



# Monkleigh Primary Newsletter

A PLACE TO SMILE, A PLACE TO SHARE, A PLACE TO SUCCEED



**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021**

Dear Parents,

**From the Headteacher**



**Staffing** - *Thank you for your patience if some things are taking a little longer to be sorted, I am doing my best to answer the phone and respond as quickly as possible, sadly Mrs Beer now has Covid (she is doing well) so we are still short staffed.*

It has been a challenging term dealing with high covid rates in Torridge, risk assessments, staff shortages due to illness to name a few but it has been so lovely in many ways too. The children in FSU have been having a weekly visit outside of school, Class 1 have been learning about The Great Fire of London and making sculptures out of clay, Class 2 children have been making sculptures and learning to play the trumpet, and Class 3 have had great fun learning sea shanties, metal sculpture making and learning about Henry VIII (and singing the Horrible Histories version). Some of our children have been representing us in High 5 and Indoor Athletics and it has been wonderful to see the end of Covid Bubbles and all children playing together again in the playground.

It's definitely feeling festive here, the children have been rehearsing hard for tomorrow's performances of Peter Pan, the props are made and lines learned (hopefully!). Families were invited to take part in a lovely Lantern Parade last week, we have our yummy Christmas Dinner this week, and we're looking forward to our visit to the Pantomime next week to get us well and truly in the festive mood.

**School Production – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December, Weare Giffard Hall 1.45pm & 6.30pm – SOLD OUT**



The children have worked so hard for this year's play and it is truly magical. Thank you for supporting the school and your children in buying tickets and coming to the performances. To keep everyone safe at our performances we are asking that everyone attending has to have carried out an LFT and have a negative result, everyone to sanitise their hands on arrival and to wear a mask throughout the performance. We will try and ventilate the hall as much as possible so it may be a bit chilly!

**Arrangements on the day.** All children to be dropped off at Weare Giffard Village Hall at 9.30am on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>, hot school dinners will be served on site for those children that have ordered. All others, please bring a packed lunch. Children to be collected from Weare Giffard Village Hall **at the later time of 3.30pm**, and returned for 6pm please – for the evening performance. If you are watching the performance in the afternoon and you have a child in FSU, please collect them and take them with you to the performance (they can sit on your knee), unless you have made alternative arrangements for someone to collect them at the usual time of 3pm.

**Visiting Author – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

We have been very lucky to have been given 2 copies of a new children's book before they are released for sale. Mr Sussex and Mrs Slocombe have been reading – "Lifes crazy! Esme's story" to class 2 and 3 and they have really enjoyed it. The book is written by a local author – Danny Hughes and he will be visiting the school next Thursday. He will be reading a few chapters to the children and answering any questions. He will then be selling signed copies on the day for £8.99 so if you would like a copy for your child, please do send some money in a labelled envelope. There will also be an official launch of the book with music in the Plough at 6pm on 10<sup>th</sup> Dec.

**FSU – Caterpillars – Sharing Learning Journeys Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2-3pm**

We would like to invite parents of Caterpillar children to come into FSU on the afternoon of Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December to have a look at what they've been up to this term – Parents of Butterflies have been updated through the term thanks to Seesaw.

**FSU – Headlice** - Please make sure that all children in the FSU who have hair which is long enough to be tied back have their hair tied back every day. This includes boys please. We are trying to reduce the numbers of little unwanted visitors to the FSU! Thank you in advance.

**Class Parties – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December** As per last year, we are asking parents to supply a plate of party food **for their child only**. It seems sensible in light of Covid. Hopefully next year we'll be back to bring and share! Remember No Nuts or food containing nuts!



**Music lessons** - Is your child interested in learning a musical instrument as you know we have one peripatetic music teacher giving piano and brass lessons, but we also have the opportunity to work with another teacher who teaches a whole range of instruments. So if there is an instrument your child is interested in please let us know. Lessons could then be arranged and you would pay the teacher direct.

*Karen Reeves*

□ **"STARS OF THE WEEK"** □

Caterpillars	Butterflies	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
Delilah	Sofia	William	Seb B	Winston

**Sport**

*Our High 5 Team are representing our school brilliantly on Monday evenings at Langtree School. We have 3 more matches left in the league.*

*Well done to our Indoor Athletics Team who have now been invited to go to Barnstaple in January to represent Torrington LC in the finals!*

**Until our Christmas break, please can;**

*Class 1 Come to School in PE kit on a **Thursday** with outdoor learning clothes and boots.*

*Class 2 Come to School in PE kit on a **Friday** (no Forest School clothes needed) and please bring School uniform to change into at lunchtime.*

*Class 3 Come into School in PE Kit on a **Friday** (not on a Wednesday) and please bring School uniform to change into after our lesson.*

Please remember PE shoes in School every day and if possible, a change of socks.

Please check your Class dojo or Class news above for days to come to School in PE/Outdoor clothes.

Any questions please find me on Dojo or message [sport@monkleigh-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:sport@monkleigh-primary.devon.sch.uk).

**After school Clubs** – We will be running a selection of after school clubs in the New Year. Look out for details in the first newsletter next year.

**From the Office** Please complete this [online form](#) informing us of any positive COVID tests (both LFT & PCR please)

**B&T Club / DINNERS** - If you have missed the booking deadlines, please can call the office before 2:30pm on a Thursday. (NB - accounts must be in credit by being topped up in advance for me to be able to do this.) Thank you, Di B  
The new menu can be found on the school website : [Menu \(from Jan 2022\)](#)

**Friends of Monkleigh School (FOMS)** - [Easyfundraising](#)

Thank you for your donations for our Christmas Raffle prizes and good luck to everyone who has bought a ticket!

Mondays	FSU need their PE kits – please wear kit to school
Mondays	After School Football Club
Wednesdays	Class 3 come to school in PE kit. Also bring waterproofs and wellies on that day.
Wednesdays	After School High Five Club (+ Tue 30 Nov in lieu of cancelled session 3 Nov)
Thursdays	Class 1 come to school in PE kit. Also bring waterproofs and wellies on that day.
Thursdays	Butterflies – come to school in old clothes and bring full waterproofs
Thursdays	After School Performing Arts Club ( <b>4:30pm finish</b> )
Fridays	Class 2 come to school in PE kit. Also bring waterproofs and wellies on that day.
Fri 3 Dec	Class 1 Multiskills
Mon 6 Dec	High Five match
Tue 7 Dec	Christmas Performances (Year 1-6) performances at 1:45pm & 6:30pm at Weare Giffard
Wed 8 Dec	Whole School Christmas Dinner
Thurs 9 Dec	Caterpillars (FSU) Sharing Learning Journeys with parents 2-3pm
Thurs 9 Dec	Visiting author Danny Hughes. Copies of his book will be available to buy.
Fri 10 Dec	Flu immunisation clinic for those that have given consent (Years R-6)
Tue 14 Dec	FSU Nativity 11am
Tue 14 Dec	Panto Trip, Queens Theatre Barnstaple (Years 1-6) Back to school for late lunch.
Weds 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Class Parties. Please bring in a plate of party food for your child only. There are no school dinners on this day.
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last Day of term
Weds 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan 22	Children back to school

