

## HEADTEACHER UPDATE

And just like that, another week has flown by!

On Tuesday, I took some of our Key Stage 2 children to Northampton to take part in a cross-country competition. I thoroughly enjoyed this event and seeing the children supporting and encouraging one another throughout the day, truly showing our Christian values in action. Well done to everyone who took part! Their kindness, teamwork and respect for each other shone through, and they should all be incredibly proud of how they represented the school. Thank you to Mrs Kemp for coming along and for your top tips!

On Wednesday evening, we welcomed Nursery parents into school for our Importance of Talk workshop, focused on exploring just how important talk is in supporting our little ones' language development and learning. Thank you to all the parents who attended.

Thank you to everyone who made a donation to Thursday's Harvest Festival - as always, we were amazed by the generosity of our Monksmoor community. Daventry Food Bank were very grateful for your kindness. Please do remember that we have a donation point in the school foyer ready for your donations any time of year.

We elected our new School Council this week. All of the children who put themselves forward did a fab job, and we'd like to say a big well done to everyone who took part. Congratulations to our newly elected councillors. I can't wait to hear your ideas and see the difference you make across our school community!

As we head into the final week of term, let's make it a great one! We're ready to end on a high with our school disco - so get those glad rags ready and let's celebrate in style!

- 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.

|               |           |
|---------------|-----------|
| <b>Year 1</b> | Harry W   |
| <b>Year 2</b> | Everleigh |
| <b>Year 3</b> | David     |
| <b>Year 4</b> | Sarah     |
| <b>Year 5</b> | Phoebe    |
| <b>Year 6</b> | Charis    |



## SCHOOL ACCESS

A reminder that the side gate should not be used for drop-off or pick-up.

**Please use the main school gate.**

For the safety and security of everyone, parents/carers must not allow anyone else to enter through a locked gate after they have been given access themselves.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school secure.

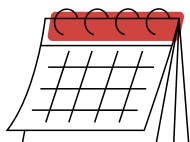
## UPCOMING EVENTS

**21<sup>st</sup> October** - Welcome Wednesday (Reception)

**22<sup>nd</sup> October** - Together Thursday (Year 1 to Year 6)

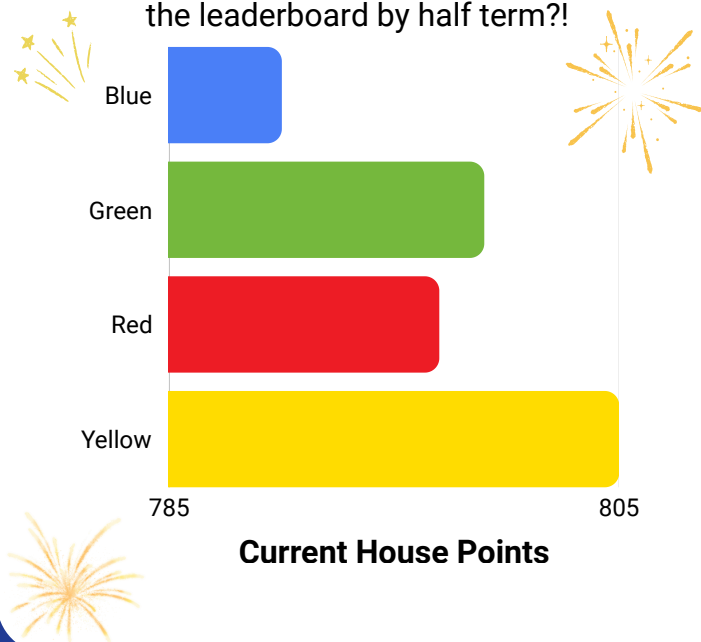
**22<sup>nd</sup> October** - School Disco Time!

**23<sup>rd</sup> October** - Last day of term



## HOUSE POINT LEADERBOARD

The children are working so hard to earn points for their Houses. Yellow house are leading by just 15 points at the moment, but who will top the leaderboard by half term?!



Current House Points



## Autumn Term 2026

|           |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|
| Monday    | No clubs next week |
| Tuesday   | No clubs next week |
| Wednesday | No clubs next week |
| Thursday  | No clubs next week |
| Friday    | No clubs next week |

Clubs restart wc 9<sup>th</sup> November.



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## MESSAGES AND NEWS

### COATS FOR KIDS

Pupils may remember Rev. John, who regularly visited our school last year. Each year, he helps coordinate this fantastic campaign. You can find more info [here](#).



## LOCAL SUPPORT AND EVENTS

Please follow the link below to find see what's on in your local area:

[West Northamptonshire Stay Connected Newsletter - October 2026](#)

*This is a live document and lots of free and cheap activities and events are advertised.*



## NEWS FROM THE PTA

### SCHOOL DISCO

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Don't forget to get your ticket in Arbor if your child will be joining us for the disco. Ticket sales close Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 23:59.

*Please note: If you had a ticket for the postponed Summer disco, you will still need to "purchase" a ticket via Arbor but it will be zero cost.*

'Nurturing all to flourish and aspire.'



# NEWSLETTER

As part of the **CyberwiseSchoolsPartnershipProgramme**



Welcome to the Cyberwise Schools Partnership! We are thrilled to be working in partnership with your school, enhancing teaching and learning in the area of digital education,, but most importantly supporting and empowering you as parents to prioritise the wellbeing of your children as they navigate our digital world. Read on for practical tips, pointers and resources!

## Cyberwise days in your school...

This term we will be visiting over 20 schools to deliver hands on pupil workshops to the students as part of our digital world day. All of the workshops, and indeed our Cyberwise Programme, focus on our five rules for balancing screentime to keep children happy, healthy and safe.



Children who spend more time on screens were found to have higher 'socioemotional' and mental health problems, researchers found. Photograph: Imago/Alamy

Huge new study warns of the significant impact of elevated screen time on child development and wellbeing.  
Click on the image to read the full Guardian article

Today we have been learning four simple rules to help us manage our screentime for better wellbeing:

-  Most of your day should be spent creating, exploring and playing away from screens
-  Screens belong in living spaces not sleeping spaces
-  Leave devices at home
-  Turn off screens an hour before bed

We recommend no smartphones for primary children, and no social media until 16

the conversation...

## In The News

ASky News

investigation exposed extreme content and grooming gangs operating in plain sight on Roblox – tighter controls do not mean our children are safe on this platform



## Recommended Resources...

Click the image below to check out our online parent advice films – offering practical advice and support



## Top Tips if your child enjoys gaming

- Rather than unlimited access, choose two or three games that you have seen and are happy with
- Ensure accounts are set up for the correct age child and that all chat functions are turned off
- Make sure they are playing in a communal space (not in bedrooms) with adults around
- Consider limiting their game playing to once or twice a week
- Hold off until at least key stage 2
- Encourage your children to access better-regulated and higher quality games such as Minecraft/Mario Kart

## The importance of play



One of the main problems with increased screentime for children is that they are missing out on traditional play. This type of play is so important because it develops vital, lifelong skills: perseverance, problem-solving, and delayed gratification.

Most of your day should be spent creating, exploring and playing away from screens

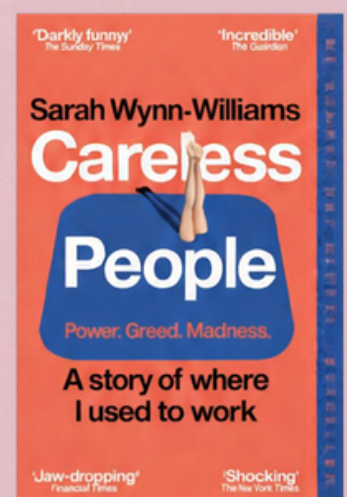


As children get older it can seem that they are less interested in "toys". But when we bring these activities into school, be it playdough or lego, engagement sky rockets whether it's reception or year 6!

Why not pop some on the Christmas lists?

This Memoir is written by Sarah Wynn-Williams, an ex-employee of META. It is an insightful read on how the company prioritise endless profit over the wellbeing of its employees and users including children.

Another reason we are so glad that the UK is implementing the social media ban for under 16s next year



the conversation...