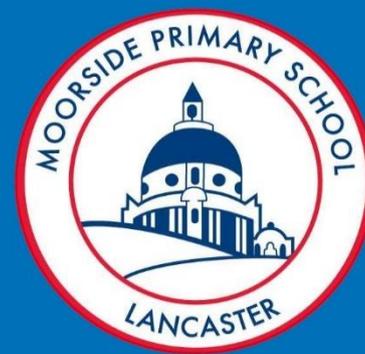


Moorside Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Roger Shone

Deputy Headteacher: Mr Jonathan Whitwell

Assistant Headteachers: Mrs Alice Earnshaw & Mrs Kate Nuttall

26th June 2020

Weekly Update

Dear parents and carers

Numbers of children in school have continued to grow this week with Reception and Year 6 returning, with each child able to attend for two days each. As I mentioned last week, it has been lovely to see more children we haven't seen for a while. Thank you to all the children and parents who are new to all this for being patient and following all the systems in place.

Free school meals over the summer

If you were following the news last week, you will be aware that the government has agreed to support families who qualify for free school meals over the summer. The office staff are currently working on the details of the scheme and we will provide further information about this shortly.

Seesaw

Teachers have worked throughout the lockdown in school and on running home learning through Seesaw. Lockdown has gone on far longer than perhaps most people ever imagined and we understand that motivation to maintain learning at home is difficult. If you and your child have not accessed the site for a while you might want to take another look. Although the year group sites vary they are all useful in that they can provide:

- stimulation
- structure
- demonstrations / videos to teach certain skills
- different ways of responding for the children
- core tasks and then the option to do more if they want to
- links to other free sites
- fun activities and challenges

Whilst not a replacement for face-to face learning in school, engagement with the site has been strong. Over these final weeks of the term, each of the year groups is looking forward to celebrating the contribution of the children to the site and the great work they have done.

Reports

As usual, you will receive an annual report for your child before the end of term. Normally, they are all sent out on the same day. This year, the reports will be sent electronically, with the office staff sending a few

sets a day from the end of next week. We will provide more details about the reports nearer the time, but the main point to consider is that they reflect your child's time in school up to the end of March.

Summer childcare

Since the end of March, school has been open virtually every week-day providing childcare and supporting learning and access to Seesaw for vulnerable pupils and the children of keyworkers. From the end of term, these arrangements will end, however independent childcare providers will be able to operate. 'Moorside Kids' Club will be running and offering childcare throughout the summer holidays from their site at Dallas Road. Further information and application forms are available by emailing Moorside.kids.club@outlook.com

New Reception children

Over the next three Wednesdays we will be running small introductory stay and play sessions for children and parents. The groups attending will be very small to ensure that we can maintain social distancing. Separate information will be issued shortly. We do hope that you will be able to attend as this is our first real chance to meet your child.

Year 6

The summer term is usually a very special time for Y6 children as it marks the end of seven years with us and they are often involved with a range of different events. Although this year is very different from any other, we are at least pleased to have welcomed the children back for the last month. On the final day of term, we are planning on inviting all Y6 pupils into school so that they can spend their final day together (socially distanced of course). We are still in the early stages of planning this, so more details will follow later.

The Year 2 Snake

The snake continues to grow. Please feel free to add to it.

To September and beyond ... (in the words of a famous cartoon hero)

It is my sincere wish and one which is shared by everyone at Moorside that September brings the opportunity that all children can return to school. Normally at this time of year, children have the opportunity to meet their new teacher and visit their next classroom. With transition in mind, when we return in September children will start the day with their current teacher and move to their new year group during the day. Our thinking is that children can at least return to a familiar face and routine on the first day. Information about your child's class for next year will follow this letter. We are working on plans for how we share with you some of the key routines and expectations for your child's next year group. Normally this is done via meetings before and after the summer, but for obvious reasons that is not possible at the moment, but we will find a way.

Take care everyone!

Yours sincerely

Roger Shone
Headteacher