

SCHOOL NEWS

WEDNESDAY 2ND
SEPTEMBER

WELCOME BACK!

I hope you have all had a restful break and enjoyed some quality family time. We are excited to begin a new year and build on the many successes of last year.

Over the past two days, staff have been completing vital training, preparing classrooms and getting ready to welcome their new classes. There is a real buzz around school as we look forward to seeing the children return. There are a few important reminders and changes to share with you ahead of tomorrow, so please take a moment to read the information below.

I am very much looking forward to seeing lots of smiling faces and hearing plenty of cheerful "Good morning!" greetings on the gate tomorrow! Here's to another successful year as we Flourish and Aspire together.

CLASS TEACHERS

Nursery - Mr Margieson

Reception - Mrs Ellison

Year 1 - Mrs Haywood

Year 2 - Miss Rockcliffe

Year 3 - Mrs Cockerell

Year 4 - Mr Wyness

Year 5 - Mrs George and Mr Gatehouse

Year 6 - Miss Field

Forest School - Mrs Copland

Mrs Otway

CHANGES TO SCHOOL ENTRY

Following feedback from parents and staff, and recommendations from recent safety inspections, the side car park gate will no longer be used for drop-off or pick-up at the beginning or end of the school day.



Please use the main front school gate. Nursery children should use the designated Nursery gate, while Reception children may use either the Nursery or main gate.

The breakfast and after-school clubs will continue to use the side car park gate, as children are supervised by an adult when crossing the car park.

Y1 - Y6 MEET THE TEACHER EVENING

WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

We are pleased to invite parents and carers in to school at 6:30pm on Wednesday 9th September.

Mrs Otway will begin with a short presentation in the school hall, followed by a 20-minute presentation in your child's classroom. If you have children in more than one class, the classroom presentations will be repeated afterwards, giving you the opportunity to attend each child's session.

Class teachers will discuss classroom routines, timetables and topics being studied, as well as providing an opportunity for questions. Wherever possible, we kindly ask that children do not attend, as we anticipate a large number of parents and carers in school.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

! ALLERGIES

We have children in school with severe, life-threatening allergies, including reactions to nuts. We therefore kindly ask that parents do not send food containing nuts into school. Please check food labels carefully when preparing snacks and packed lunches. Your support is vital in helping us maintain a safe environment for all our children.

MEDICATION



Please ensure that all medication is brought to the **school office on Thursday**, clearly labelled with your child's name. If your child's medical needs have changed, please also provide us with an updated healthcare plan so that we can ensure we have the correct information and appropriate arrangements in place.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Good attendance really matters. Regular attendance and punctuality are essential to help children make the most of their learning and make sure they feel settled and ready to learn each day.



School gates open at **8:30am** and the school day begins at **8:40am**, when the gates will be locked. Children arriving after this time must be signed in through the school office. Please make every effort to ensure your child arrives on time.

All absences must be reported to school by **8:30am**. An absence will only be authorised where there is a genuine and appropriate reason, in line with our Attendance Policy and statutory guidance.

Term-time holidays will not be authorised, and unauthorised absence may result in a penalty notice.

We understand that illness and unexpected circumstances can sometimes affect attendance. Please ensure you follow the correct procedures and read our [Attendance Policy](#) so you are familiar with how to report absence and request authorisation.

SCHOOL UNIFORM



All children should return in the correct school uniform, including suitable footwear. Further information is available on our website [here](#).

Please label every item of clothing, including coats and PE kits. We currently have an empty lost property bin and would love to keep it that way!

We also have a selection of pre-loved school uniform, kindly donated by families, available in the school office reception area. Please feel free to take anything you may find useful and help us recycle and reuse.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

MAKING MONKSMOOR A HEALTHY SCHOOL

As part of our commitment to supporting children's health and wellbeing, we are encouraging healthy choices at breaktime. Children are welcome to **bring fruit or vegetables** to enjoy as a snack. We kindly ask that crisps, sweets, chocolate and other sugary snacks are not provided for snack time. 

Children should also bring a named water bottle filled with water each day. Staying well hydrated helps children to concentrate, stay alert and feel ready to learn, while also supporting their overall health and wellbeing throughout the school day.



As a school, we are also exploring West Northamptonshire's Healthy Schools Award, which supports schools to develop healthy eating, physical activity and wellbeing across the whole school. These small steps help us create healthy habits and support our children to Flourish and Aspire.

WRAP-AROUND CARE

Bookings are now live in Arbor. Please remember places are limited and allocated on a first come, first served basis and bookings close 24 hours before the session takes place. If you are unable to book in Arbor, this means the session is full. Please do not drop children off at breakfast club without a prior booking as we may have to turn them away. Children remaining at the end of the day without an after school club booking will need to be collected promptly. Late collections impact staffing ratios and repeated occurrences may incur a fee.



We would like to thank all parents and carers for your patience and understanding as we introduce Arbor to the school community.

As with any new system, there has been a period of adjustment as we and our families become familiar with the new platform. We are pleased with the progress so far and are confident that Arbor will provide a more streamlined and straightforward way for us to communicate with families and manage important school information going forward.

We are continuing to monitor the system closely and are working through any queries to ensure everything runs as smoothly as possible. If you have already contacted the school office with a query, please rest assured that we will get back to you as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or need any support with Arbor, please do not hesitate to contact the school office, who will be happy to help wherever possible.

Thank you again for your patience, support and understanding. We are excited about the benefits Arbor will bring and look forward to continuing to develop our use of the system over the coming weeks.