

17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## MOORSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and friends,

What a journey we have been on this term!

We have welcomed a number of new children into our Nursery and Reception classes as well as other year groups across school and everybody has settled in SO well. When we have had external visitors into school for monitoring, they have commented on the 'family' vibe in school. I am so proud of our children and staff for working together and supporting each other at a time when there is still so much uncertainty in terms of the pandemic.

We have really enjoyed being able to welcome parents and grandparents back in smaller groups for indoor nativities, as well as our Christmas jingle and market performance outside this week on Monday and Wednesday. Your support is a vital piece of the 'jigsaw' in terms of enabling our children to build positive relationships with school and engage positively in learning. Thank you so much for communicating with us to share the positives as well as any concerns so that we can work together to achieve the best outcomes possible. We really appreciated all your donations for the Christmas market. The total amount raised was an amazing £1017! Well done to the FOMS for all their hard work and to the staff and children for making such lovely Christmas crafts!



I hope that you enjoyed speaking to your child's teacher in their parent consultations last week. You will receive your child's report today as a record of their progress so far. We continue to adapt our curriculum to meet the needs of all our children and help them to catch up in areas where they may have gaps due to the school closures last year. If you have any queries about how your child is progressing academically or emotionally, you can contact us via the admin email for a catch up with their teacher at any time. We are here to help.

Covid-19 continues to dominate the media and much of our daily lives with uncertainty about safety. We are generally informed about actions that we need to carry out in school at the same time as you are via the news! We continue to have contingency plans in place for every eventuality - partial closures, full closures, working in bubbles etc...and have robust plans in place for face to face or remote learning, as required. Please be assured that as soon as we have any information to share, I will communicate this with you and my key priority is to keep our children and staff safe.

I feel very relieved that we have got to this stage with fairly minimal disruption in terms of bubble closures again this half term, but like you, we are unsure about what's around the corner!

In terms of safety, we know that our children are likely to receive new devices over the Christmas period and this will mean that parent controls and monitoring of their access to the content of websites and chats with 'friends' must be a priority. I can't tell you how important it is to keep your child safe online and strongly advice that you have a look at some of the parent support pages on the NSPCC website:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

We are really pleased to be welcoming our new PCSO into school in the new year for bespoke Internet safety lessons with our children. However, whilst the children are knowledgeable about the dangers online, it is hard for them to put this into practice if they are being encouraged or pressurised by peers. Please keep this in mind and monitor any devices that they have where they access the Internet.

### **Forest School next term...**

Years 3 and 4 will have Forest school on a Wednesday morning after Christmas and Year 6 on a Wednesday afternoon. Please could children have suitable clothing in school on the first day back so that they can take part. Lots of layers, waterproofs, hats, scarves and gloves! EYFS and Year 1 will have Forest school on a Friday as normal.

### **Attendance**

Attendance this week has been 93.31%. 53% of our persistent absence this term has been Covid-related, but there are other bugs and illnesses going around in school. I hope that everyone recovers over the 2 week break. Lots of rest for those who need it to recover! Well done to Year 2 with 99.47% attendance this week!!



### **Reading....**

We were absolutely delighted that our Friends of School provided all our children with a Christmas present from Santa.... A book for them to enjoy over the holidays! We have had 43 High 5 Readers this term... a record number and 10 more than last term! Please keep reading with your child/to your child over the holidays. Reading Eggs and Reading Plus are there too for them to access at any time to help them to keep practicing their skills!!

Finally.... On behalf of our staff team, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Please stay safe over the holiday period. We look forward to having everyone back together again on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

**Mrs Rowett**

Headteacher

### **Diary Dates:**

Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Training Day
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	School re-opens for the Spring term