

Moorside Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Roger Shone

Deputy Headteacher: Mr Jonathan Whitwell

Assistant Headteachers: Mrs Alice Earnshaw & Mrs Kate Nuttall

9th October 2020

Weekly Update

Dear parents and carers

I hope you are all managing the ever-changing challenges the current situation is presenting. Despite the various additional routines in school, everyone here is working hard to make life as normal as possible for the children.

Virtual Tour of School

Over the last few weeks I have been working with the eight house captains and Miss Orford to produce a virtual tour of school for prospective parents. We have come across many happy sights and some brilliant learning experiences. Only a few of these will actually make the video sadly. However, a lesson which particularly made me smile was Y1's musical interpretation of The Snail and the Whale. Please make any prospective parents aware that we hope it will be live on our website by Monday. 'Fudge', a well-known local cat who regularly visits us manages to feature!

The School Office

The school office will continue to be run by members of the school leadership team for much of the coming week. Compared to the normal office team, our skills in the office are a little more basic! Therefore the services we can offer are more limited so we focusing our efforts on:

- dealing with deliveries
- responding to essential phone-calls
- signing children in and out for appointments
- chasing up absence messages
- passing lunch information to the office team working at home

We hope that the office will start to return to normal towards the end of next week and into the beginning of the following week. However, there will be a back-log of work to clear. I would like to thank you for limiting your phone calls and enquiries as this has allowed us to focus on what is most important which is the catering for the children's learning and well-being.

Reception Parents - ParentApp

ParentApp is our main form of communication, with other information being posted on the website and Facebook. If you have received an invitation, please could you respond.

Reception Photos

This Wednesday a photographer will be visiting school to take photographs of the three Reception classes. This is something they do each year and it provides parents with a nice memory to look back on in years to come. We will include all children whose parents have given 'photo permission' to be in the local media.

Near Miss

Today we were informed of a near miss involving two of our children on their way to school- it sounds like a pair of brothers. Even though they were close to the site of the crossing patrol, they ran straight out of Winchester Avenue causing a pick-up to do an emergency stop. Unfortunately, we have been unable to identify who it was. If you think it might be your children, please could you remind them about safe ways of crossing the road.

Work for Self-Isolating Children

On the whole, the vast majority of children are in good health and we have had very few displaying any Covid-like symptoms. However, we have a number of children needing to self-isolate generally because of an adult in their household. We are working on what work we can make available to access if they are well enough to work at home.

Parents Evening

The parents evening booking system will open on Friday 9th October and close on Sunday 18th October. You can access this via ParentApp. Teachers will aim to call you as close to your time-slot as possible. The calls will focus on how your child has settled back into school as well as their progress and next steps in their learning. If there are things you want to discuss beyond this I would suggest arranging a further phone-call. Although these evenings are hard work for the teachers, they do enjoy the contact with parents and the positive discussions about the children and are looking forward to talking to you.

Important Reminder

Teachers want to be accessible to parents before and after school, but if you do go and speak to them, please remember to wear a face covering. Keeping our teachers well and Covid free and keeps bubbles open!

Take care everyone!

Yours sincerely

Roger Shone
Headteacher