



Executive Headteacher: Miss R. Sandell

Headteacher: Guy Fairbairn

Welcome to our latest Monks Orchard Primary School Newsletter. 10 September 2021

Welcome to the new school year at Monks Orchard

We hope you managed to have a good break. As always, it has been lovely to see you all again, and to see your children in their shiny shoes and new school uniform, excited and ready for the new year.

It has been particularly good to have you all back on the school site, for the first time in 18 months.

Most of you will have had your induction meeting with your child's new teacher by now. We hope these meetings have been useful. But don't forget that you can again come in and talk to your child's teacher directly now, rather than have to arrange meetings through the senior team.

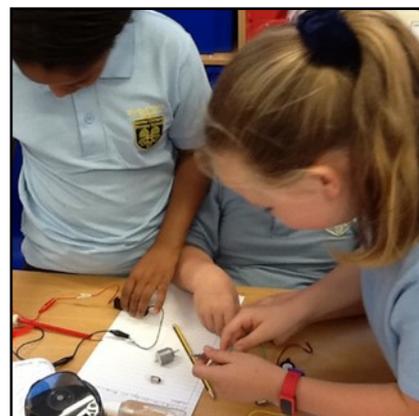
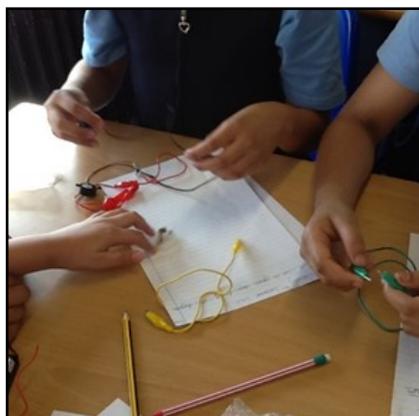
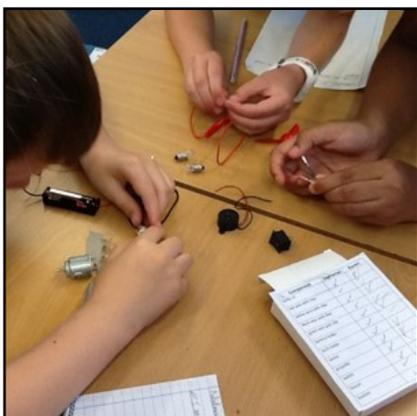
We have an exciting time ahead of us and we're looking forward to working with you to make sure we have a great year.

Year 6 Science

Year 6's science topic at the moment is electricity.

In groups of 3 or 4, we tried to build a simple circuit to light a bulb. We explored the different components and had a go at building a circuit. It was fun, but challenging. After a few unsuccessful attempts, we managed to create a circuit, where the light bulb worked!

Eventually, we learnt how to draw a circuit diagram, using symbols for a light bulb and a battery/cell.



Congratulations to our special Certificate Winners this week

Donaldson Class: **Zeteny**, for an amazing start to the year, great focus in all areas

McKee Class: **Nina**, for a great start to Year 2, fantastic concentration and listening

Agard Class: **Adrian**, for a great attitude to his work, and helping others

Nichols Class: **Kai**, for a great attitude to all his work, especially maths and Times Tables rock Stars

Zephaniah Class: **Jedaiah**, for an amazing start to the year, in all areas

Rowling Class: **Riley**, for great work in maths, looking at rounding

Walliams Class: **Micah**, for great work in maths, looking at rounding

Brahmachari Class: **Scarlet**, for a positive attitude and great effort, especially in maths

Raúf Class: **Kaydon**, for a fantastic piece of descriptive writing



COVID-19

We sent a letter out to you last week about the changes to our COVID-19 protocols, so we won't go through them again in detail here; but here are a couple of important reminders.

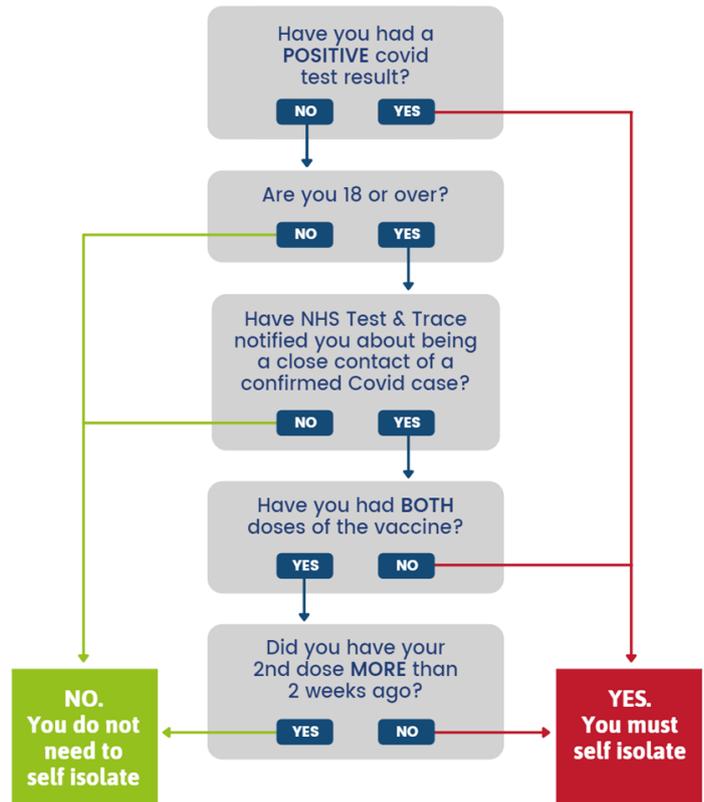
Croydon still has one of the highest rates of COVID-19 infection in London, and it is increasing again. So please remember we are still not yet back to normal.

Please try to observe social distancing guidance when on the school site.

Remember that people have different levels of concern and anxiety, so please be considerate.

No need for children to isolate

From 16 August, people who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and children under the age of 18, are no longer required to isolate if they are identified as a close contact. All children are therefore expected to attend school unless they have COVID-19 symptoms or have tested positive. They do not need to self-isolate if somebody in their household has COVID-19, but you should keep a close eye on them in case they develop symptoms.



The only exception to this would be if we were to have an outbreak at the school. In which case NHS Test and Trace and/or the local health protection team would direct the school to take appropriate action.

Extra-Curricular After School Clubs

A number of you have been asking if our extra-curricular after school clubs will be returning. We do hope to start these clubs again but it will not be until after half term, at the earliest, and is dependent on the COVID-19 situation. So do watch out for further information as we go through the term.

Punctuality

It is very important for your child to be on time at the start of the school day, 8:50am.

Also, not being on time collecting your child after school can be distressing for a child. If you have arranged for an older sibling to collect your child at the end of the day, please make sure they are able to collect them on time. If older siblings are coming from their high school and are not able to collect on time, you will need to think about an alternative arrangement.

Contact Details

Please let us know straight away if your contact details change. It is very important that we can contact parents/carers in case of emergencies. If you know that there are times when the school will not be able to contact you, please make sure we have an alternative contact—just in case. Thank you.

Dates for your diary

14 Sept: Y6 Parent/carer meeting
20 Sept: Flu vaccinations
20 Sept: Drama workshops (Y1, Y2, Y3)
October: Black History Month
5 & 6 Oct: Parent/Carer meetings
w/b 11 Oct: Book week
15 October: Last day of term
16 to 31 October: Half term break
1 November: children return to school

Breakfast and After School Club

We still have places available in our Breakfast and After School Clubs. Breakfast Club costs just £4 per session.

After School Club is just £9 per session, for the first child and £8 per session for further children (siblings).

More details and forms can be found on our website:

<https://www.factrust.org/mobreakfafterschoolclub>