5 children will learn about the Place Value of large and decimal numbers before moving on to learn about addition and subtraction, and 2D shape. Please continue to help your child to learn and practise their times tables facts up to and including 12 x 12 at home.

In our Science lessons, Y5 children will learn all about Earth and Space. They will be finding out about the Solar System and Phases of the Moon; they also have an exciting trip to Jodrell Bank to look forward to, which will further enhance their Science learning.

PE lessons this half term will be on a Monday morning for Miss James' class and a Wednesday morning for Mr Pantelidis' class. It is essential that children have their PE kits in school on the correct day - plain white tee-shirt and plain blue shorts or jogging bottoms, and pumps or trainers. Please help your child to remember these.

As part of our topic work, Year 5 children will learn about The British Isles in Geography, focussing on physical features such as counties, rivers and coast-lines.

In RE we will be finding out why some people believe that God exists. Our PSHEC topic is the first puzzle in our Jigsaw scheme and is all about 'Being Me In My World'. Through these lessons, children will be finding out about rights and responsibilities. In Music, we will be exploring texture, pitch and pulse through 80's rock anthems. We will be learning the names of different animals and colours in French and in Computing, we will be learning all about coding.

Thank you for your support,

Miss James and Mr Pantelidis

Year 6

Welcome back to The Upper Junior Department!

This half term, in our English lessons, we will be teaching the children to use figurative language to create imagery in their writing, using Roald Dahl's 'Boy' as inspiration. Guided and/or individual reading will take place in lessons daily - please continue to hear your child read at home regularly, discuss new vocabulary with them, ask your child questions about the text, and comment in your child's reading record. Please help your child to remember to bring their school Reading Book and Reading Record into school each day. Spelling is taught daily as part of our English lessons and handwriting lessons take place twice weekly.

In Maths lessons this half term, we will be focusing initially on Place Value and securing children's knowledge of how the number system works. Please continue to help your child to learn and regularly practise their times tables facts up to and including 12 x 12 at home.

In our Science lessons this half term, Year 6 children will learn about Light initially before moving onto Electricity. They will learn how to construct circuits, make switches and vary a circuit's output by changing components.

We will be teaching the children to describe and compare places through our Geography lessons about two areas in the U.K: Snowdonia and Salford. This work will link closely to work carried out during our residential visit to Lledr Hall in October.

Computing lessons will focus on coding, using the platform of Purple Mash.

In French, the children will be focusing on a unit of work called 'Let's visit a French Town'.

PE lessons for both Mrs Riley's class and Miss Cunningham's class will take place on Friday mornings. It is essential that all children have their PE kits in school on the correct day - plain white tee-shirt and plain blue shorts or jogging bottoms, and pumps or trainers. Please help your child to remember these.

Our RE work will investigate how different people show their commitment to God, and our PSHE topic is called *Being Me in My World*. Through these lessons, the children will be learning all about the rights and responsibilities of global citizens.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs Riley and Miss Cunningham