

# **Monkton CEP School**

## **Term 2 Newsletter 5 December 2016**

Dear Parents and Governors,

I would like to welcome Mrs Pilcher as our fully trained School Crossing Patrol person. .

Please remember that even though we provide a School Crossing Patrol Service you remain responsible for making sure that your children get to school safely.

Please ensure that your children accompany you to the crossing and do not run ahead or play by the roadside.

Please find attached information regarding the School Crossing Patrol Service.



**Well done and well played team!**

### **Parent Teachers Association**

The PTA Annual General Meeting took place on Thursday 17 November 2016. It was very well attended by Parents and Staff. Mrs Denise Rigden was elected to take over a PTA Chairman.

Chairman – Denise Rigden  
Vice Chairman – Nicky Law  
Treasurer – Kyla Lamb  
Secretary – Juliet Faulkner

We are very grateful to all the parents who take an active role in the PTA. You do not have to sit on the committee to help at events and your support is always very welcome.

There will be a Unwanted Clothes Collection to raise funds for the PTA on Friday 16 December at 9am. The drop off points are: Parsonage Fields, Seemark Road and outside the Village Hall.



The Netball team played a friendly match against St Laurence Junior School here at Monkton on Monday 28 November.



Kent County Cricket Club came into school on Thursday 1 December to work with Ladybird and Butterfly Class.



**Cross Country Team**

Our team took part in the Super Saturday Football Festival at Upton School on 15 November. Our team also won the Small Schools Match against Haddendene School on 19 October 2016. The team have now been entered into the Kent Small Schools Tournament, which will take place in January 2017 in Dover.

### **Anti-bullying week – 7 – 11 November**

All children took part in themed assemblies and class work as part of Anti-bullying Week.

### **Online Safety Ambassador Training**

Children from Butterfly Class have completed their training and have been working with children in Bee Class, teaching them how to be safe online. Next term they will work with Dragonfly and Ladybird Classes. Parents will be invited in during Term 6 Watch this space!



## Punctuality

Once again I have noticed that the same families are arriving later and later in the mornings. This has an impact on the start of the school day for these children and their classmates. Please can I remind you that the children should be in class by 8:50am to start their school day.

## Christmas Bazaar

We will be holding the Christmas Bazaar this Friday **9 December** in the **School Hall** from 1.30pm until 3.30pm. For those of you who are new to the school, this is an opportunity for children to purchase Christmas Presents for their family whilst raising money for the School Fund. The School Fund is used to purchase extras for school: costumes & props for plays, visiting theatre groups, school trip subsidies and many other items.

Children may bring their money in a named purse/envelope and hand it to their Class teacher for safekeeping. Classes will visit the Bazaar with their Class teacher. All parents and friends are welcome to visit the Bazaar from 3pm

**We would be grateful for donations of gifts suitable for sale i.e. toiletries, confectionery, fancy goods and stationary. These should be of saleable quality please!**

Please give your donations to the Classroom Assistants in the Courtyard or take them to the school office. We thank you in advance for your continued support.

**Please keep sending in your donations right up until the morning of the Bazaar – Thank You.**

## Christmas Raffle

This year the First Prize Christmas Raffle Prize is a Samsung Galaxy Tablet!

Christmas Raffle tickets are on sale in the Courtyard and Foyer from **Wednesday 2 December** at £1.00 per strip. The raffle will be drawn after the afternoon performance of the Nativity and Carol Service.



## Demelza House Christmas Cards

Once again the staff and children will not be sending individual Christmas cards to each other. We will be taking part in the Demelza House Children's Hospice Share-a-Card scheme.

One large card is displayed in a prominent position in each classroom. Each child is encouraged to make a decoration or send in a picture of themselves to stick in their class card with a donation. On the last day of term Mrs Webb will post the cards to Demelza House where they will be given to the children who are too sick to spend Christmas at home. Our donation to the running cost of Demelza House will be forwarded after Christmas.

## Xmas Lunch

The whole school traditional Christmas lunch served by the 'Monkton Waitress Service' (school staff) will take place on **Thursday 15 December**.

## Carol Service and Nativity – 19 December 2016

This year we will be holding two performances of the Nativity and Carol Service. The morning performance starts at **9.45am** and the afternoon performance starts at **1.45pm**. Both performances will be ticketed. Request forms were sent out last week. Please return your forms as soon as possible. Tickets will be sent out in envelopes via your child's book bag. Any excess tickets will be issued on Thursday 15 December.

The Carol Service and Nativity are being filmed this year. Order forms will be sent out later this week.

Our wonderful PTA will be serving refreshments after the afternoon performance.

## Stiletto Shoes

Just a reminder - when visiting the school hall, please avoid wearing stiletto heeled shoes and boots.

## Christmas Party

The school party will be held on **Tuesday 20 December**. The pantomime this year is Jack and the Beanstalk.

Once again the PTA are arranging the food for the party, please see the information flyer they sent out last week.

**Your child will not need a packed lunch or a school meal on this day. This is a non-school uniform day. Warm sensible party clothes to be worn on this day!**

School also finishes on this afternoon – **Tuesday 20 December at 1.30pm**. If you are unable to collect your child/children at this time please inform the school office and arrangements will be made for them.

## School Text Messaging Service

Do make sure that you keep us informed when you change your mobile telephone number. This ensures that you always receive your text messages from the school.

The Spring Term 3 starts on:

**Tuesday 3 January 2017 at 8.50am**

**I would like to take this early opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year on behalf of everyone at Monkton CEP School.**

Yours sincerely,

J M Kennett  
/  
J M Kennett

J M Kennett  
Headteacher

## Just so you know...



### Advance Notice Severe Winter Weather Conditions

The school will stay open if at all possible when there is severe weather such as deep/drifting snow, very high winds, widespread flooding. Parents and carers have the responsibility of getting children/pupils to and from school safely and need to decide if the journey is safe when severe weather affects transport and/or walking conditions. Parents/carers should inform the office if their child is absent due to severe conditions making the journey unsafe. If your child has a disability and/or learning difficulty your decision to take the journey must take this into consideration. **Please consider carefully and only keep children at home if conditions are unsafe.**

On occasions, the school may need to close and we will inform you of this using the text messaging service. We will also lodge the closure on the Kent Closures website. To determine whether any school is open or closed please visit [www.kentclosures.co.uk](http://www.kentclosures.co.uk). Search for the school in the search box. The Kent closures website can also be used to find out if other services in Kent are open or closed, such as nurseries, children's centres and libraries. You can also listen to KMFM, BBC Radio Kent or Heart FM to hear if a school has closed.

Late opening and/or early closure is a possibility in poor weather conditions and again we will inform you via the text messaging service and/or Kent Closures website and Local Radio.



## What can you do to help?

- Please check your phone for text messages. Visit [www.kent.gov.uk/winter](http://www.kent.gov.uk/winter) for more information about gritting routes and travel issues around Kent so you can plan your journey.
- Don't forget suitable warm clothing – gloves, hats, scarves, wellies etc. and a change of trousers (we go out to play if it snows!).

If you are a working parent or feel you may have a problem with a sudden earlier pick up, please could you put a back-up plan in place with another family member or parent and inform us on the day. This will allow staff to leave earlier for their safety if weather dictates

If conditions worsen in the school day and parents feel it is absolutely necessary to collect children, please report to school office and let Mrs Webb know that you are taking your child home.

**Please avoid collecting children before the end of the day, particularly if you live in Monkton, unless you feel their safety is at risk.**

Please ensure your child is appropriately clothed for cold/wet/windy weather and that shoes/boots have good grip for icy conditions.

