



MONKSMEAD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January News 2018

www.monksmead.herts.sch.uk

Dear Parents

Our school officially opened in March 1958 which means we are due to celebrate our 60th birthday at the end of this term. Keep reading the newsletter to stay up to date with news of our birthday celebrations, here is a little clue to what it may involve!

Happy February!

Mrs Elsley



January 2018 Governing Body update

A question I have been asked by friends, family and other parents is 'What does a governor do?' I thought it would be good to start the new year with a brief explanation.

The governing board consists of nine governors (3 staff, 4 parents and 2 independent).

Generally, governors do not act independently, but work as a team with three primary goals:

- ♦ Overseeing financial performance - reviewing the short and long term budgetary strategy
- ♦ Holding the head to account - checking that the educational performance of the school is good
- ♦ Vision and strategy - ensuring that the school has and follows, a strategic, ethical and moral directions

To do this, we have a number of meetings each term, as well as taking advantage of Herts for Learning (HfL) training sessions, guidance sessions, visiting the school during term time and keeping abreast of the changes in the education world.

With Mrs Elsley's imminent departure, we are now, as a governing body, tasked with the job of finding the next head, one that will uphold the morals and values which the school embodies and continue to make it a better place for our children without a doubt there are big shoes to fill, however, we are committed to finding the right person.

When I applied for the role in 2016, I had an inkling of what was involved, there would be a time commitment and tea at some point. What I hadn't realised was how interesting and rewarding the role would be or how much I would learn. It has been a fascinating journey so far and one I am very passionate about and I look forward to continuing in the next year!

Alastair Cox-Vice Chair

HEADTEACHER AWARDS

This month the following children have received a Head teacher award. Well done to you all!

	12th January		19th January			26th January	
Year 1	Jacob	Holly	Christopher	Tia		Aiden	Daisy
Year 2	Lewis	Jasmine	Victoria	Krish		Jake	Oliver
Year 3	Ram	Kiara	Noya	Jasmine		Krish	Rivera
Year 4	James	Daytona	Lea	Fabion		Auston	Maisie
Year 5	Jake	Akshadha	Eve	Emmanuel	Miracle	Janelle	Emma
Year 6	Raahim	Ela-May	Georgia	Charlie		Jana	Caitlin
The park with the most merits this week	Aberford		Ripon			Maxwell	

NURSERY

Hannah
Nathan
Ethan
Lucas

RECEPTION

Alfie
Adam
Freddie
Avni

FOUNDATION STAGE HEADTEACHER'S STARS



Dean Beadle Autism Speaker Event

Dean is a world-renowned speaker who has toured the UK for the past ten years sharing his experiences of life as a person on the autism spectrum. In recent years he has also spoken in Denmark, Belgium, Guernsey and Ireland as well as undertaking four seminar tours of Australia and New Zealand. Through his humorous and insightful speeches Dean outlines his positive outlook on his diagnosis and gives amazing insight into the life of an Autistic child.

Date: Wednesday 21st February 2018

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Summerswood Primary School Furzehill Road, Borehamwood, Herts, WD6 2DW

Cost £5 - Tickets are available from the school office by emailing admin@summerswood.herts.sch.uk

Advanced bookings only. Tickets are limited and are on a first come first served basis. Please note that this event is for adults only and there will be no provision for children.

FEBRUARY UPDATE

Class Assembly Dates

Year 5 Thursday 1st February

Year 1 Thursday 8th February

Parents are welcome at 9:05am to come and join us.

HALF TERM

**Monday 12th February
to Friday 16th February**

WORDS IN THE WOOD

Martin Impey & Hilary Robinson are coming to visit us on Monday 29th January.

This year we will be looking at two of their books called Flo of the Somme (Fs/KS1) and A song for Will and the Lost Gardeners of Heligan (KS2). A pink order form has been sent home for a chance to order a signed book.

Each class will spend time producing pieces of writing inspired by the stories during the day leading up to World Book Day.

This year the children's work produced by the project will be displayed in our own individual schools.

Valentines Disco

Friday 2nd February

Rec & KS1 - 2-3pm

KS2 - 3:30-4:30pm

***This event is free,
no tickets required***

Applying for a Nursery Place in for 2017-2018

If your child was born between 1st Sept 2014 and 31st Aug 2015 it is now time to apply for a Nursery place.

How do I apply?

Our application form for Nursery places for September 2018 is on our school website www.monksmead.herts.sch.uk/parents/admissions. You can apply for a nursery place from the **1st February 2018 to 16th March 2018**.

Parents will need to fill in parts of the form before returning it to the school office. Incomplete applications will not be considered as part of the nursery admissions.

How are applications considered?

Once the closing date has arrived, we will then consider all the applications made. If there are less than 30 applications made, all offers will be made. If we receive more applications, then the following will be applied.

1. Does your child have an EHCP?
2. Is your child a looked after child?
3. Does your child have any medical or social reasons why Monksmead is the school they should go to?
4. Does your child have a sibling in the school?
5. Are you taking up the 30 hour offer?
6. The distance you live from the school.

To be eligible for criteria 1-3, further documents will be required at the point of application. If these are not sent in with the application form, these criterias will not be considered.

SPORTS NEWS

February

- 1 Girls football Monksmead v Summerswood (HOME) 3:30–4:40pm
- 5 Y4/5 Boys football Monksmead v Summerswood At (HOME) 3:30–4:40pm
- 7 Girls football Kenilworth v Monksmead (AWAY) 3:30–4:40pm
- 26 Y4/5 Boys football St Nicholas v Monksmead (AWAY) 3:30–4:40pm



Football



Unfortunately some games have had to be cancelled due to pitches being water logged, let's hope the weather will improve.



The staff would like to say a huge thank you for all the lovely Christmas gifts.



Your recycled Christmas cards were swapped for 4 little saplings for the school!



We urgently require boxes of tissues, if you can donate any we would be very grateful

Thank you

Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime

Wow!

A fantastic time was had by all watching the Jack and the Beanstalk Panto.



The children thoroughly enjoyed our annual visit to the Gordon Craig Theatre, roll on the next one!

GET READY FOR MARCH!

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

Thursday 1st March is World Book Day. This year we will be asking the children (and staff) to dress as their favourite book character.

The Office

Please ensure any money given into the office is put into an envelope, with your child's name on and what it's for, with the correct change.

Sickness in School

Please be aware that a high number of children have been of school with a sickness bug. Our school policy is, any child who is sick should remain of school for a minimum of 48 hours from when they were last sick, to prevent the bug spreading further.

Thank you for your co-operation on this matter.