

January 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to everyone – we hope you had a magical Christmas with your little ones and we're sure they were all on the nice list. Christmas at Monkton was really special, it is always our favourite time of year seeing all of the excitement building. We are very lucky to do what we do! We kicked off the Christmas season with the Christmas Jumper Day – thank you all for your donations. We were also really lucky to have a visit from India's sister who is a singer, musician and music teacher. She sang Christmas songs with all of the groups and wowed them with her amazing singing, it was so much fun. Then the pyjama day was gorgeous, they all looked adorable and we enjoyed our Christmas dancing, lots of cosy stories and then some hot chocolate and chocolate biscuits. They also worked hard making lots of Christmas crafts and we hope you all loved the works of art that went home.

The main event of the Christmas party was just wonderful, it always makes me want to cry seeing all of their happy little faces watching Wavy Davy's show, and then the wonder and amazement when Father Christmas turns up, it's magical.





Points to Note

- Every year we do a 'topic week' which is just for fun really but also has lots of education and new experiences for the children. Previously we have done a French Week, a Science Week and a Save The Planet Week, and last year it was the No Toys Week. This year we are thinking of doing an 'Our Community Week' which will be w/c 14th March. So, we will be looking at people in our community and different occupations, things we can do to help our community, different cultures in our community (Liverpool being 'The world in one city'!), and why we are all proud to be a part of our community. I think we have already (99% sure!) secured a police visit for that week, however if we have any firefighters / dentists / vets / doctors / nurses / any other occupation they would find interesting, who would like to volunteer to come in and speak to Bananas and / or Oranges & Lemons about their role in the community then that would be wonderful? If you could mention it to Bananas and Oranges & Lemons and they will get planning. Ideally if you had any props / vehicles etc to make it more exciting that would be amazing.... I will keep my fingers crossed...!
- We are also looking for some volunteers from Bananas and Oranges & Lemons parents that week as we thought it would be nice to take small groups of children (with parent's consent) to the shops (just walking to Tesco on Rose Lane) to experience buying things. If anyone would be free for an afternoon to help with this please let the rooms know.
- A huge thank you all for your kind donations for Children in Need, we raised £129.70 which was wonderful 😊
- An even bigger thank you for the book donations, I was really touched by how many brand new lovely books were handed in, we had 3 big cardboard boxes full and the lady was absolutely delighted when she picked them up.
- A less fun point to note – please please please remember to shut the porch door behind you! It doesn't always shut properly if it swings shut so please take a minute to make sure it has closed properly, it is important for safeguarding.
- I will do extra days invoices this week for any unpaid extra days from last term – it looks like quite a lot at a glance... Please could you ensure that you pay in cash on the day when you take an extra day (you must ok it with the room in advance).
- If you are not receiving the room photos / emails to parents please send me an email enquiries@monktonnursery.co.uk and I will add you to the mailing lists.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 31 January – Friday 4 February – Chinese New Year We will be celebrating all week and doing various activities, Lydia will be doing noodles as a Chinese lunch on the Tuesday. Oranges & Lemons are lucky that Jasper's lovely Mummy will be coming in to teach them to make dumplings. We will also be looking at Chinese books and learning about Chinese traditions.

Monday 28 February – Friday 4 March – Literacy Week Our next focus week is on Literacy, which is an important grounding for early reading and writing. We will be looking at all of our favourite books, and focussing on children's understanding of the stories. We will also be doing lots of activities involving mark making, and O&L will be continuing with their stage 1 phonics activities. If anyone wants to bring in their favourite book to share with the group that would be lovely.

Thursday 3 March – World Book Day As part of the Literacy Week we will be doing World Book Day, always one of my favourites! We look forward to seeing your lovely costumes (no pressure!).

Monday 14 March – Friday 18 March – Our Community Week As above, any volunteers much appreciated!

Wishing you all an easy and healthy start to the year,

With love from Eve, Sue, Lydia, Noreen and all the staff at Monkton xxx