MOORSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and friends,

We have had such an exciting week with our lovely Mother's Day Afternoon Tea today, World Book Day yesterday, our Early Years and Key Stage 1 dance competition on Tuesday and visits to the library on Monday for Years 3 and 4... Thank you to everyone who came to join us to celebrate our Moorside Mums and Grandparents this afternoon. Also, a BIG thank you for helping your children to get ready for World Book Day with fabulous costumes! The children looked amazing and there was such a great atmosphere in the hall during our character parade!



Spring Showcase Events

Our Key Stage 1 team (staff and children) would love to share their learning with you from this term in their showcase event on Wednesday 20th March at 2.30pm. If you have a child or grandchild in Year 1 or 2, you are welcome to attend.

Our Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) showcase will be on Thursday 21st March during the afternoon. We will be sending a separate letter about this event next week.

Again, we hope that you can join us to share your child's learning at this event!

Science Week

Next week, we are celebrating National Science week in school. The theme is 'smashing stereotypes'! The children will be learning about and celebrating the diverse people and careers in science and engineering! Some of the scientists they will be learning about are



at https://www.britishscienceweek.org/smashing-stereotypes-the-profiles/ I am sure the children would enjoy watching some of the video clips at home with you as well as at school. They will also be taking part in a number of scientific investigations throughout the week!

Sponsored Bounce

On Monday the sponsor forms will be sent home for the Sponsored Bounce which is taking place on 20th March. The children will compete against each other to do as many jumps as they can on a bouncy castle in one minute. There will be prizes for the top 'bouncers' in each class. Please see the flyer below for more details from the FOMS.

Attendance This week our whole school attendance has been 95%. Each class has been as follows:



w/c	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
19.02.24	87.1%	94.26%	96.31%	95.49%	94.97%	91.67%	96.02%
26.02.24	91.5%	95.17%	95.85%	94.44%	93.97%	97.64%	98.81%
04.03.24	94.81%	94.47%	96.77%	96.15%	97.97%	95.63%	92.41%

Well done to Year 4...our winners with 97.97%!

Year 6 SATs for Parents

All Year 6 parents are welcome to join our SATS club on Tuesday 12th March at 3.20pm. We hope that this will provide you with ideas about how you can support your child at home as they take on their end of primary school assessments. If you cannot attend, there is information online at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65d8800b87005a001a80f8b5/2024 Information for pare nts assessment results at the end of key stage 2.pdf

Please let us know if you have any questions that we can support with following this session.

Keeping Children Safe

Some of our children continue to access games and inappropriate YouTube videos or films that are not for their age group. They are not only viewing this content for themselves, but some children then share this with other pupils who have not been exposed to it and this scares them. I have attached some information about this at the end of this letter; the poster gives helpful tips about how you can support your child to deal with upsetting content. However, the best thing to do is to check your settings on the Internet, ensure that screen time is supervised and that children only watch films on your Netflix account that have suitable age recommendations on them. This will enable them to process age appropriate content and protect their mental health and well-being.



Forest School Changes Next Week

Next week, our Year 4 children will have Forest School on Wednesday, not Friday. Please could they wear their Forest School kit to school on Wednesday and PE kit on Friday.

Year 5 will have Forest School on Friday, not Wednesday. Please could they wear their PE kit on Wednesday and on Friday wear Forest School clothing with trainers. The Year 5 children will be going for a walk in our local area as part of their Geography fieldwork on Friday afternoon. Many thanks.

Next week is our final week for clubs, apart from Mr Doey's Sports Club which will run on Wednesday 20th March as usual.

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend and that our Moorside Mums are well looked after on Sunday! We look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday for an exciting Science week.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Rowett

Headteacher



Diary Dates:

W/c Monday 11th March 2024	Science Week Launch			
Tuesday 12 th March 2024	Y6 SATS Parent Meeting (as part of SATS club) at 3.20pm-4pm.			
W/c 18 th March 2024	KS2 Art Week			
Wednesday 20 th March 2024	Sponsored Bounce			
Wednesday 20 th March 2024	KS1 Showcase at 2.30pm			
Thursday 21st March 2024	KS2 Showcase (time to be confirmed)			
Friday 22 nd March 2024	Break-up for Easter Holidays			
Monday 8 th April 2024	Teacher Training Day			
Tuesday 9 th April 2024	Return to School after the Easter holidays			



SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH UPSETTING CONTENT

A Guide for Parents and Carers

Raising children in the digital age seems to be getting tougher, with the world currently experiencing so many uncertainties. From the continuing impact of COVID-19 to the war in Ukraine, right now children across the globe can scarcely go online without being exposed to unsettling stories, images and ideas. Reassuring a concerned child can be difficult, especially when bad news feels omnipresent. We've put together some advice to help you in discussing upsetting events with young ones.

FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD KNOWS (1)

There are many ways that children are exposed to upsetting content in the media, both online and offline. Before swamping your child with information, find out what they know already. Show them you're interested in what they have to say, practice active listening and try to gauge how much your child has been impacted by what they have seen.

RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE

Starting a conversation about upsetting content probably isn't the best idea when your child is studying for an exam or about to go to bed. Choose a time when they're relaxed and open to talking, to make sure you have their full attention. Remember, these conversations can become emotional, so choose somewhere your child feels safe and comfortable.

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KEEP IT AGE APPROPRIATE

With younger children, try and keep the conversation more general and avoid leading questions and complex detail. You can go slightly deeper into the specifics with young teenagers but keep monitoring their emotional response. With older teens, you can be more open about the realities and consequences of what is happening—but again, do stay aware of their emotional state.

EMPHASISE HOPE

Upsetting content can make us feel angry, scared, Upsetting content can make anyone feel angry, scared, sad or overwhelmed. Try to find stories of hope, generosity and strength related to the content you're discussing. Children often feel reassured when they know they can do something to help, so encourage your child's sense of control through activities which make them feel they're positively impacting the events they're concerned about.

MONITOR REACTIONS

All children react differently, of course, and young people might not directly say that they're scared, angry, anxious, confused or uncomfortable. Emotional reactions are natural when discussing upsetting topics, so take note of your child's body language and reactions. Allow them to express their feelings in a non-judgmental space and try to stay mindful of how they might be feeling.

CONSIDER YOUR EMOTIONS

It's not only young people who find upsetting news difficult to process: adults also have to deal with strong emotions in moments of stress. Children develop coping strategies by mirroring those around them, so staying ontop of how you appear to be regulating your emotion on the outside is important for supporting your child through worrying times.

Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is the director of FaceUp South Africa, which is a reporting system that is currently being used by schools and companies to fight builtying around the world. FaceUp helps give a voice to bystanders by encouraging them to speak up and get the help they not only want but need.

SET LIMITS

Managing screentime and content can be difficult at the best of times, but especially in unusual or stressful periods (at the start of the pandemic, for example). It's virtually impossible to keep children away from upsetting content completely, but it's important to try and at least limit exposure by using parental controls, talking about the dangers of harmful content and enforcing screentime limits.

TAKE THINGS SLOWLY

Try not to overwhelm your child with information all at once: instead, take the discussion one step at a time. You could make the first conversation a simple introduction to a potentially upsetting subject and then walt until your child is ready to talk again. Opening the door to the conversation and demonstrating that your child can talk to you about this type of issue is a vital first step.

ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS

Online, troubling images, posts, videos and stories are shared across multiple platforms, many of which your child might access. Even if the content is actually inappropriate, encourage your child to discuss what they saw instead of being angry at them for seeing it. Children are still learning that not everything online is accurate – you want to be their utilmate source of information, not their device.

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FIND A BALANCE

There's aften a tremendous compulsion to stright up to date with events. Our phones trequently send us push notifications urging us to read the latest article or view the most recent video on social media. It's essential to remind your child that it's healthy to take regular breaks, and to focus on positive events instead of 'doomscrolling' and risking becoming overwhelmed by bad news.

BUILD RESILIENCE

News has never been more accessible. While out instinct may be to shield children from upsettin stories, it's important that they're equipped with the tools to manage this content when they are exposed to it. Talk about upsetting content more generally with your child and emphasise that they can always tell you or a trusted adult if something they see makes them feel uneasy.

IDENTIFY HELP

It's hugely important that children know where to find support if they encounter upsetting content online. Encourage them to open up to an adult that they trust, and make sure they're aware of who their trusted adults are. It is essential that children understand that they're not alone, and that help is available if and when they need it.



#WakeUpWednesday

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