



MOORLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Together We Can

17th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,



Attendance

What a fortnight for bugs and germs! We have had more than our fair share of poorly children and staff since we returned last week. There have been a range of illnesses including sickness, flu/ cold and high temperature symptoms. Being unwell is really horrid so we hope that you are all feeling much better soon.

Whilst we motivate you and your children to achieve good attendance, we realise that children cannot help being unwell and if the symptoms are tummy upset or high temperature, then your child really needs to stay at home and enjoy some TLC. In the case of vomiting and tummy upsets, children should stay away from school for 48 hours after the symptoms have ended. We continue to remind children about good hygiene, washing hands with soap before eating food and after going to the toilet and when they come in from playing outdoors. Covid taught us the importance of good hand hygiene, so it is a good reminder for us all to keep standards high.













Moorland Attendance HERO – Here, Every day, Ready to learn, On time



Congratulations Falcons for your amazing attendance. We know that there has been a lot of illness this week and we sincerely hope that everyone will feel better quickly. We look forward to seeing many more of you in school next week.

Attendance for Week Beginning Monday 13th January 2025

 Ladybirds ~ 81.7%	 Owls ~ 79.0%
 Hedgehogs ~ 88.4%	 Squirrels ~ 80.4%
 Foxes ~ 85.4%	 Badgers ~ 91.7%
 Falcons ~ 97.0% 	 Skylarks ~ 87.2%
 Whole School ~ 87.4%	



Reading for Well-Being

During the Christmas holidays, Mrs Dredge was listening to the radio and immediately took interest in a discussion about **Reading for Well-Being**. So enthused and passionate about our children, Mrs Dredge shared some of her learning with adults in school. I can't help but share some of this with you. After all, as a school we ask parents to spend time at home, listening to their child read and we encourage you to share a book with them, perhaps, at bed time. Did you know that there is **so much more to Reading** than just learning how to say a written word?

It seems there is and it's quite simple: **the benefits of regularly reading a story with your child has a real and positive influence on your child's mental and emotional well-being throughout their lives.**

Our brains are rhythmic, (that is why listening to music is so enjoyable), so when you read a nursery rhyme or a book like the Gruffalo to your child, **the rhythm of the words taps into their brain to help their understanding of structure. Sharing a story with your child brings a feeling of connection and belonging for them. A sense of belonging is an essential part of being human.**

Children are naturally more 'stressed' (their hearts naturally beat faster, their brains are constantly active – taking in information and images from their surroundings from the moment they are born). **Listening to a parent/carer* read a story has a calming effect on them and helps to create an emotional bond between parent and child.**



We know that your lives are busy but remember time spent together
is never a waste of time!

Sharing a story with your child:
is a time to relax for both parent and child;
is a way to develop your child's imagination;
is a chance to make good memories for your child;
is a chance to create a special bond with your child;
FUN.

We encourage sharing a book with your child from as early as when they are a baby, but, it's never too late to start. There are genuine Mental Health benefits for teenagers who have had regular time reading with a parent or carer early in their lives.



Our **RESPECT** values: **Resilience, Equity, Self-Awareness, Passion, Empathy, Communication, Teamwork**



I hope this message will **inspire** those parents who already enjoy sharing a book with their child to **keep going** (even when your child is in year 5 or 6 or beyond – think of all the wonderful books you could share) and for those parents who might find it **difficult to read a book** with their child to realise that getting into this routine **today** will really bring them (and you) **long term benefits**.

What can parents do now?

You don't have to buy expensive books – a visit to the charity shops provide a wealth of books to choose from. But even better: the library service in Milton Keynes is where you can borrow books for free. If you are not a member already, then you could join – all you need is proof of name and address eg utility or council tax bill or bank statement. The library staff and volunteers will help anyone who has not been to the library either at all or very often to find books suitable for children. Remember to return the books by the due date to avoid a late return fine.

For under 5's, the libraries run regular story time for parents and children and these are really good fun. Visit the library website to find out more:

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/libraries/young-readers/stories>.

Children can bring a book home from our own school library if they bring their book bag to school every day and don't forget our **Reception class Story Café** is running for its 2nd year. The next one for Reception families is on Tuesday 18th March.

Children learn by example, so perhaps you could discover a love of reading and allow yourself a bit of relaxation time by choosing a book from the library for yourself.



Nursery Stay and Play

Thank you to our nursery parents for joining our Nursery Stay and Play on Wednesday. This is a really good opportunity to share in your child's play, chat with staff and see how much progress your child is making. The next nursery Stay and Play is on Wednesday 5th March.



Come along to our coffee morning -Wednesday 22nd January

Come along to our Coffee Morning, where you will be able to find out more about PACA MK and the advice and support they could offer you and your child if they have Special Educational Needs and disabilities. Mrs De Voogt and Mrs Nicholls will be there too and our lovely family workers from Moorlands and Hedgerows.



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Headlice

Sadly, headlice are a problem and they don't mind whose head they visit. As part of your child's regular hair washing routine, invest in some hair shampoo which contains tea tree oil, a large bottle of conditioner (conditioner slows the headlice down so they can't move away) and a fine toothed headlice comb.

During your child's regular hair wash, apply a large amount of conditioner and carefully comb through your child's hair using a special headlice comb. (they are available in most pharmacies and supermarkets). If there are no headlice, then brilliant, your child has lovely conditioned hair.

But if you find even a single head louse, then you need to **'take action'**:

- Continue applying conditioner and comb through your child's hair – starting at the top of the head to end of the hair strand
- Rinse away any conditioner and any head lice on the comb before the next comb through. (The headlice will just return to the head!)
- Remember that headlice may move to the base of the head, so you're your child's head tipped forward, comb through starting at the nape of the neck to the ends of the hair strands, paying particular attention behind the ears.
- Keep going and be thorough until no black headlice appear in the comb.
- Repeat this process every 3 days
- Because of the life cycle of a head louse, you will have to continue to repeat this process for 21 days.
- If one person in the household has headlice, chances are other people will have them too, so everyone has to follow this process.
- **With time, patience and a lot of conditioner and the right type of comb, you can get rid of them.**
- **Headlice are uncomfortable and a nuisance. You can sort this for your child.**

Safari Dojo Martial Arts

We were very excited to be able to offer a new after school martial arts club run by Safari Health club. Places were snapped up and we have a waiting list. If your child has been offered a place, please bring your payment for the first week to the school office by Tuesday 21st January morning at the latest to secure your child's place. If we don't receive payment, we shall have to offer the place to a child on the waiting list.



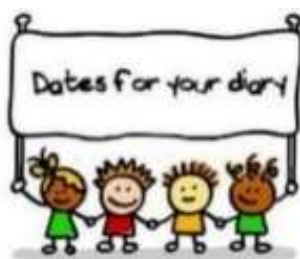
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School dinners

Get ahead and order school dinners for the rest of the Spring Term. Chartwells have released their new menu with lots of tasty options. If your child brings packed lunches, why not take a look at the menu. Remember that **school dinners are free for all children from Reception up to Year 2 and for older children in receipt of Pupil Premium**. But if you are not in receipt of Pupil Premium, perhaps you could ask your child if they would like a school dinner occasionally.

Here are the deadlines for ordering school dinners for January. **If you miss these deadlines, your child will need to bring a packed lunch from home. Meals are prepared to order and there is no guarantee that there will be anything spare if you forget your child's packed lunch.** The office will phone you if your child has no lunch which is inconvenient for you.

Deadline to place order	For meals the week beginning:
Tues 21 st Jan	Monday 27 th Jan
Tues 28 th Jan	Monday 3 rd Feb
Tues 4 th Feb	Monday 10 th Feb
Tues 18 th Feb	Monday 24 th Feb



Date	Event
Tues 21 st Jan	Martial arts club starts – pick up 4.15pm
Wed 22 nd Jan	PACA SEN attending coffee morning
Thurs 30 th Jan	Year 6: Empower and Challenge Workshop – a fully funded workshop presented by Hazard Alley. This is taking place in School so there is no cost to parents.
Tues 11 th Feb	Internet Safety Morning for Parents
Fri 14 th Feb 3.00pm	Term Ends
Half Term Holidays	
Mon 24 th Feb 8.30am	Children return to school
Tues 18 th March	Reception families Story Cafe

Best Wishes
Mrs. Angela Garner
Headteacher



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