



Monks Coppenhall Academy & Nursery

Remer Street, Crewe, Cheshire, CW1 4LY

Telephone: (01270) 814040

E-mail: admin@monkscoppenhall.cheshire.sch.uk

Principal: Mr C Leech BA (Hons), NPQH

Friday 12th January, 2024

RE: Spring Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

A Happy New Year to you all from everyone here at school. We hope that you all had an enjoyable break and are now looking forward to a busy and exciting term ahead. 2024 promises to be another exciting year built on the foundations of the past, yet energised through the power of the renewed determination to succeed. Please see the information below that is pertinent to your child/ren and I look forward to working with you all over the coming months.

Achievements and Celebrations

I would like to begin my first parent/carer communication of 2024 with a very special thank you to all of our children for our Christingle Celebration on the penultimate day of last term. The was just magical. I was extremely proud of our whole school community coming together and it was a fabulous way to end the calendar year.

My thanks also to our Reception class for their very first live performance of their nativity. This, along with the Year 1 Christmas Carols and the Year 2 production of The Wiggly Nativity, meant that over 800 parents, carers and grandparents were able to see our children on stage. Well done to all involved!

Attendance and Punctuality

A plea regarding punctuality. The start of the school day is extremely important for all children. We have set times to offset some of the congestion around school and ask that parents and carers observe the following times.

Reception/Year 1/Year 2

Welcome Time: **8:45am** (Children must arrive **no later than 8:55am**. Arrivals after this time will be recorded as late)

Year 3 to Year 6

Welcome Time (Gates Open): **8:35am** (Children must arrive **not later than 8:45am**. Arrivals after this time will be recorded as late)

On Wednesday 10th January, we had 39 children registered as late! This is 6% of our school population. This means 39 children missed vital new learning and the learning of fellow classmates was disrupted by children arriving late. **Attendance and punctuality are a national focus and the Local Authority along with the Department for Education are requiring schools to have robust policies in place to maximise children's learning. Please support us by ensuring your child is on time, with the correct equipment and in approved school uniform.**

Pelican Crossing

As I am sure you are aware, I regularly monitor the traffic outside of school along Remer Street and Acer Avenue. I have to say the vast majority of parents and carers abide by the traffic signals and navigate the inevitable congestion well. However, there are a minority of parents and carers who continue to cross the road without the use of the pelican crossing. It is difficult for adults here at school to instil the safety aspects of this whilst children continue to see adults not using the crossing. **Could I please ask for your co-operation in using the pelican crossing when escorting your child/ren to and from school.**



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Congestion on Remer Street

On Monday 8th of January, I met with our local councillor Hazel Faddes and a member of the highways department from Cheshire East Council. This meeting was arranged due to my concerns regarding the congestion on Remer Street and in particular the area immediately outside of school.



I am pleased to inform you that following this meeting the council have agreed to extend the white zig-zag lines in order to prevent cars parking along Remer Street opposite Acer Avenue. In the interim could I encourage parents/carers not to park here. I have had two reports, one just before Christmas and one this week, where cars have hit pedestrians walking along this very tight pavement whilst trying to park. Moreover, due to the congestion on the path caused by cars mounting the pavement I have witnessed children going into the road in order to bypass the bottleneck caused by parked cars that have mounted the pavement. **The safety of our children is paramount and is everyone's responsibility.**

Site Safety

As you are aware, we do not allow parents/carers to park on school site as there is no available parking. The car park behind school belongs to the Family Hub who have again requested that I put out a message to parents and carers that they should not be using this area under any circumstances. The exception to this is our families who use the Resource Provision who have dedicated parking. Where possible, I want to limit the number of vehicles turning into the Academy entrance from Remer Street. The site team will be out on-site challenging parents/carers who continue to use this area without authorisation.

Pedestrian gate to the Taylor Wimpey estate

The congestion on Remer Street has been exacerbated by the continual closure of the gate to the new estate. The school has been in constant contact with the council and the building company to investigate a permanent fix to the situation. The school is willing to contribute to a new gate being installed further along the path away from the natural dip that is currently holding water as long as the building company fund improvements to the path so children, parents and carers can walk safety. I am awaiting a final response but hopeful of a decision shortly.

Kind regards

Carl Leech
Principal