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Moreland Primary School

Reaching higher than I dreamed, becoming the person that I want to be,
doing the best I can for the world and for me.

30th March 2023

Headteacher's News

I would like to start this newsletter wishing our community Ramadan Mubarak and a Happy Easter. We celebrated Easter last week with our annual Early Years Easter Bonnet parade. Thank you to everyone who spent time creating the beautiful and creative bonnets and came to watch our parade. Even though the sun didn't shine like last year, the rain did at least hold off! This week we are holding a special Ramadan assembly and after the holiday we will be celebrating Eid with an Eid disco as suggested by the children. Our newly formed PTA are helping to organise the event and hopefully it will become a Moreland tradition. We will be putting on Class Dojo a "Ramadan Good Deed of the Day" activity to encourage all children to think about how they can be kind and helpful. Please do share pictures or comments on Class Dojo of your children's good deeds.

We have noticed that the children are very keen to talk about and share their experiences of their religion with each other. One of our great strengths as a school is the sense of community we have at Moreland and the more we understand each other, share our beliefs and recognise what we have in common the stronger our community becomes. Mrs Phillips has been arranging visits to different places of worship for classes linked to the RE curriculum and we have had some great feedback about these. Year 2 visited St Clements church and it was wonderful to see children talking about their own experiences and making links to different religions during this visit. Year 4 have visited Wesley's Chapel to learn more about Easter and we have visits to the Regent's Park Mosque and a Hindu temple planned for next term. If you have ideas as to other places of worship we could make connections with please let Mrs Phillips know.





Equality of Opportunity

Our mission at Moreland:

"Reaching higher than I dreamed, becoming the person that I want to be, doing the best I can for the world and me."

One of the things that is central to our vision at Moreland is that children have aspiration for themselves and strive to achieve their goals and "dream big". One way in which we work towards this mission is by focusing on equality of opportunity and "Learning for Life." This includes providing children with opportunities beyond the everyday school experience including:

- trips to museums, theaters, concerts and art galleries
- residential trips and outdoor learning activities including forest school
- sporting activities, clubs and competitions
- exploring careers and the world of work
- opportunities to be creative in the arts through clubs, workshops, visits to cultural venues and specialist teachers in school.

We are always expanding these opportunities and looking for new ways in which to ensure our children have all the experiences that they should in their childhood and help them to build what is known as "cultural capital".

This term all children in Year's 1 to 6 have been able to visit the theatre to see a hit West End show. Most of the children had not visited a theatre before and the experience was one of awe and wonder. It was such a pleasure to see the enjoyment and magic in their reactions. I was also so proud of the children as we received many compliments on their behaviour during and following these trips. Two people even took the time to find out which school we were from and contacted the school to say how impressed they were. What a credit to the school the children are! We need to say a big "thank you" to Sister Pictures for funding this amazing experience.



Next term we will be offering children in Year 5 and 6 an exciting experience of learning water sports. We are lucky to be situated so close to the Canal and Islington Boat club and we have booked in water sports taster days for Year 5 and a course of kayaking lessons for Year 6. The course for Year 6 has been kindly funded through an Education Trust.

Our Graden Classroom Year 5 winter residential that was subsidised by the South Downs Trust and Slaughter and May was featured in the School Travel Advisor Magazine. Have a read of the article here.

<https://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/html5/reader/production/default.aspx?pubname=&edid=a66ad24b-0faf-4bcf-9a33-b10781aed189&pnum=39>

There are so many more experiences I could write about. Please do follow us on twitter @moreland primary to see more of the exciting things we have been doing in school this term. It would not be possible to offer all of these amazing experiences without the kind help of many of our community partners - Sister Pictures, Slaughter and May, The Country Trust, TheSouth Downs Trust, the Garden classroom, Arsenal and Hogan Lovells.





The Science of Learning and Metacognition

In the last two newsletters I explained about our whole school focus on metacognition. Staff have been learning about and trying out new approaches this half term on supporting children's memory and learning. As I outlined last time, there are key things that you as parents and carers can do at home to help children have optimal brain development and support their ability to learn.

Three key things are:

- Sleep
- A Healthy Diet
- Exercise

Last time we looked at the importance of a healthy diet and this month we will look at exercise.

The Importance of Exercise.

We all know that exercise helps keep our body healthy but did you know that exercise also helps to make your brain work better?

Parents are always hearing about the importance of exercise for children. From emotional development to physical coordination skills, exercise can build healthy habits that have lifelong benefits. One of the most recently studied benefits of aerobic activity is the positive influence it has on executive functioning (EF), which includes memory, flexible thinking, and self-control. Overall, exercise not only improves physical development for children, but improves how well their brain functions.

Exercise changes the biochemistry of the brain by increasing blood vessels and strengthening the neuron connections. As the brain is flooded with blood, children can more easily acquire physical skills and cognitive (brain) development in the moment and with increased retention throughout the day. While aerobic activity does help children grow strong, fit, and healthy, there are also other benefits, such as improved memory, improved focus, and emotional benefits.

Follow this link to find out more:

<https://parentingscience.com/exercise-for-children/>





The NHS recommends that children and **young people aged 5 to 18** should:

- aim for an average of at least 60 minutes of moderate or vigorous intensity physical activity a day across the week
- take part in a variety of types and intensities of physical activity across the week to develop movement skills, muscles and bones
- Reduce the time spent sitting or lying down and break up long periods of not moving with some activity. Aim to spread activity throughout the day

Guidance for children under 5 is as follows:

Babies (under 1) should be encouraged to be active throughout the day, every day, in a variety of ways, including crawling. If they're not yet crawling, encourage them to be physically active by reaching and grasping, pulling and pushing, moving their head, body and limbs during daily routines, and during supervised floor play. Try to include at least 30 minutes of tummy time spread throughout the day when they're awake.

Toddlers (1-2) should be physically active every day for at least 180 minutes (3 hours). The more the better. This should be spread throughout the day, including playing outdoors. This can include light activity such as standing up, moving around, rolling and playing, as well as more energetic activity like skipping, hopping, running and jumping. Active play, such as using a climbing frame, riding a bike, playing in water, chasing games and ball games, is the best way for this age group to get moving.

Pre-schoolers (aged 3-4) should spend at least 180 minutes (3 hours) a day doing a variety of physical activities spread throughout the day, including active and outdoor play. The more the better. This should include at least 60 minutes (1 hour) of moderate-to-vigorous intensity physical activity. Children under 5 should not be inactive for long periods, except when they're asleep. Watching TV, travelling by car, bus or train, or being strapped into a buggy for long periods is not good for a child's health and development.

There are lots of ideas for keeping kids physically active here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/activities/>

Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Sign up for free swimming lessons at Islington pools this Easter holiday
<https://www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/london/islington/ironmonger-row-baths/news/dive-in-to-free-swimming-lessons>
- Sign up for other free sports activities or visit one of Islington's adventure playgrounds this holiday
<https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/things-to-do/easter-holiday-activities>
- Try a fun walk around your local area or another part of London - treasure hunts are a fun way to get kids walking without realising they are exercising, these are often really educational too and teach you all about the area!
<https://www.treasuretrails.co.uk/collections/london>
<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/walks-and-itineraries/self-guided-walks-and-trails>





- Go to the park everyday
- Sign up to after school clubs - at school and in the community.

We are lucky in Islington to have great facilities and lots of free and low cost activities for children and families.

Help for communities in Turkey and Syria

We raised an amazing £1250 for the Earthquake appeal. Thank you to all our families for such amazing generosity and support for this terrible disaster, especially when we know times are difficult for many people in our community.

I hope everyone has a restful and pleasant Easter holiday and see you back at school on Monday 17th April.

Best Wishes

Catherine Lawrence

Headteacher

Disclaimer - Any advertisements that are on this newsletter are independent of the school and therefore we do not accept responsibility for any description, services or goods.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Islington Council offers free school meals to all Nursery and primary age pupils in local schools.

For your child to receive free school meals you must register just go to:
www.islington.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

You may also be entitled to food vouchers in the holidays - £15 per week per child

Vouchers will be emailed on Monday 3rd April to all parents entitled.



This week it is World Autism Awareness Week. This morning Richard led an assembly talking about what Autism is and how we can create an inclusive environment both in society and more specifically at Moreland. Usually we would organise a dress up day this week however due to lots of events going on this term, we will be holding this on the Friday 21st of April where we will be asking children to dress bright and bold in as many colours of the colour spectrum as they wish!





SENDIASS Coffee Morning

We will be running the rearranged coffee morning on Friday 28th April. This is primarily for parents of children who have a Special Educational Need and disability (SEND) or have questions about SEND.

We have arranged for two members of Islington SEND Community Support Service to attend.

The Service provides free, legally based, impartial, confidential and accessible information, advice and support on all matters relating to special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

There will be a presentation, followed by an opportunity for parents to talk to each other and the guest speakers.

The morning will take place from 8.45 till 10am in the eco pod. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided. We look forward to seeing lots of you there.

Regards

Richard Morse

Assistant Head / SENDCo

LOST PROPERTY BOX

The lost property box will be in the playground after school from Thursday until Friday.

If your child has lost anything please check the box as it is quite full.

Anything left in there that has been lost for quite a while will be disposed of.



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT DONATED WE MANAGED TO COLLECT

£194.00

Please make sure your child is wearing full school uniform every day.
Teachers will be handing out letters to all children that are not.

You can order school uniform on parent mail and pay by card.
If you are having problems registering on Parent Mail please see Danielle.
We do not take cash in the office everything is done through Parent Mail.

Unfortunately we have had to increase the prices of school uniform as the company we order from - Brigade has increased their prices.





Dear parents/carers,

Please make sure your child attends school every day and on time. See below the attendance figures we ask parents to aim for, if you have any problems regarding attendance or punctuality please talk to Dom. Remember the school does not authorise any leave in term time all holidays should be taken in the school holidays only. Holiday dates for 2022-2023 are on our website.

Thank You

The attendance figures below are Government guidelines that we have to follow



FEBRUARY 2023

CLASS	ATTENDANCE	LATES
Rec - Pear	91%	1
Rec - Beech	84%	20
Year 1-Maple	89%	6
Year 1-Olive	93%	7
Year 2-Cherry	95%	8
Year 2- Pine	89%	7
Year 3 - Ash	92%	2
Year 3 - Palm	95%	8
Year 4 - Fir	97%	3
Year 4 - Birch	89%	13
Year 5 - Rowan	92%	5
Year 5 - Sycamore	94%	0
Year 6 - Cedar	94%	3





FEBRUARY 2023	POWER OF THE LETTER 	HEADTEACHERS AWARD 	STAR OF THE WEEK
NURSERY - WILLOW NURSERY - LILAC RECEPTION - BEECH RECEPTION - PEAR	Raia	Tania	Ella, Zachary, Violet Noah, Freya Mohamed, Saadijah, Isla Yasin
YEAR 1- MAPLE YEAR 1 - OLIVE YEAR 2 - PINE YEAR 2- CHERRY YEAR 3- ASH YEAR 3-PALM YEAR 4 - BIRCH YEAR 4 - FIR YEAR 5 - ROWAN YEAR 5 - SYCAMORE YEAR 6	Anisha Anais	Khanh Muhammad Amari M All year 5, Aydan Selina	Omar, Mayra, Tristan Rian, Robin, Muhammad Ayem, Miral, Hanan Lily-May, Aivah, Omarion Maryam, Bella, Musab Imogen, Rashida Maaher, Leah, Badr Yulizene, Kayden Jayden, Ayah, Elsy Amber, Asra, Aiden Jessie, Kai, Evie

HOT CHOCOLATE FRIDAY

Kacie-Jae Riley Issiah	Rachael Anayah Berra	Tobi Aya Noah
Shainaz Mubarak Ayub	Chase Teddy D Melvin	Melvin Amari M Morad
Riley Linda	Lorenzo Anas	Yousuf Rubiya



Please feel free to go and visit the chickens, rabbits and guinea pigs in the playground.

We just ask that children are reminded to be quiet and gentle with them and wash their hands if they touch them.

BOOK BAGS

Please make sure your child brings their book bag to school everyday.

They will need it for homework, letters and to take a book home to read.

If you would like to buy a book bag come to the office we sell them for £6.00

Every child should have a book bag from September.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

www.moreland-islington.co.uk

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOL OR TO VIEW OTHER NEWSLETTERS.





Head of School Notice Board – Important Dates



PLEASE TAKE A
LOOK AT OUR
WEBSITE

Remember to check this board as we may add or cancel certain events.
You can also check our website for up to date information

MARCH 2023	
Friday 31st Last day of term	Easter egg hunt School closes at 2pm today there is no playcentre <u>ALL children must be collected from school</u>
APRIL 2023	
Monday 3rd - Friday 14th	Easter Holidays school closed
Monday 17th	Children return to school Parents receive Reception class offers for September - after 5pm
Friday 21st	World Autism Awareness Day - Wear something bright and bold as many colours as you like
Monday 24th	After school clubs re start
MAY 2023	
Monday 1st	May Day Bank Holiday school closed
Monday 8th	Bank Holiday - Coronation school closed
Friday 12th	Coronation party - Details to follow
Monday 29th - Friday 2nd June	Half Term Holiday
JUNE 2023	
Friday 23rd	School closed for Inset day
26TH - 29TH	Year 6 PGL Trip
JULY 2023	
Friday 21st	Year 6 leavers assembly parents welcome School breaks up for summer holidays 2pm finish <u>All children have to be collected today</u>





Some lovely things that have been happening in our class recently.....

Nursery Willow / Lilac	In Nursery we have been enjoying rainy days! Our children are learning from a young age that participating in daily exercise shouldn't be prevented by the weather. Our favourite activities these days have been: Creating new colours by mixing others, magic puddles, mark making with chalks, cooking delicious cakes in the muddy kitchen and exploring the changes in our environment. Thanks to all the volunteers who made our trip to Diana's memorial playground possible. It was so much fun!
Reception Pear / Beech	Reception took a trip to the moon in their very own space rocket; we discussed what we would see on the way and what we would need to pack. We explored how craters are made and why astronauts float around in space. This week, we came in to find lots of vegetables trapped from the very mischievous Evil Pea! The children have been busy designing and making traps to capture him, we even had a go at making our own soup. In maths, we have been exploring the number 10 and our number bonds to 10.
Year 1 Maple / Olive	Over the last few weeks we have been developing our forest school skills with Emma and have become more confident with creating knots and knowing the names of British birds. We finished off our sessions with a fire where we toasted marshmallows and made smores. In Art we have been making woodland habitats thinking about the materials we need and how to keep them water proof. We even used the glue gun to join the materials together.
Year 2 Cherry	In Cherry Class we have been learning about the United Kingdom. We know the four countries and their respective capital cities, as well as key physical and human features within each. In English we have been writing our own non-chronological report about a chosen country. In maths we have started fractions, working on halves, quarters and thirds. The children really enjoyed our trip to the Lyceum theatre on the 15th of this month to watch The Lion King.
Pine	In Pine Class we have been learning about the United Kingdom. We know the four countries and their respective capital cities, as well as key physical and human features within each. In English we have been writing our own non-chronological report about a chosen country. In maths we have started fractions, working on halves, quarters and thirds.
Year 3 Palm / Ash	In Palm class the children have been reading "Around the world in 80 days" and using the text as our focal point topic for English to write a blog. In maths we have been learning about length, mass and volume converting metres into centimetres. In P.E. we have been playing Tag Rugby and learning the rules, playing competitive games.
Year 4 Fir	In year 4 Fir, we have started writing out mystery stories. We started by describing the setting of our story and identifying the problem that our main character has to overcome. In maths we have been exploring angles, squares and rectangles. In history we finished our topic on Ancient Egypt with a lesson on the uses of the River Nile and how they differ for Ancient Egyptians and modern day Egyptians.
Birch	In Birch class we have continued our learning on the Ancient Egyptians. In English we have been learning how to write mystery stories based in a tomb. Children have been learning and revisiting a range of sentence types throughout this term. In maths we have learnt about angles, perpendicular and parallel lines, squares and rectangles.
Year 5 Rowan / Sycamore	Sycamore class - This term we have been learning about the four countries of the United Kingdom. We carried out some field work with the London Metropolitan Archives and explored the local area of Clerkenwell. We also visited Hampstead Heath for some orienteering and the children really pushed themselves to their limit. In English we have been learning about William Shakespeare - focusing on Macbeth. The children practised their debating skills and wrote a balanced argument about whether Lady Macbeth should be found guilty or not. Rowan class - This month we have been learning about the UK and the different parts that make up the UK. We have learnt the countries, capitals, foods, counties and traditions. We have had school trips to Tower bridge, a walk around our local area to learning about the buildings that existed around Clerkenwell and then to Hampstead Heath to learn about the sport that is Orienteering.
Year 6 Cedar	We have been busy in Year 6 with our English and Maths. We have been studying 'Holes' by Louis Sachar in English lessons and have worked on descriptive writing and dialogue before applying these skills to our own adventure stories. In maths, we have been learning all about angles and using protractors to measure and draw angles in shapes accurately. Our PE lessons have been really fun; we are currently practising cricket and hockey and working on skills before applying these to matches.



It's an easy, convenient way
to receive school messages



To register
contact the
school office for
more details

Change of contact numbers / Address

If you have changed your contact numbers or
address please let us know as soon as possible so
we can update our system.



30/03/23

Letter to all Parents about Term Time Leave

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Family Holidays and Special Leave in Term Time

I am writing to remind you of Moreland Primary School's policy about holidays during term time.

The law requires parents to ensure their child's regular attendance at school and normally we would not expect you to take your child out of school for a holiday. There is no automatic right to a holiday in term time.

When considering the timing of your family holiday, please remember the following:

- A two week term time holiday will mean that your child misses out on 10 literacy lessons and 10 numeracy lessons.
- Research shows that children often do not catch up from work missed – this could have serious consequences for their learning and progress.
- Your child's term time holiday could affect other pupils - the time teachers have to help all the children in a class is reduced if they spend time helping your child catch up after a holiday.
- There are 175 non-school days in each year for holidays, cultural experiences and family time.

If after these considerations you feel it is absolutely unavoidable to take your child on a holiday or special leave of absence in term time, you must make an application in advance. Forms are available from the school office and we request that you apply 4 weeks in advance of any proposed holiday or special leave.

The local education authority and the national government strongly discourage schools from allowing term time holidays. While you can be assured that each request will be considered on its individual merits, our practice is to only authorise holidays and leave in exceptional circumstances.

If we do agree to a holiday or leave in term time, it is very important that your child comes back to school on the date agreed. Failure to return could result in your child being deleted from the school roll or legal action being taken against you for the absence. Our school has a duty to keep children safe and this includes knowing where they are.

If you withdraw your child for a holiday during term time and we have not agreed to it, this absence will be unauthorised and could result in a penalty notice (a £60-£120 fine) or a summons to court.

Our aim is to ensure our pupils receive the most from their education and I hope we can count on your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Lawrence
Headteacher