



Moorside Primary School and Nursery

Information for Parents of Children in Key Stage 1

Welcome back! After a strange and uncertain time, it has been wonderful to welcome all children back into school and also welcome a few new faces. We are extremely proud of the way that the children are adapting to their changed routines and classrooms.

This learning letter will give you some further information about the term ahead for your child in Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2). The staff in Year 1 are Mrs Hunton, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Farrar and Miss Brown and in Year 2, Mrs Burland, Mrs Burke and Mrs Chamberlain. We are also pleased to have Miss Pickles as part of our team, as she completes her teacher training.

Our Topic

This term our topic is 'changes'. We will be finding out all about South America and the rainforest. Year 1 will be studying seasonal changes and Year 2 will be looking at living things and their habitats. We will be launching this on Friday with a Brazilian themed day to include a Brazilian breakfast, learning some Portuguese, designing and making a carnival mask and learning a samba dance. Please see our homework challenges and topic mat for more information.

Reading Books

Your child should now have received their reading record and books. These will be changed twice weekly on a Monday and Thursday in both Year 1 and 2. Books returned on a Thursday will need to be quarantined for 72 hours, and will then be sent out again the following Monday. Please continue to keep a note of your child's reading (school reading books and wider reading) in their reading record. We will ask you to return the reading record to school at the end of each half term, so that we can log how many times they have read each week and reward them!

High 5 Readers



Studies show that reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's education performance. We know how important reading is to the educational progress of our children. That is why we try to encourage it and incentivise regular reading at home. Children who read 5 times a week at home are 'high five readers' with those children regularly achieving this being rewarded in school. Please note all home reading on your child's weekly high five reading sheet and return this every Monday with the books you are returning.

Spellings

Years 1 and 2 will receive spellings every Friday. Please support your child in practicing these regularly in preparation for a spelling check each Friday. **Please find attached spelling strategies to support your child at home.**

Instead of sending a separate book home weekly, you will be sent an overview for the half term and these will also be published on the school website. You may want to cut these out and stick them in your book at home every week.

PE and Forest School

To limit the amount of things that children are bringing to and from school please send your child in their PE kit or Forest School kit on the days below:

Year 1 - PE **Tuesday** and **Friday**

Year 2 - PE **Tuesday** and Forest School **Wednesday**

Water bottles

Children's water bottles are emptied and refilled with fresh water daily. They will be washed in a dishwasher weekly at school.

Marvellous Me



Please keep checking your Marvellous Me and 'high five' us. The children love seeing that their parent's have 'high fived'. We use this to send you positive messages, information on classroom activities and badges. If you do not have access to Marvellous Me please contact the school office for a sign up letter.

Learning platforms

In KS1 children have access to online learning, which will support your child's educational progress. Please support your child to access these learning platforms at home as it really does make a big difference.



Reading Eggs and Fast Phonics - both accessed through Reading Eggs. Children's login's are in their reading records. Reading Eggs should be used at home as often as possible to further support your child/children's reading. It has been proven that children make more rapid progress with their reading when accessing the program more regularly.

Times Table Rockstars (initially Year 2)

Purple Mash - a range of apps for free play and 2Do's set by teachers

Your child's log in details are written in their reading records. If you are having problems accessing any of these platforms please contact the school office.

Homework Challenges

This term's Homework challenges are all linked to the learning you will be doing in school to help you remember and further improve your learning whilst at home. We love collecting in all your wonderful homework to display in our classroom and seeing the creative pieces you produce!

What to bring...

We have asked that children bring a **NAMED water bottle**, which will stay in school to be washed to limit items coming in and out of school.



Reading books and **book bags** should only come into school on Thursday and Monday as these are the only day books will be changed.

We ask that **Packed lunches** please come in disposable bags to again limit items coming in and out of school.

Absence from school.

If your child is unable to attend school, please let us know as soon as possible. It is very important that your child's attendance does not fall below 96%. There is evidence that progress is slowed when attendance is inconsistent.

Administration of medicines

If your child requires medication at school you must complete an administration of medication form which is available in the office. We can administer prescribed medication, supplied in a named container with instructions. If your child has an inhaler, it must be named and in school at all times.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your child's well-being or learning in school, we are here to help!

Please contact us via the school office and we will arrange a chat.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Key Stage 1 team!