

Moorside News 2nd July

Welcome

Welcome to the first newsletter for July. We have had some great weather this week and the children have been making the most of it, making full use of the field and grounds. As always, this time of year is extremely busy in school. This year has been no exception. The children have been taking part in wide range of events, but what is sad is that they have been able to share them with parents. We hope that this will be possible again in the near future.

Reading Book Amnesty

Before the summer holidays, we want to account for all our books. If you have school books at home, please send them back in. Even if you have had them for several years, no questions will be asked! We will just be pleased to get them back.

Games Event

Unfortunately we have not been able to hold a summer fair this year. However, MOORFS have very kindly offered to set up a range of stalls and games next Friday 9th July. This will give the children chance to do some of the activities normally on offer at the summer fair. Classes will visit the games event in rotation during the day. More details to follow. We apologise that this clashes with one of the caving trips happening on the same day, but we have struggled to find a suitable date. Because the games event is happening outside, the weather will dictate whether it can actually happen. Fingers crossed!

Secret Garden

Hidden right in the centre of school is a little known area known to the children as the 'Secret Garden', so secret that some people don't even know it's there! Over a number of years, it fell out of use and become quite overgrown. Thanks to the work of Mrs Vause, Mrs McGregor and a number of Y6 pupils, the area is being brought back to life as a reading garden for break and lunchtimes. It's early days yet, but they are making good progress. If you have any orphan plants, looking for a new home, we are happy to give them a new home in the garden. Donations are welcome.



1 - One of the beds within the secret reading garden

Visits

Despite the various restrictions which have been in place throughout much of the year, we have been able to run some visits including a residential visit. Sadly, we have not been able to do this for all year groups. The ones which have gone ahead are ones which were pre-booked and scheduled to happen at this time of year. We hope that next year we will be able to run a full programme of events for all year groups. We hope to share some pictures of Reception's visit to a working farm in the next newsletter. Every visit involves a great deal of planning and hard work by the staff who go. However, our admin team, particularly Lisa Pattinson, deserve a special mention for the enormous amount of detailed work they put into supporting and planning of the visit.



2 - Part of a re-creation of a Viking village visited by Y5 pupils.

Covid 19 Cases

There is no secret that cases of Covid 19 are rising rapidly at the moment. At Moorside we are lucky that our case numbers have been low and most year groups have been able to attend without interruption other than the national lockdown. At the time of writing, we have two cases in Y6. So sadly, we have about 55 children at home currently. Wherever possible, our approach has not been to close whole year groups but to be as forensic as possible in building a trail of close contacts. We do hope that the new school year will bring a new way of working which means that less days in school are lost. If your child has to isolate for any reason and you need a laptop, then please get in touch. In the meantime, we wish our Y6 pupils stay well and hope the two pupils make a speedy recovery. Any children who are self-isolating and who are eligible for free-school meals can receive food parcels whilst they are absent.

Y4 Science Hunters

This week Year 4 have teamed up with Dr Jackie Hartley, from The Science Hunters at Lancaster University. As part of their science work on plants, they have been exploring what phosphorus is, why and how we use it, and how we keep safe when using it. The highlight of the session was the children's time using Minecraft to explore a pre-made world where the children could mine for rock containing phosphorus, operate a waste water treatment plant, manage a farm to grow crops using phosphorus and witness the impact of pollution caused by phosphorus run-off. Thanks go to Jackie for making the learning so engaging!



3 - Using Mincecraft to develop understanding about the uses and impact of phosphorouss

Reports

From next Monday, 5th July, we will start sending out reports electronically and this process will continue throughout the week. If you wish to discuss an aspect of your child's report, then please contact us.

Last Day of Term - Friday 16th July

As we are still operating staggered start and finish times across the year groups, school will finish at these staggered times on Friday 16th July and not our usual 2.00pm earlier finish. The only

exception may be year 6 who have a day of leavers events planned. Details for year 6 to be confirmed.

Friday 16th July Finish Times:

Reception, Year 1 and Year 3 - 3.10pm finish

Year 2, Year 4 and Year 5 - 3.20pm finish

Year 6 - To Be Confirmed