

25th September 2020

Dear Parents and Friends,

Another week has flashed by at Moorside... the children have really got into good routines and are enjoying their learning across the curriculum! We had some lovely news on Monday morning - our PE teacher from Sporting Influence, Mr Doey and his partner Hazel, welcomed baby Toby on Sunday! We can't wait to hear all about him and we have been grateful to have Mr Whitford and Mr McTernan back at Moorside to cover his lessons, whilst Mr Doey is on paternity leave.



We said farewell to Mrs Olive on Wednesday. She has worked across all our year groups, but more recently in the Early Years and Years 5 and 6. She will be working in a school closer to home, but we are sure that she will keep in touch with Team Moorside. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and wish her all the best for the future.

Staggered start/end times

Please could you make sure that you keep to your child's staggered start and finish time, so that we can enforce our safety and hygiene rules and protocols. Children in school until 3.30pm are still completing learning tasks, as they arrive 30 minutes after our early starters, who leave at 3pm. Thank you.

Phonics and Reading

In Reception, the children have been getting down to business with their phonics and we enjoyed meeting with their parents on Tuesday evening, to talk about how phonics and reading is taught in school for their year group. It was so lovely that so many could join us! If you couldn't make the meeting, the PowerPoint is on our school website at:

<https://www.moorsideschools.org.uk/reception-phonics-2/>

You are always welcome to contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions about their reading progress. Don't forget, your child has their own Reading Eggs or Reading Plus subscription, so they always have access to high quality reading resources online.

Healthy packed lunches

Some of our children have quite a lot of sugar in their lunch bags... which of course can affect their mood and attention in the afternoon. To help them to feel motivated and full of energy, there are some great ideas on the change-for-life website for 'lunchbox swaps' to enforce more healthy packed lunches. Please do not send sweets into school! <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes#lunchbox-swaps>

Attendance

I am really pleased to report that since the start of term, our attendance has been **96.17%**! This is in spite of the dreaded coughs and colds and sickness bugs going around and of course the need for families to isolate to keep everyone safe! This week the attendance across the school has been **94%**, with Reception being the winning class with **98.03%**. It is really great to have everyone back in school and learning together when they can be!



A big shout out to our staff team this week. We have had some staff out on first aid courses and others feeling unwell themselves. Everyone has pulled together to ensure that important learning continues and that our children are all happy and safe - an example of this is Mr Price delivering the lunches! I am sure you'll agree - he definitely suits the uniform!

Thank you for your continued support and for sharing any concerns about your child's learning and/or well-being, so that we can work together to help them, as these unprecedented times continue. Have a great weekend,

Mrs Rowett
Headteacher

Diary dates:

w/c 2nd November and 9th November – Parent Consultations via Zoom.