



Newsletter 1 – October 2018

Headteacher's Update

It's been a fantastic start to the term! Years 4, 5 and 6 have kept their positive attitudes up and have been working really hard, and Year 3 are settling in well too. It's been lovely to see the excellent work they have produced so far and I am sure they will continue to amaze us as the year goes on. I've particularly enjoyed seeing the children starting to learn their new ReflectEd skills, and Epsilon class even helped me improve my juggling skills!

It's been great to see all the new faces on the gate, and already I think the hill is definitely helping make me fitter! You have probably also noticed my hat – the children chose which one I would wear in an assembly about democracy – so now they have chosen, that is the one I must wear!

Luckily, the children made more sensible choices when it came to choosing their class councillors, and I look forward to seeing what they decide to develop this year. They all had to campaign for votes, and then elections were held where children had to fill in their voting slips, and then the votes were counted. Our new school councillors are great choices, but some votes were very close, so a big well done to all of those who took part!

Chocolate Bingo

Our parent group have organised a Chocolate Bingo Night for 5pm on 9th October – we are looking forward to this and I am sure it will be a great event!

School Photographs

Children will be having their individual school photos taken on 9th October.

ParentPay / ParentMail

After a few teething problems, ParentPay is now up and running! We are still working to resolve some issues with ParentMail for new Parents, but this should be up and running soon! Thank you for your patience in this matter.

Termly Learning Conferences

Termly Learning Conferences are our Parents Evenings. These will take place on Tuesday 30th October between 3.30 and 8.00pm. You will be able to come and speak with your child's teacher to talk about some of your child's favourite work and see how they are doing. More information will be coming out soon!



Year 6 Secondary School Places

Secondary school applications now have to be done online - you will not receive anything in the post about this, so please make sure you fill in the application! Please visit the following link and complete your application by 31st October.

https://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Admissions/Pages/Apply_for_a_secondary_school_place.aspx

Curriculum Changes

We are updating our curriculum this year, to make it more engaging for the children. We want our school community's views to be considered when planning it, so we have already started asking the staff and children their views in school. We would also like some information from parents, so that we can consider what is important to you as well.

If you would like to complete the survey, please find it online at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PV255CR> . We appreciate your time and input!

Our New Mission Statement

Before the summer holidays, we decided to update our mission statement to better fit the things which are important to our school. We asked children and staff what kind of school they wanted to be, and this is the final version. I think they came up with some fantastic ideas!

We are Monkwick Junior School.

We are one team.

We value everyone: we are all important.

We look out for each other and keep each other safe.

We are kind, caring and respectful. We welcome everyone.

We recognise and celebrate the talent in ourselves and each other.

We unlock potential and enable everyone.

We make our smiles count and share the laughter.

We look for the positives, and find ways to create more.

We try our hardest and we give our best. We never give up.

We do the right thing, even when it is tough.

We aim high, and put our aspirations into actions.

We reflect on what we do, and we are always looking forward.

We work together. It makes us stronger.

We believe that we can.

We are Monkwick Junior School.