

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**Keeping in Touch Letter**

Dear Parents and friends,

I obviously spoke too soon last week when I said that Spring was around the corner, with more of the white stuff causing chaos on Tuesday! It looks like the snow may be back to stay over the weekend and into next week!! We love seeing all the photos of you playing in the snow and sledging – some impressive snow sculptures are being created at home too! Keep them coming!

We have had some more great displays popping up in school this week to celebrate learning at home and school. It really does feel like we are ‘staying apart but learning together’ when all your fabulous outcomes are shared. This display in Reception includes our ‘Going on a Bear Hunt’ and ‘Noah’s Ark’ activities! Online learning engagement in each class has been:



	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
<b>Last week</b>	96%	100%	96%	95%	92%	75%	90.9%
<b>This week</b>	94%	95%	96%	100%	96%	92%	86%

Next week, we will be learning about Chinese New Year and Internet Safety, especially because Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February is Internet Safety day.

**Internet Safety**

We know that many of our children can talk confidently about what they should and shouldn't do on the internet to prevent cyber bullying, meeting strangers and giving away their personal details, but we also feel very strongly that there is also a culture amongst them of 'it won't happen to me'. Age restrictions on the social media sites are there because children of primary age do not have the emotional resilience to cope with the communication that takes place on them. This is a great concern in the current climate. Children are more readily sharing messages that they would not have the courage to say to each other face to face and they are on the internet for a greater period of time during the day, potentially accessing sites that they may not have done if they were in school or playing outside/at clubs etc. I am making a plea to all parents **NOT** to allow your child to use Twitter, Snapchat, Facebook, Instagram, Whatsapp etc until they are the legal age to do so and **PLEASE** monitor your child's devices to ensure that they are safe from strangers or messages that may harm their mental well-being. We all have a duty of care to keep our children safe.

**THANK YOU FOMS!**

A HUGE thank you to the Friends of Moorside and the Salvation Army for providing well-being packs for all our children to end Children’s Mental Health week. We wanted them to feel connected with school and give them a little treat for all their hard work this half term. It was so kind of the FOMS for stepping in to help with great ideas for some of the things that the children might enjoy..... and putting them all together! Amongst other bits and bobs, they have something to grow and nurture (planting pumpkin seeds), glowing medals and glow sticks, some sweet treats and of course a hot chocolate!! Beware, there are holes in the cups for planting for drainage.... We wonder who will be able to grow the biggest pumpkin. We hope that everyone enjoys them at home! What a lovely way to end the week.

It’s the final week of the half term next week.... we have achieved so much together since Christmas – we hope that everyone enjoys one more week of learning before a much deserved break.

We are always here on the phone or email if you need any help at all, or just a chat and check-in. Have a lovely weekend and stay safe Team Moorside!

Best wishes,

**Mrs Rowett**  
Headteacher



**Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms**

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps?

<b>13</b> Twitter Facebook Instagram Pinterest Google + Tumblr Reddit Snapchat Path Tik Tok		
<b>16</b> WhatsApp LinkedIn	<b>17</b> Vine	<b>18</b> Tinder
<b>18</b> or 13 with parent's permission Youtube Keeek Foursquare WeChat Kik Flickr		