

# Moorlands Primary School

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Nurturing values and communication

Newsletter October 2025

[www.moorlandsprimarysch.co.uk](http://www.moorlandsprimarysch.co.uk)



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all the parents that attended parents evening last week, I hope it gave you the opportunity to see how your child has settled into their new class. Thank you also for all the parents and carers who attended the Harvest assemblies, they were well attended and the children's faces lit up when they sang their songs. Over the next half term, I know that classes will be busy preparing for Christmas events, for parents and children to enjoy.

## Fond Farewells

On Thursday, we say goodbye to two long standing staff members in school. Mrs Cramp, who has worked in the school for approximately 26 years, has retired; we wish her well and hope she enjoys her retirement. Mrs Wells, who has worked in the school for approximately 17 years, is moving to a specialist provision in Dudley, we wish her good luck in her new position. Both members of staff will be greatly missed and have made a difference to staff, parents and children who have attended Moorlands.



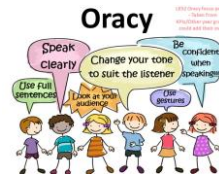
## Remembrance – Poppy Pebbles

In school, individual classes take part in Remembrance themed lessons and the whole school comes together at 11am on November 11<sup>th</sup> in remembrance of those who have lost their lives through war. This year, we would like to create an area of remembrance and invite all children to decorate a pebble (or small stone) in any way they like showing their remembrance. We will then create a remembrance display in school.



## Team points: Gaming Bus

The school council has helped to rename our school teams for this term as the elements: Fire, Earth, Water and Air. This term, each school team is collecting points. The winning team will have the opportunity to access the Gaming Bus, which is visiting the school on the last day of term.



## Developing Oracy

One of the school's priorities this year is developing pupils' confidence to articulate and speak to a range of audiences. This also includes the importance of communication and listening, a key skill that employers have identified is what they look for in an employee. On Monday, a small group of pupils from across Key Stage 2 presented to the rest of the school, 'What Diwali is?' and how it is celebrated. The enthusiasm and wealth of information they provided was fantastic, they were confident and spoke clearly. Thank you to those pupils who volunteered.



## Handwriting pens:

In a time where, the digital world is used more and more - well done to Esme and Renee who have acquired handwriting pens this half term. This shows that their handwriting is a fluent style, joins are in the correct places and it is a consistent size. Handwriting is a school priority as if pupils are able to write fluently this aids their writing so that they can concentrate on developing their writer's voice and use of vocabulary. Who will be next?



## Diwali Celebrations

Pupils enjoyed learning and taking part in Diwali activities such as Diya crafts, Rangoli designs and learning about the meaning behind Diwali and how it is celebrated. Thank you to pupils who took part in the Diwali assembly to the rest of the school.

## Friends of Moorlands

Thank you to everyone that participated in the Pumpkin Carving / Scarecrow event this week. The range of creative talent that your children and you have was a delight to see. It really brightened up the outside of the school and allowed visitors to also see how amazing our children are. If you did not take part this year, I hope you picked up ideas so that you can take part next year.

**Autumn / Halloween Disco is on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November.** It costs £2.50 which is payable on the day and includes a drink and sweets. Pupils in Years 1-3 need to bring their clothes into school so that they can change before the disco.

3.10-4.10 pm Years 1,2 and 3

4.15 – 5.15 pm Years 4, 5 and 6

We are excited to see the variety of Halloween outfits that the children decide to come dressed as. Dressing up is optional.

### Friends of Moorlands Events:

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November – Non-uniform Day, bring in chocolate / sweets.

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Breakfast with Santa, starting at 8.00 am. More details to follow after half term.**

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December – Non-uniform Pyjama Day - £1.00.

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas shop – ‘Elfridges’. Children only event, they can purchase Christmas gifts ranging from £2.00 to £10.00. Please send any money in, in a sealed envelope with their name on.

In all Christmas performances, there will be a prize raffle. Tickets can be purchased at the start of the event.



### Christmas Performances

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Years 5 and 6 Christmas songs, 2.30 pm

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December - Years 3 and 4 Christmas songs, 2.30 pm

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Reception Nativity 9.30 am

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Years 1 and 2 Christmas Performance 2.15 pm

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - Years 1 and 2 Christmas Performance 2.15 pm

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas parties in the afternoon

### Christmas Dinner:

Christmas Dinner day is on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. You are able to pre-book for this day after half term.

### Advance notice:

**On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December, the school will close to pupils at 1.30 pm.**



### **Educational Visits:**

This term there have been a range of visits and visitors:

Year 1, went to St James' Church and took part in a range of creative activities.

Year 3, went to Edmond Hall, and participated in den building, building fires – immersing themselves in their History topic of Stone Age.

Year 5, went to the Space Centre and were in awe of the rocket in the building. This linked to their Science topic on Space.

Years 5 and 6 completed the 'Bounce Back' programme that looks at building resilience.

Year 3 and 4 have participated in the 'Learn to Ride' programme.

Year 6 have had a World War Two workshop to develop their knowledge further.

All classes have had an assembly, from DECCA, who have discussed with pupils the importance of safety around medication. Year 6 had an additional session focused on drugs, alcohol and tobacco, this links to the Science curriculum in Year 6.

### **Parents workshops / opportunities**

This half term, we have had boxercise and yoga, which parents and children have participated in. Thank you to those parents that attended. The school will be looking to host additional workshops e.g. parental well-being, healthy eating etc.



### **Healthy Eating**

The school is participating in a 'Health for Life' project, this includes looking at healthy diets and promoting a range of healthy meals that are easy to make. The aim is that the school will be able to put on cooking workshops with the parent / carer and child to prepare and cook together.

To help support with this project and working together, could we please ensure that children are not bring in lollies or sweets for break time. There has also been a big increase in children bringing in sharer bags of crisps, which can encourage children to share, as a school we have to mindful of children's allergies. At school, we promote healthy snacks and chocolates and crisps in moderation. In Key Stage 1 although, children can bring in a small snack, there is always fruit and bagels for the children to eat.

## Parking in Winchester road and surrounding streets

Please be considerate of others and residents when parking by the school. This half term, we have had numerous complaints from residents about their drives being blocked or that they are unable to reverse off their drive. Thank you.



### Why is school attendance so important?

Attending school regularly helps to build confidence and develop vital life skills

School is the key to future success!

Missing 2 days of school each month = Missing nearly 3 weeks during a school year

15 minutes late every day = two weeks of learning lost each school year

Data shows pupils with more than 95% attendance Achieve better GCSE results! at least one grade higher!

Even 90% attendance is still 19 days of education lost in a school year

ATTEND! AIM HIGH! ACHIEVE!

## Attendance:

A whole school focus this year is to increase our attendance so that we are closer to the National Average. Initiatives in school have been Extra Play Monday – if 100% of the class have been in. Pupils have enjoyed the extra physical exercise opportunity. Golden Ticket on a Friday, the pupils love the anticipation of whether their chair will have the golden ticket underneath and are respectful and happy for the winning pupil in their class. Pupils have also had the opportunity of winning the £100 voucher if, your child's attendance is between 97-100%. In the first draw, a Year 4 pupil won, 130 pupils were in this draw. The second draw will be done on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November – to be in with a chance, all you have to do is attend school every day.

After the first half term our attendance up to 17.10.25 is: 94.9% which is 2% below National



Each winning class of the week also receives £5.00 so that in the summer term, pupils can decide what they would like to do with the money as a class.

## Current standings are:

Reception - £5.00

Year 1 - £5.00

Year 2 - £5.00

Year 4 - £20.00

The other year groups are yet to win the highest attendance each week.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

All day. Every day.

EVERY tardy  
EVERY early check-out  
EVERY absence

It adds up...

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS towards reading on grade level

15 MINUTES = 1.25 HOURS = 1 DAY = 8 DAYS

30 MINUTES = 2.5 HOURS = 2 DAYS = 16 DAYS

Every minute counts!

Over the next half term, pupil's whose attendance is below 95% will receive letters to inform you of their current attendance, missed learning opportunities and identify ways that we can support you as a school to promote consistent attendance and punctuality.



### **Dates for the Diary:**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November – Autumn/ Halloween Disco

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November - Flu Vaccinations

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November – Year 4 Sparks visit from the fire services

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November – Power up (fitness, Text to confirm day for which classes

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November - Key Stage 1 Book Quiz

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November – Reception Eye Screening

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November – Non-uniform – bring in chocolate / sweets for the chocolate raffle

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November – Training Day, school is closed to pupils

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Breakfast with Santa, details and cost to be confirmed.

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Christmas Dinner

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December - Pyjama Day - £1.00

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Riverside Grotto 3-5.00 pm

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Year 1 Dudley Zoo

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas shop in the morning

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December - 2.30 pm Years 5 and 6 Christmas songs

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December - 2.30 pm Years 3 and 4 Christmas songs

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – 9.30 am Reception Nativity

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – 2.15 pm Years 1 and 2 performance

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – 2.15 pm Years 1 and 2 performance

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas parties in school

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – School finishes at 1.30 pm for pupils**