

MOORSIDE INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Issue: 15

8th January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

WELCOME BACK AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

I hope you had a lovely break with your children.... it was great to see some of you briefly on the playground this morning. The children settled quickly into school, surrounded by new classroom displays and provision areas. Our new topic webs, timetables and homework challenges will be sent home by Friday, so that you can share your child's learning with them.

We have lots to look forward to in 2019...the consultation for amalgamation will conclude in February, and, all being well, we will begin next term as a Primary school. I will continue to share updates on our progress through our weekly newsletter.

I wanted to take this opportunity to share our school priority areas of development with you, as our schools continue to work together to build on our strengths. They are:

- Area 1: Improve the Social and Emotional Well-being of children and staff (to improve behaviour and well-being).
- Area 2: Improving attendance and communication with parents.
- Area 3: Improving the quality of teaching and learning (identifying and sharing best practice, to ensure that standards and expectations for teaching and learning and learning support are consistent).
- Area 4: Developing the consistency and sharing of practice throughout the amalgamation process and to review our vision, mission and values, so that they reflect both schools collectively.

We had a school vision day yesterday, and it was lovely to welcome some parents and children to the event, so we could hear their views. If you do have any questions at any stage about the process and changes, I will do my very best to make myself available for you to share them with me, and if I don't know the answer, I will find someone who does!

As always, the door is always open and our team are keen to address any concerns that you might have about your child's learning or well-being. Please keep us updated on any changes at home, no matter how big or small, as we are keen to support your child(ren) in all areas of their development.

We hope to welcome as many of you as possible to the Reading Café on the 29th January – it's a great opportunity to visit the classroom environments too!

It's a really exciting time for Moorside, and I feel very proud to be the Headteacher, to continue to build on our work as a team, to improve the schools and bring them together.

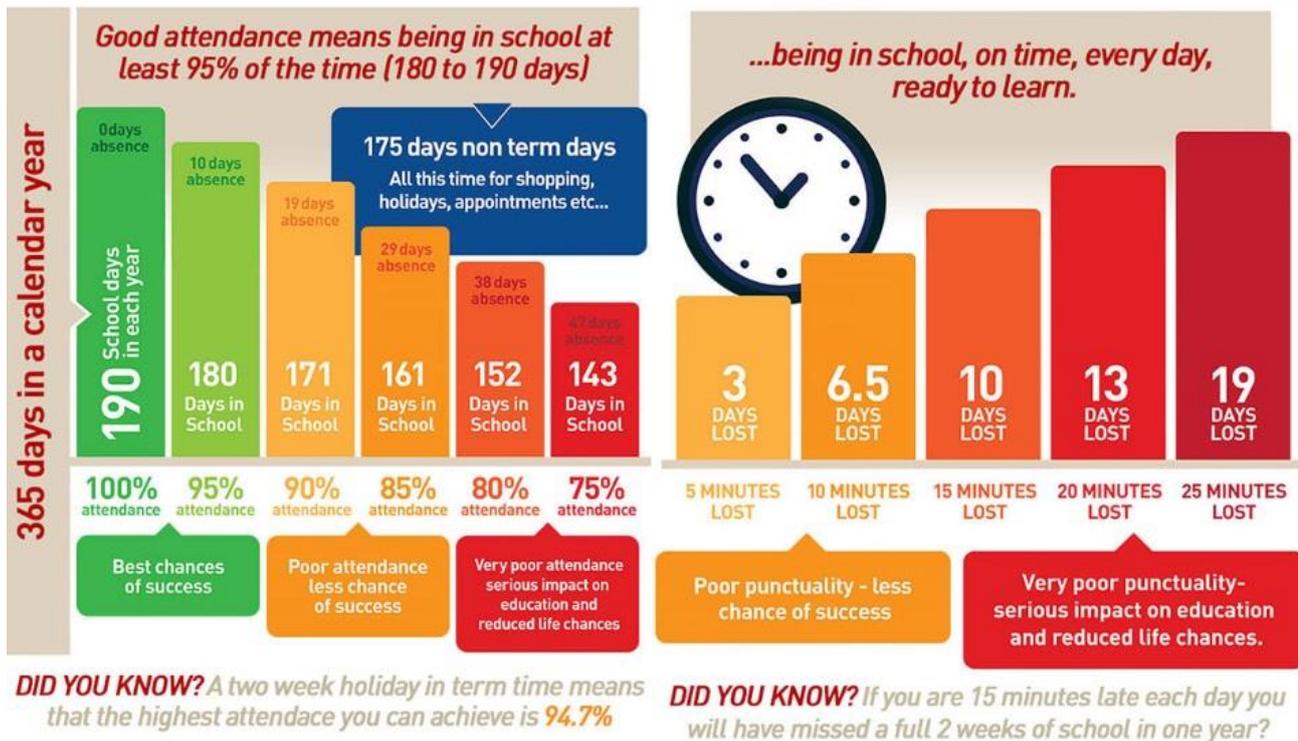
Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Mrs Rowett
Headteacher

Polite Punctuality Reminder:

The school day starts promptly at 8.45am for Nursery and 8.50am for Infant and Junior children. Please ensure your child arrives at school on time. Any child/children arriving after 8.55am will need to access school via the Infant Reception, and will need to be signed in by a parent/carer. Punctuality for the majority of our pupils is good. However, we will be monitoring lateness as we have a few pupils who are frequently late. Please help us to support your child, by ensuring they arrive at school promptly.



Class Updates

Nursery – Nursery are going to be thinking about winter and cold places - looking at ice , snow (hopefully!) and the animals that live in these places. This term, we will be taking a closer look at numbers to ensure that children gain a really thorough understanding of what each number means. We will start next week with 0!

Reception – In Reception this week we are beginning our Topic on Polar Regions. We will be exploring our new Arctic role-play area and discussing what it would be like and how it would feel in these cold places. In Maths this week we are practising recognising and ordering numbers.

Year 1 – This week we are starting our new Topic ‘Giants’. We will be reading 'The Smartest Giant in Town' in Literacy and writing a character description of the main character. In Maths, we are focusing on multiplication and problem solving. During topic, we are going to start off the term by trying to help a giant make equipment for their kitchen. We will be thinking about the different materials we can use and also how big the items need to be!

Year 2 – In Year 2 we are very excited to be starting our new Topic ‘Giants’. We will be looking at the different ways capital letters are used and linking this to our phonics by applying different suffixes where we will be creating sentences. Our new class text, 'The Smartest Giant in Town' will help us to investigate different suffixes. In Maths we will be using our knowledge of times tables to work out division by sharing equally into groups.

Year 3 - This week in Year 3 we are starting multiplication and learning more times tables. We are writing a report in Literacy linked to our new topic including noun phrases. We are very excited about starting a new class text called 'Homework on Pluto' which will support our writing throughout the term.

Year 4 – In Year 4 this week our Literacy focus will be on writing a balanced argument linked to our new Topic 'Space'. In Maths we will be finishing off our work on division before moving on to look at fractions. As this is the start of the Spring term it also marks the start of our new class text 'Homework on Pluto' which will support us with our writing and scientific vocabulary this half term.

Year 5 – In Year 5, we are starting a new Topic of Fractions in Maths. In Literacy, we are learning about semi colons and colons and how to apply these in our writing. We are also building up to our exciting residential trip to Marrick Priory next week. Our class text is 'Wolf Brother' which is linked to our trip. You can listen to the podcast of it here: <https://www.theguardian.com/books/series/wolfbrother>

Year 6 – Today, Year 6 have been introduced to the text Wolf Brother, which they will be linking to their Forest School session on Friday where they will begin to explore outdoor survival skills. On Friday morning, the children will be taking part in 'Astronaut Training' as a launch day for our new topic this term: Earth and Space. In Maths, we are exploring linear sequences and understanding algebra (as this is a vital part of our astronaut training for rocket launching)!

Attendance

To date:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
93.77	93.53	94.93	97.66	95.72	96.14	96.72

Diary Dates

Wednesday 9 th January 2019	Marrick Priory Meeting – Year 5 classroom at 3.15pm
w/c 14 th January 2019	Marrick Priory Residential – Year 5
Tuesday 29 th January 2019	KS1 & KS2 Reading Cafes
Friday 22 nd February 2019	Half-term
Monday 4 th March 2019	Back to School