



Monks Coppenhall Academy & Nursery

Remer Street, Crewe, Cheshire, CW1 4LY

Telephone: (01270) 814040

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Principal: Mr C Leech BA (Hons), NPQH

Monday 13th January, 2025

RE: Spring Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

It seems to be a little late to be wishing everyone a Happy New Year but last week was a particularly busy week, which wasn't helped by the snow and icy conditions. Thank you for your support and my personal thank you goes to Mr O'Connor who spent hours every morning and evening gritting and clearing the site to make it as safe as possible for us all. Hopefully, there is warm weather on its way as the term progresses!

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 2025 with a very special thank you to all of our children for our Christingle Celebration on the last day of term. This 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 Baarmy Bethlehem, 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 no later than 8:45am). Arrivals after this time will be recorded as 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

Over the last three weeks of school, I have been informed of a near miss involving an adult crossing Remer Street, a parked car that has been hit by a moving vehicle and a neighbour who was unable to get out of their driveway due to a parent/carer from our school blocking the resident's driveway. Please could I ask, where possible, for parents/carers to walk to school, drop older children further away from the school entrance for them to walk the final stages by themselves and for those who must travel by car to park responsibly away from the congested areas.



Following meetings with Cheshire East Highways and our local councillor Hazel Faddes it has been approved for the Zig Zag lines in front of school to be extended and for these to be repainted to make them more prominent. This was due to be completed at the October half-term but these works have been delayed for resurfacing work that needs to be completed first. I am still awaiting a date for this to be rescheduled.

Site Safety

As you are aware, we do not allow parents/carers to park on the school site as there is no available parking. This is the same for all primary schools as they were never built with this facility. 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 have a valid permit and/or use the Resource Provision as we have just five dedicated parking bays. Where possible, I want to limit the number of vehicles turning into the entrance from Remer Street. The site team, along with myself, will be out on-site challenging parents/carers who use this area without authorisation.

Pedestrian gate to the Taylor Wimpey estate

The congestion on Remer Street is exacerbated by the continual closure of the gate to the new estate. The school has been in contact with Cheshire East Council's Public Right of Way Team 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 funds improvements to the path so children, parents and carers can walk safely. I will endeavour to keep you informed.

Kind regards
Carl Leech
Principal