



# SCHOOL NEWS

13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY  
2026

## HEADTEACHER UPDATE

What a way to finish the half term – rockstar style! 🎸★

It was wonderful to have a hall full of rocking rockstars whose focus was on improving their times tables and number facts, all whilst looking the coolest possible. The wonderful and imaginative costumes on show were fantastic – from full tattoo sleeves to multi-coloured mohicans, the creativity and enthusiasm were incredible!

Learning times tables really is a superpower. When children know their number facts confidently, it helps them solve problems more quickly and accurately, builds confidence in maths lessons, and strengthens understanding in areas such as division, fractions, percentages and even algebra as they move through their learning journey. Fluency frees up valuable brainpower, allowing children to focus on reasoning and problem-solving rather than working out basic facts.

During the assembly, I was challenged to complete a session to set my time. With a little help from some brilliant audience participation, I set a high bar of 1.26 seconds – a challenge for quite a few in Key Stage Two to beat! Key Stage Two's online battles will continue right up to the end of the first week back, so keep battling and keep practising – every minute really does make a difference.

Have a lovely and restful half term. I hope you all enjoy a well-earned break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back, ready to rock their learning once again! ★

*Mrs Otway*

## THE MONKSMOOR WAY AWARDS

This week, we proudly celebrated another group of Monksmoor Way Award winners. These awards recognise children who continually live out our school values through their learning, behaviour, and the way they treat others.

Reception - Harry  
Year 1 - Rory  
Year 2 - David  
Year 3 - Sophia  
Year 4 - Olly  
Year 5 - Sophia B  
Year 6 - Bella



## BOOK FAIR 2026

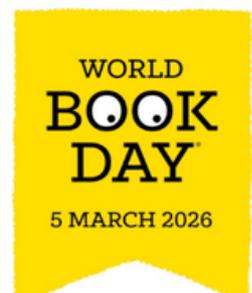
Thank you to everyone who visited and supported our recent book fair. It was wonderful to see so many families and children enjoying the event and sharing a love of reading. Thanks to your generosity, we sold nearly £900 worth of books, which means we now have **£450** to reinvest directly into our school library.

We are excited to share that this money will be used to purchase a wide range of poetry books for all ages. These new additions will help inspire creativity, develop a love of language, and ensure there is something for every reader to enjoy. Thank you once again for helping us enrich our library and support reading across the school.

## UP COMING EVENTS

**16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Feb - Half term - School Closed**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Feb - School reopens for Term 4 - Promptly at 08:40 am**





Today we say a huge thank you and we will miss you to Miss Martin.

Over the last three and a half years, she has worked with many pupils and families, supporting them with care and dedication. She has been a friendly face to all staff and someone we could always rely on.

As she said, it is a "see you later" rather than a goodbye, as she will always be part of our school team.

We wish her health and happiness in her future, and every success in her next chapter. ❤️



Spring Term



<b>Monday</b>	Running Club (KS2)
<b>Tuesday</b>	Knitting Club (KS2) History Club (KS2) Craft Club (Yr1-2)
<b>Thursday</b>	Choir (YrR-6) Chess Club (KS2) Read then Bead Club (Yr2-4)
<b>Friday</b>	SuperStar Sport Club - Football

Please note all staff-led clubs finish promptly at 16:15pm and run from/to:  
Week commencing: 12.01.2026  
Week ending: 20.03.2026



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## MESSAGES AND NEWS

### Children's Mental Health Week

This week, children explored their sense of belonging by creating a personal map, which included places, groups and activities where they feel they belong.



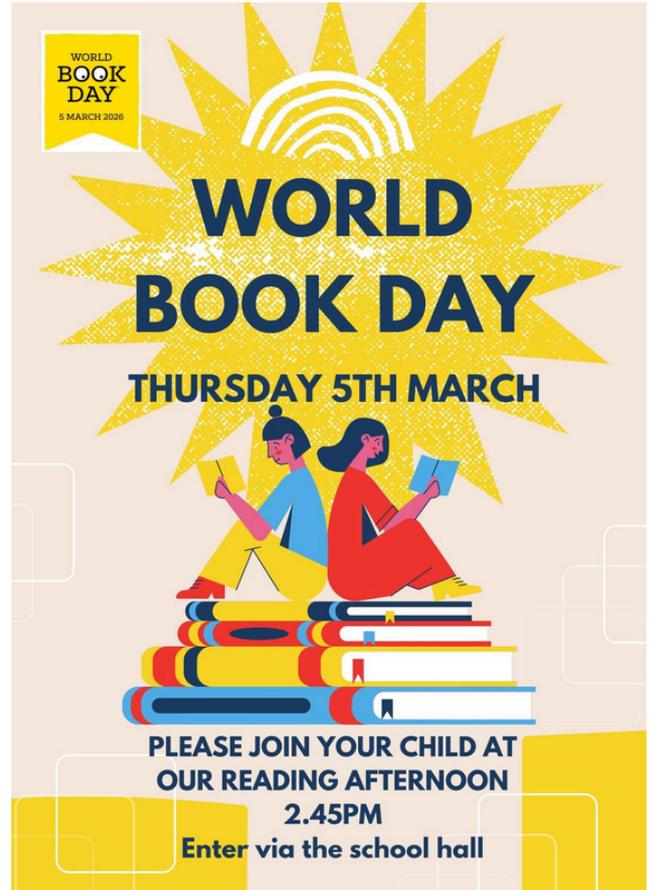
### Year 3 Create Special Birthday Cards for Amelia

Year 3 have been busy spreading some extra cheer by creating individual birthday cards for Amelia Kolpa, a brave young girl in palliative care who will be turning 8 on 3rd March.

The children worked hard to design and decorate their cards with bright colours, heartfelt messages, and drawings to make Amelia's birthday extra special. It was wonderful to see their creativity and kindness shine through, showing how much they care about bringing joy to someone else.



# CONTINUED...



## PTA EVENT: Decorate A Wooden Spoon For World Book Day



To celebrate **World Book Day** on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026**, the PTA invites all children to choose a character from a book and decorate a wooden spoon to bring them to life.

Be as creative as you like - use paint, fabric, paper, wool, or card (no food items, please!).

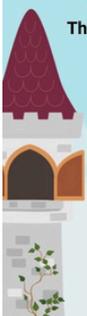
Prizes will be awarded for the Best Character Spoons in the following categories: FS (Foundation Stage), KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2

Wooden spoons will be provided by the school for a **£1 fee** - with all proceeds going to the PTA to continue providing excellent opportunities and extras for our children.

Please bring your £1 in to swap for a spoon anytime between now and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

The closing date for entries is **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March**, with winners being announced **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**.

**GOOD LUCK!**



## Monksmoor Park PTA Wants YOU!

...yes, **YOU** – the brilliant grown-up reading this!

**Drop-In Coffee Morning**  
**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026**  
From 8:40am • School Hall

**Come for the coffee... Stay for the chat...**  
Leave feeling like a PTA superhero (cape optional).

Meet our lovely PTA **Chair**, find out what we actually do, and see how you can join our friendly team. There are **no requirements, no pressure, and no minimum time commitment**. Give a little or give a lot – it all helps.

- ♥ Every penny raised goes straight back to the children
- ♥ We fund events, experiences, and magical moments across the school
- ♥ You'll be part of something that genuinely makes a **difference**

Come along, **say hello**, and see what we're all about!

We promise good **vibes**, **warm drinks**, and **zero judgement** if you arrive clutching a pastry.