



Dear Parents and Friends,

It's time to let the cat out of the bag...Christmas plans are well and truly underway at Moorside! HOWEVER... we are trying our best to keep everything under wraps from the children, so that 'festive-mania' doesn't begin too soon...

### **Christmas production**

I wanted to share our plans for our Christmas production which we will need to film this year, as we are unfortunately unable to invite parents into school. We'll be filming each 'bubble' separately and putting it all together into one whole-school play. We will be contacting parents whose children do not have permission for social media/school website photos, to ensure that they can all take part and arrange how we can share their performance with you in an alternative way. If you DO NOT want your child to be filmed as part of our whole school Christmas production, this is absolutely fine, please indicate this via email to [admin@moorside-pri.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@moorside-pri.n-yorks.sch.uk). They will still take part, but their individual performance will not be published. If you have previously stated that you do not want your child to be filmed or on social media, but would like to change your preference, please let us know. We're doing our best to adapt to the new situation that we are in this year. I can't wait for a time when we can invite you all back into school!

### **Attendance**

Our whole-school attendance has been **96.05%** this week. The winning class with **97.69%** is Year two, who really enjoyed their extra playtime as a reward today.

### **Great news....**

Our exciting news to share, is that following a full day of assessment on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November, we have been accredited with the **National Inclusion Quality Mark** award. Inclusion promotes equal opportunities for all pupils, whatever their age, gender, ethnicity, attainment and background. It pays particular attention to the provision made for different groups of pupils within a school. This assessment process has confirmed our growth as a through-primary school. At Moorside, we nurture all our children so that they make progress from their individual starting points, and build their social skills and ability to keep themselves physically and mentally healthy. The assessment involved our Inclusion Team, pupils, parents, governors, teachers, teaching assistants and senior leaders. It is recognition of the hard work of our Inclusion Team, who lead on this area within our school. Our full feedback report will be uploaded to the Inclusion section of our school website at <https://www.moorsideschools.org.uk/send-2/>

I just wanted to share some of the quotes from the summary report...

- *'The school philosophy states that 'nurture groups turn children's lives around, ensuring no child is left behind and are also an excellent 'sharp end' intervention'.*
- *'During the first lockdown, the entire school staff pulled together to serve the local community. Children of key workers were welcomed and this service was extended to pupils from other schools that were unable to open'.*
- *'Positive, proactive relationships between teachers have built a highly effective team.'....'Teaching Assistants are regarded as highly competent, well-trained professionals who work closely with the teaching staff often 'noticing' the additional needs of pupils before they become a significant issue. Their professional knowledge and experience is a powerful attribute and their skill in removing barriers to learning is exemplary'.*
- *'My online visit to Moorside Primary School and Nursery was made memorable by the strong sense of teamwork under the leadership of an inspirational Headteacher. The determination of all staff to understand the complexities of barriers to learning and a commitment to serve the local community are the hallmarks of this inclusive school'.*

An area of strength that has been recognised as part of this process is,  
*'Involvement of parents in the life of their children in school is strong. The many opportunities for them to become involved are advertised through the engaging newsletters, Facebook updates, showcase events, Reading Cafes and*

*Parent Forums. Strong home links, particularly for vulnerable pupils and those with additional needs are developed and sustained through the work of the Parent Support Advisor. She is a vital link between home, school and external agencies who can give extra support and advice.'*

I would like to thank you for supporting our school and working with us to continually grow and improve through regular communication with us, as well as feedback, so that we can continue to support your children.

I am, of course, very proud of our staff team, for all their hard work and commitment to our school to ensure the best outcomes for our pupils. It is credit to our whole school community that we have received this award and recognition.

Have a super weekend everyone!

Best wishes,

**Mrs Rowett**  
Headteacher



**Diary Dates:**

Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2020	Flu immunisations (Reception – Year 6)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	School closes at 3pm for the Christmas Holidays
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	School re-opens for the Spring term