

4th March 2022

MOORSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and friends,

What an exciting week we have had with pancake-making, exploring 'Tudor York' and celebrating our favourite book characters with a World Book Day dress up! The children have been immersed in books and stories today and they looked absolutely amazing! Thank you so much to you all for your efforts in getting them ready.

We are continuing to celebrate our Month of Reading Madness next week with a trip to Ripon Library for every child from Reception to Year 6. The dates and times are as follows:

Monday 7th March

12.30pm - 1.50pm: Year 1 and 2

2.00pm - 3.20pm: Year 3 and 4

Thursday 10th March

9.15am - 10.45am: Reception

11.00am - 12.30pm: Year 5 and 6



If your child has a library card to borrow a book, please do send it to school with them on the day of their visit. If they do not, please use the link below to fill in their online form:

<https://consult.northyorks.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=162521724228>

Ripon Library are kindly providing transport for the children - we are SO grateful!

Please keep sending us your 'I Spy You Reading' photos.... We have enjoyed seeing children reading on the farm whilst driving tractors and amongst the new lambs so far....!

Crisis in Ukraine

As a school and staff team we are deeply upset to hear about the crisis in Ukraine, and the effect that it is having on people across the world. We are also aware that children may or may not be exposed to this at home through conversations or exposure to the media, and are approaching any arising conversations in school very sensitively, with information from the Newsround website <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/60554258>, as this is deemed to be age-appropriate. We continue to support individuals or groups of children when they have asked questions or raised concerns. If your child is worried and you would like some support in talking to them about the current situation, please let their class teacher know or tell them that the worry boxes in classrooms are there for them too. As a School of Sanctuary, I have attached advice from Ripon City of Sanctuary, which suggests how we can help as a community. There are also some donation buckets on all the tills at Morrisons until Sunday. We continue to keep all people affected in our thoughts and hope for peace.



Covid Guidance Update and Risk Assessment

Our updated risk assessment for 'living with Covid-19' is on our school website

at: <https://www.moorsideschools.org.uk/risk-assessment-for-the-wider-opening-of-school/>

We are following the operational guidance for schools, published on 21st February:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1057106/2202_24_Schools_guidance.pdf

I just wanted to draw your attention to some of the information which is echoed through the Risk Assessment.

From People with COVID-19 and their contacts:

There is no longer a legal requirement for people with Coronavirus (COVID-19) infection to self-isolate, however if you have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test result, the public health advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.

From Booking a PCR website:

While you're no longer required by law to self-isolate if you have COVID-19, you should still stay at home and avoid contact with other people. This helps reduce the chance of passing COVID-19 on to others.

From Schools COVID-19 Operational Guidance:

In most cases, parents and carers will agree that a pupil with the key symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend the school, given the potential risk to others.

If a parent or carer insists on a pupil attending your school where they have a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, you can take the decision to refuse the pupil if, in your reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19.

Thank you for continuing to support us by taking the necessary precautions to keep our community safe.

Attendance

Much better school attendance this week at 95.46%... it has been lovely to have everyone back together again! Well done to Year 2 who are the winning class with 100%!!

Farewell and welcome

We say farewell for now to Mrs Plummer who is starting her maternity leave today. We hope that she has some time to put her feet up before baby Plummer arrives. How exciting! We have welcomed Miss Lee this week, who has been busy getting to know the Year 2 children and taking over the class! We hope that she will enjoy being part of Team Moorside!

Please check out the dates at the end of this letter as we have lots of events coming up for the children and parents! The Friends of Moorside will send out further details about the sponsored bounce and are delighted to share that FB Taylor has kindly donated some yummy Easter egg prizes!

I hope that you all have a restful weekend and look forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Rowett

Headteacher

Diary Dates:

Please see our Spring Theme Day Plan at: <https://www.moorsideschools.org.uk/enrichment/>

Monday 7 th March 2022	Library Trip – Years 1, 2, 3 and 4
Thursday 10 th March 2022	Library Trip – Reception, Years 5 and 6
Tuesday 15 th March 2022	Reading Café – Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2
Friday 18 th March 2022	Red Nose Day (more details to follow)
Tuesday 22 nd March 2022	Reading Café – Years 3 - 6
Monday 28 th March 2022	Year 1 & Year 2 Trip to Tropical World
W/c 28 th March 2022	Parents Evenings (more details to follow)
Tuesday 29 th March 2022	Spring Disco (more details to follow)
Thursday 7 th April 2022	Sponsored (Bunny) Bounce (more details to follow)



What can you do to help people fleeing Ukraine ?

How to direct your compassion for Ukrainian refugees

Like you, we're appalled to see what's happening in Ukraine. Our shared natural response is to want to step forward and help – but from experience, we know that it has to be the right kind of help. Otherwise there can be a huge amount of costly wasted effort, with no real benefit. Hopefully this leaflet can offer practical ways to do the best we can for Ukrainian refugees.

Will they come here?

There are very, very few Ukrainian refugees in the UK at present and that is unlikely to change in the short term. The EU, of which we are no longer a member, has offered a 3-year welcome to all Ukrainian refugees without them needing to apply for asylum or obtain a visa. This means that refugees will have no need to come to the UK unless they already have connections here. At present, the UK is only allowing some limited family reunions, and is allowing Ukrainians visas if they are willing to come here and pick fruit.

Should people donate clothing?

Large quantities of clothing and other essential needs are *already* being provided by countries neighbouring Ukraine, especially places like Poland where there are shared histories and cultural connections. Donations from the UK are not required. Ukraine is 1,700km away, so transporting clothing there will involve a huge amount of effort, time and money, and is likely to have little benefit at the other end. UK charities cannot cope with unwanted donations and many are still struggling with donations made in response to the Afghan airlift crisis last August.

What you CAN do to help

- **Follow us on Facebook** or sign up for our mailing list (via our website) so you can be updated as soon as needs change, and to track our work in the region and beyond in response to multiple refugee crises.
- **CRUCIALLY IMPORTANT: Email your MP** and ask them to cut the red tape; ask them to lobby the government to respond generously to requests for asylum and for family reunion beyond immediate family members.
- Remember that there are many genuine refugees in the UK, from other countries, who desperately need **donated clothing**. We've been collecting to help meet these needs for the past 6 years, so please contact us.
- The **British Red Cross** has opened a Ukraine Crisis Appeal. Making a donation, however small or large, is a fast and effective way to help provide food, water, first aid, medicines, warm clothes and shelter.
- **Tell your family and friends** about how best to help Ukrainian refugees.
- Please bear in mind that **refugee crises are always ongoing** and innocent people, caught up in unimaginable situations, constantly need your support.