

Dear Parent

Happy New Year! We hope that you have had a fabulous Christmas Holiday and a lovely New Year! We warmly welcome all of our new families to life at Monkleigh School. We look forward to you and your family being part of our Monkleigh Family. Welcome back to families who already have children in the unit or who have younger children starting with us. Welcome back to all of our wonderful Sunflowers, Caterpillars and Butterflies. It's been an incredible first few days. Everyone has settled well and are ready to continue on their learning journey.

Our wonderful Foundation Stage Unit has now been official for four years! It has been quite a journey and we are thrilled with our thriving and nurturing unit. We continue to develop, evolve and improve and are completely committed to providing the best possible start for your children.

Mrs Emptage and Mrs Hinchliffe are the Class teachers in the Foundation Stage Unit, they plan the learning for all children within the Unit and work with all of the adults to ensure excellent progress and development for all.

Mrs Emptage works in FSU on a Monday, Thursday and Friday and Mrs Hinchliffe works in FSU on a Tuesday and Wednesday. They are key workers for Butterflies. Mrs Beer and Mrs Dennis are Early Years Assistants who work across the unit but are mainly based with Butterflies. Mrs Beer works on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Dennis works on a Thursday and Friday. Mrs Dennis is our FSU admin officer and is office based on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Mrs Baker and Alice are key workers for Caterpillars and Nikki and Julie are key workers for Sunflowers.

We are looking forward to an exciting term of learning. Our FSU curriculum page on the Monkleigh School Website has a number of informative links.

<https://www.monkleigh-primary.devon.sch.uk/classes/class-r>

Please visit the link below for the Parent Information Booklet and other supporting documents:

[https://www.monkleigh-primary.devon.sch.uk/images/FSU Information Booklet Updated July 2024.pdf](https://www.monkleigh-primary.devon.sch.uk/images/FSU%20Information%20Booklet%20Updated%20July%202024.pdf)

You will also find a blog which is updated weekly and shows the most up to date learning and experiences that have been on offer for all three age groups - scroll down the page below all supporting documents and you will find this.

The links on FSU Curriculum Page give an overview of the learning which will take place each week for Sunflowers, Caterpillars and Butterflies. The overview provides information about key books that we will be reading and songs that we will be learning. There is a section which shows possible experiences, visits and visitors. If you have any particular interests or skills that you would like to share with our children or you know of someone please do get in touch as it is lovely to have visitors.

You can find the detailed overviews of our learning here:

Sunflowers

[https://www.monkleigh-primary.devon.sch.uk/images/Spring\\_1\\_Sunflowers.pdf](https://www.monkleigh-primary.devon.sch.uk/images/Spring_1_Sunflowers.pdf)

Caterpillars

[https://www.monkleigh-primary.devon.sch.uk/images/Spring\\_1\\_Caterpillars.pdf](https://www.monkleigh-primary.devon.sch.uk/images/Spring_1_Caterpillars.pdf)

Butterflies

[https://www.monkleigh-primary.devon.sch.uk/images/Spring\\_1\\_Butterflies\\_Overview\\_Traditional\\_Tales.pdf](https://www.monkleigh-primary.devon.sch.uk/images/Spring_1_Butterflies_Overview_Traditional_Tales.pdf)

Please ensure that the children have coats, full waterproofs, wellies and a change of clothes in school every day. They will also need to bring their book bag and water bottle into school every day.

**Parents of Sunflowers – please ensure that your child wears pull ups to school rather than nappies – if required.**

**Children should attend the FSU wearing the school uniform as outlined in the parent booklet – there is an expectation that all children should wear the FSU school uniform.**

All children in Caterpillars and Butterflies take part in a PE lesson on a Monday. Please make sure that Caterpillars and Butterflies come into school wearing trainers. Please make sure that Caterpillars and Butterflies come into school wearing their PE kit – please see the parent information booklet for further information regarding uniform: [https://www.monkleigh-primary.devon.sch.uk/images/FSU\\_Information\\_Booklet\\_Updated\\_July\\_2024.pdf](https://www.monkleigh-primary.devon.sch.uk/images/FSU_Information_Booklet_Updated_July_2024.pdf)

Butterflies and Caterpillars take part in outdoor learning on a Thursday afternoon. Please make sure that children have long sleeved clothes and trousers, full waterproofs and wellies. Children can come to school in old clothes on a Thursday.

If you ever have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us via dojo.

We look forward to an exciting and successful year for all of your children.

**Some Dates for your Diary:**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January – Butterflies Walk on the Tarka Trail**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January – CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR RECEPTION 2025**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January – Open Morning for prospective parents**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January Butterflies Visit to Torrington Library**

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February Parents of Caterpillars: Progress and Play afternoon**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February Butterflies Parents Evenings**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February Parents of Caterpillars: Progress and Play afternoon**

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March - Burton Art Gallery**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March Butterflies Day Trip to Rosemoor**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April Butterflies Seasons walk around Monkleigh and visit to St George's Church**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July Butterflies' Leavers Assembly 2:30pm**

Yours Sincerely

The FSU Team