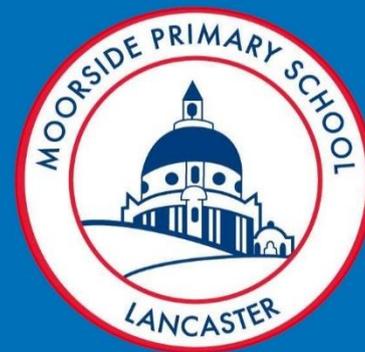


Moorside Primary School

Bowerham Road Newlands LANCASTER LA1 4HT
01524 66516 www.moorside-pri.lancs.sch.uk



Headteacher: Mr Roger Shone

Deputy Headteacher: Mr Jonathan Whitwell

Assistant Headteachers: Mrs Alice Earnshaw & Mrs Kate Nuttall

5th February 2021

Update – 5th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Foodbank Friday

Today was Foodbank Friday. Thank you to everyone who took part and donated something. I am sure that your donations will be well received.

Screen Free Day

Many of us have spent hours working on screens and devices in the last year. Next week each year group will be holding one screen-free day for everyone – this includes all children at home and in school and staff!! Please look out for further information regarding this on Seesaw.

Phone calls

Keeping in touch with all our families is very important to us. Over the last week, teachers have been calling all families whose children are not currently attending. They will try again if they have not managed to speak to you yet.

Staff Changes

In earlier letters we have told you about members of staff who are expecting babies over the next few months. In addition to them, Mrs Nuttall will be taking adoption leave starting in the weeks leading up to Easter. We would like to offer our congratulations and are very excited for her and wish her well. Mrs Chapman will become Acting Assistant Head for KS1 and Reception in her absence.

Whilst some staff are leaving us for a little while, Mrs Atkinson from Reception will be re-joining us after her maternity leave. More detailed letters will be sent to Reception and Y2 parents explaining the changes. A separate letter will be sent to parents of 5A in the near future.

Wider Re-opening

We are very much looking forward to being open to all children again when it is safe to do so. We have been asked by a few parents when this might be. I am afraid that schools only hear this kind of information at the same time as everyone else i.e., via announcements on TV.

Half-Term Track and Trace

For the first six days at the start of the Christmas Holidays, we operated a track and trace service on behalf of the Government. Schools have been asked to provide a similar service for the first forty-eight hours of the half-term until Sunday evening. If you need to inform us that your child has tested positive between Friday and Sunday, you can text this school mobile number 07826867333. If your child has been identified as a close contact to someone in school, then they are expected to self-isolate. Hopefully, we will not have to contact anyone.

Term Dates

We currently have an issue with our website, please bear with us while we fix this. In the meantime, you can find Term Dates for 2020/21 in the Letters Home section on Parent Apps.

Confirmation of change of date – INSET DAY

In an earlier email I mentioned that we may need to move our INSET day. I can now confirm that our spring INSET will be on Thursday May 6th when the school is in use as a polling station. Monday June 7th will now be a normal school day.

Links to regular events:

Well-Being Cafe

Link to join the Well-Being Café each Friday at 9.15am

<https://zoom.us/j/93187545008?pwd=bWpUTjluYnBwM01VYINxNit6ZVlwQT09>

Keyworker Attendance

Link to tell us about your child's attendance for the following week. Only use this if you have previously received a letter offering a place or had a conversation with a member of the school office team. Please complete by midnight every Wednesday.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MSideCW21>

Yours sincerely

Roger Shone
Head Teacher

Reminders of the Guidance for Zoom Sessions

Safeguarding and Practical Arrangements

Zoom Sessions

In school, we spend a good deal of time teaching children about safety online. Children and adults in every aspect of their life have to ensure that their interactions online are safe ones, so we have given careful consideration to how to manage the sessions and to ensure they are safe for everyone involved.

Your invitation for the session will come via ParentApp. If a member of staff is working from home, they will host the session from there, with another member of staff supervising the in-school part of the call with the children.

Preparing for the session (children and parents)

- Please choose a neutral room for the sessions (e.g., kitchen, living room but not a bedroom) and that there is a reliable internet connection and that you can access Zoom
- Please wear daytime clothing, not pyjamas
- Please have a neutral background with only a small part of the room showing
- Please make sure that a parent is available throughout the session
- Please make sure that there are no other tabs open

Starting the session and during the session

- A parent must be present with your child to start the session and remain in the room to solve any practical problems. It is fine for them to get on with their own work if they want to.
- Although it is an unusual situation, your child needs to understand that their behavior and attitude should match that expected in school so that all the children taking part can get the most from the session
- The teacher may ask your child to keep their computer on mute until they are asked to speak to help with turn-taking

Ending the session

- The parent supervising the child should return to the screen to end the session and to hear any feedback or further instructions from the teacher