



Welcome Back to the start of a new academic year!

I hope you all had an enjoyable holiday, whatever you managed to do! On Monday, we had our first INSET of the year in which we reflected on the successes of last year and then the school priorities for this coming one. These will include developing the curriculum further following on from our Ofsted inspection last year and exploring the most effective ways to give feedback to the children to help them make progress in their work. We also had a Safeguarding update.

I know it can take a little bit of time to adjust to the changes at the start of the year but the children have done really well this week. In their classes on Tuesday, they revisited the importance of respect - respect for ourselves, each other, our rules, our learning and the school environment. By showing respect for these things, we are setting ourselves up for a successful year.

September 2024 - Meet the Teacher

Next week we will be holding Meet the Teacher sessions. These are 30 minutes and give you a chance to find out more about the curriculum that your child will be studying and how you can support your child at home.

These are aimed at parents and are not for children, so please try and make alternative arrangements on that evening. Please use the Office entrance on Knoll Drive.

If you are not able to attend, then information will be shared afterwards via the website.

	6pm	6.30pm
Monday 9th September	Year 3	Year 4
Tuesday 10th September	Year 1	Year 6
Wednesday 11th September	Year 2	Year 5

Year 6 Bikeability

We have been offered some dates for Level 2 Bikeability for Year 6. On Monday morning, you will receive a link to a Google form that you can complete to sign your child up (spaces will be allocated on a first come, first served basis). There are only 24 slots across the year group and you will only be able to sign up via the form (please do not message the Office). After all the slots are filled, we will create a waiting list. Please check with your child that they would like to do it before signing up.

The sessions will be in school time in January and your child will need a bike and helmet. The children will need to be able to ride their bike already. Further information will be sent on Monday.

These sessions are free to schools but funded by Barnet.

It may be that we are offered additional sessions later in the year but there is no guarantee.



Year 1

Year 1 have been revisiting the Colour Monster book to talk about their emotions. They have started their phonics lessons, recapping the learning they did at the end of Reception. In Maths, they have been sorting and counting objects.

Year 2

Their topic this half term is called Scrumdilyumptious. The children have been learning about nouns and adjectives in English and recapping some of the work they did in Maths in Year 1.

Year 3

This half term the children's topic is called Predator! They have been learning how to use a dictionary (these were purchase by FOMS last year) to find the definitions of some of their topic words.



Year 4

Their topic is called Potions! The children have started by looking at the story of Alice in Wonderland. At the start of the year, all the classes will be revisiting Zones of Regulation. Further information will be shared next week about this.



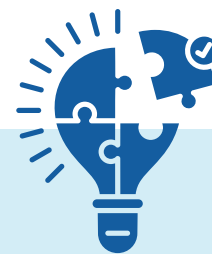
Year 5

This term their topic is Beast Creator. The children by investigating what they could find in our school grounds by carrying out their own fieldwork.

A reminder that the deposit for Kingswood is due very soon. You can find out more about the trip at the Meet the Teacher meeting.

Year 6

This term their topic is Revolution. The children have thought about some of the vocabulary that they will encounter in the topic as well as starting their class reader, Street Child by Berlie Doherty.



SENDIASS

Barnet SENDIASS is pleased to announce an online information session for Barnet resident parents/carers of children and young people with special educational needs or disability. The session will also be relevant to those who are not Barnet residents but where the children or young people attend a Barnet setting.

This is a free event hosted by Barnet Inclusion Advisory Team who will be giving a short presentation on what is ordinarily available in schools and there will be an opportunity to ask general questions.

Please note, this session will be a repeat of the in-person session delivered in February 2024

- Date: Tuesday 8 October 2024
- Time: 10am to 12.30pm
- Location: Online via MS Teams
- Presenters: Barnet Inclusion Advisory Team (IAT)
- Theme: What is Ordinarily Available? - A guide to the provision that should be ordinarily available in state funded schools in Barnet.

To register please click [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact: sendiass@barnet.gov.uk

A MESSAGE FROM FOMS

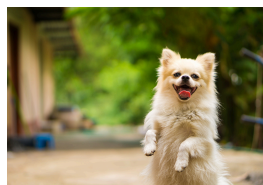
Welcome back to school to all the Monkfrith School children and their families! The FOMs team are looking forward to lots of exciting events in the year ahead.

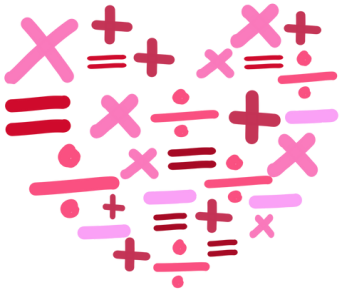
To get us in gear, and to enable input from all parents we are planning an informal “Bubbles and Brainstorm” meeting on the 19th of September from 7 pm onwards. We would love if you could join us in the school canteen to contribute your ideas and have a glass of bubbly to welcome the new school year!

This is your chance to really make a difference and input into our fundraising efforts for the year ahead. We look forward to seeing you there!

If you can't make it, please feel free to message one of your FOMs representatives with any thoughts or email us at: friendsofmonkfrithschool@gmail.com.

A polite reminder not to bring your dog on to the playground at the end of the day.





Times Tables (Year 3-6)

The National Curriculum expects that most children will know all the multiplication and division facts by the end of Year 4. In June, children in Year 4 take the government's Multiplication Screening Check, which is an online test to check whether they know their times tables.

All children practise their times tables in maths lessons from Year 1 and this is supplemented by short weekly tests. These tests are just one in a number of ways that we work on this objective. We also value all the effort that so many parents put in to helping with remembering these all important facts.

There is a lot of debate about whether children need to 'know' their times tables and whether quick recall is really necessary. Our aim as a school is to make sure that children are confident and have committed their times tables to their long term memory. By doing this, they can spend less time and effort on working out the calculation and more on using their times table knowledge to solve more complex problems. It reduces the demand on their working memory.

It is also important to remember that whilst some children can learn times tables very quickly, it can take other children a little bit longer. There is no pressure from teachers about 'passing the test', but a focus on trying your best and doing a bit better each week.

The weekly tests in Key Stage 2 are 5 minutes and focus on both multiplication and division facts e.g. $6 \times 2 = 12$, $2 \times 6 = 12$, $12 \div 2 = 6$, $12 \div 6 = 2$.

At the start of the year, children will be asked to warm-up by having a go at a test they have previously passed. If they have already earned all their badges, they will do other activities related to times tables to practice applying their knowledge.

Times tables tests will be introduced to Key Stage 1 later in the year when this part of the curriculum is covered. There will be more in the newsletter in the Spring Term about this. By the end of Year 2 children need to know the multiplication and division facts for at least the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

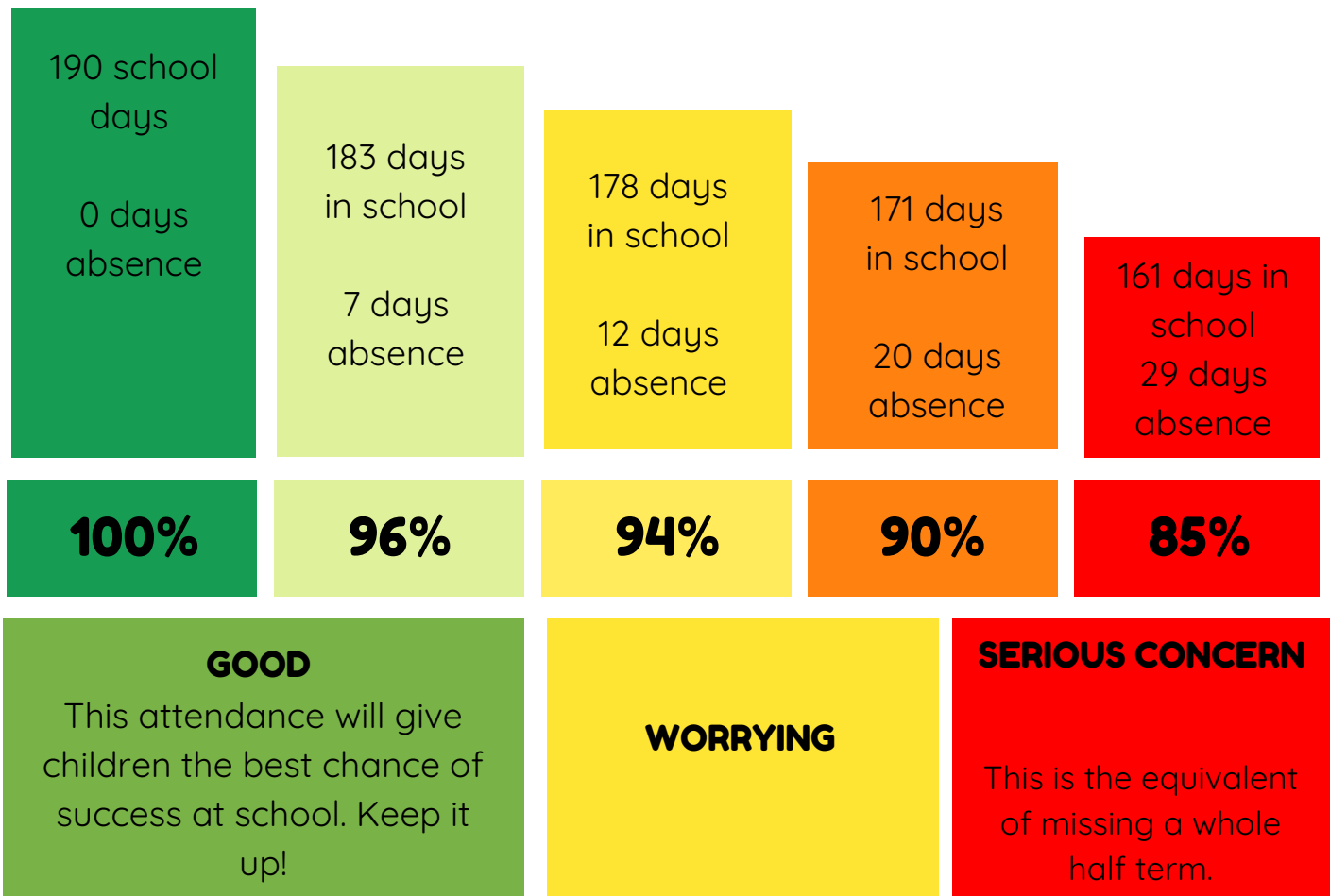
Tests	Times tables to practise	Badge
1 - 3a	2, 3, 5, 10	Blue Star
4 - 6a	2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10	Silver Star
7 - 9	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	Gold Star
10 - 12	1-12 (including decimals)	Platinum

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

365 DAYS IN A CALENDAR YEAR

175

There are 175 non-schol days during the year to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and appointments.



Attendance this week

Oak	n/a	2M	95%	5S	99%
Willow	n/a	3D	94%	5LD	93%
1C	99%	3F	93%	6P	93%
1K	97%	4B	95%	6K	83%
2CW	94%	4P	94%	Whole School	94%

Dates for 2024/5

9th - 11th September - Meet the Teacher

18th September - Year 6 to the Royal Gunpowder Mills (details to follow shortly)

October - Black History Month 'Reclaiming Narratives'

2nd October to 4th October - Year 5 to Kingswood

7th October - Year 6 Bikeability (details to follow in September)

8th October - Curriculum Meeting for EYFS parents (Phonics and Maths) 7pm

18th October - **Show Racism the Red Card** (children to wear red)

21st/22nd October - Parent Consultations

Friday 25th - Last Day of Autumn 1 (normal finish time). Flu Vaccinations

Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November - HALF TERM

Monday 4th November - First Day back

4th November to 15th November - Year 5 Swimming Block

8th November - Individual/Sibling Photos

12th and 13th December - Reception Nativity (9.30am)

16th December - Year 2 to Christ Church

Friday 20th December - Last Day of Autumn Term (2pm finish)

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6th January - First Day back of Spring Term

Friday 14th February - Last Day of Spring 2 (normal finish time)

Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February - HALF TERM

Monday 24th February - First Day back of Spring 2

Friday 4th April - Last day of Spring Term (2pm finish)

Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22nd April - First Day of Summer Term

Thursday 8th May to 9th May - Year 4 to Phasels Wood

12th May - Year 6 SATS week

18th May - 23rd May - Year 6 to the Isle of Wight

Friday 23rd May - Last day of Summer 1 (normal finish)

Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May - HALF TERM

Monday 2nd June - INSET Day

Tuesday 3rd June - First Day of Summer 2

Friday 4th July - INSET Day

Friday 18th July - Last Day of Term for pupils 2pm finish

Monday 21st July and Tuesday 22nd July - INSET Days

