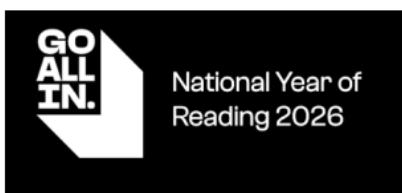


MOORSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and friends,

HAPPY NEW YEAR and WELCOME BACK!

I hope that you have enjoyed a lovely festive season with your families and that everyone is returning to school feeling well! It seems like such a long time ago since we had our lovely Carols Around the Tree event, followed by our 'Festive Fair', which I am delighted to say raised £553.00 for our school funds! Thank you to everyone who attended! Our Christmas raffle also raised £713.90! A HUGE thank you to the FOMS for coordinating this and to everyone who bought and sold tickets. It really does make such a difference to support us in providing new resources and educational experiences for our children.



2026 is the National Year of Reading and we are therefore beginning the term with our Month of Reading Madness, running from 5th January (today) until 5th February! The fantastic menu of activities and events to enjoy are attached to this Newsletter and will be sent home with your child tomorrow for you to pop onto the fridge!!

PE Days and Forest School

Reception – PE on Thursdays and Forest School on Fridays
Year 1 - PE on Wednesdays and Forest School on Fridays
Year 2 - PE on Mondays and Wednesdays
Year 3 - Forest School on Wednesdays and PE on Fridays
Year 4 - PE on Wednesdays and Fridays
Year 5 - PE on Mondays and Forest School on Fridays
Year 6 - PE on Thursdays and Fridays



Year 6 Marrick Trip

Year 6 will soon be off on their adventures to Marrick Priory for their residential visit. The kit lists have been circulated prior to the holidays but we will have a brief meeting for all parents and children in Year 6 on Tuesday 13th January in the Year 6 classroom at 3.20pm. We will share the timetable for the week and any details that you may need, as well as provide an opportunity for you to ask any last minute questions.

PRIDE TOKEN Winners!

The Diamonds team won the non-uniform day for having the most PRIDE tokens last half term. They can be in non-uniform on Thursday 8th January and wear yellow if they would like to as their house colour!

Primary School Applications Reminder

Primary school applications close on 15th January 2026.

If you have a child born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 then it's time to apply for their primary school place.

If you know of any perspective parents who have not visited Moorside and are looking for the most suitable school for their child, we would love to meet them and offer a tour any time before the application date. Please do sign post them to us - we arrange tours via the school office.

More information about applying online can be found at:

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/news/2025/primary-school-admissions-september-2026-are-now-open>

Winter Weather....



The weather forecast is of course becoming more wintery and the forecast changes regularly, depending on what weather app you look at! Please see our snow closure letter for details at [Snow-Closure-Letter-18.11.25.pdf](#).

If we do make the decision to close school due to heavy snow, we shall send a text message to all parents. It is therefore important that we have an up-to-date mobile telephone number for you. We shall aim to do this by 7.15am on the day in question. We will also put a message out on our Facebook page

and for parents who use Buddies Breakfast Club, please be mindful that this facility may not be available at short notice. Please note that we shall monitor the situation daily and repeat the process each morning for longer periods of snowy weather, advising if school is to remain closed or re-open.

When school is open, we will make every effort to ensure that a path to main entrances has been gritted, but we cannot guarantee that the site will not be slippy. Please ensure that children stick to the paths where possible.

The most important thing in making decisions about opening is to keep all members of our community safe, so I appreciate your support and understanding. Many thanks.

I hope that you all have a super week ahead and look forward to catching up with the children tomorrow.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Rowett
Headteacher

 **I Spy You Reading Competition**

Our I Spy You Reading Competition is back by popular demand! You are once-again challenged to read in the most strangest places! We are always surprised by your imagination and cannot wait to discover this year's weird and wonderful reading spaces! Please send your photographic evidence to admin@moorside.pri.n-yorks.sch.uk

The most imaginative will win a prize! ☺

 **Reading Café** 

On Tuesday 3rd February at 3.20pm, we invite all our families and friends to join us for our Moorside Reading Café where you can join in a range of reading activities with your children, whilst enjoying a lovely cup of tea/coffee/hot choc and a little treat!

The theme of this special Month of Reading Madness Reading Café is... **SHARING WHAT WE LOVE TO READ**. The children will get the chance to TALK to you, and their peers about the things they love to read most!

 **Growing a Love of Reading Tree**

Children in each class will vote for a reading recommendation weekly to add to our 'Growing a Love of Reading Tree' which will be in our school entrance. This visual representation of our reading throughout school will help children to find new reading ideas to love!

 **National Year of Reading 2026**

A Month of Reading Madness!

On Tuesday 6th January 2026, Moorside Primary School and Nursery is launching its 13th annual Reading Extravaganza!

 **Let's grow a love of reading TOGETHER!**

 **Moorside (Oxford Owl) - "Some books are like treasure chests — the more you read, the more you find inside."**

The Ultimate Character Champion Battle

During the week commencing 12th January, all children in school will take part in THE ULTIMATE CHARACTER CHAMPION BATTLE where they will engage in **debates** with their classmates to persuade them why their chosen character is the **BEST**! The winner from each class will once again battle it out in a special assembly to crown... **Moorside's 2026 Ultimate Character Champion!**



Complete a Reading Passport: Reading what you love!

To start the Month of Reading Madness, we are launching our Reading Passports to help you enjoy reading more of what you love. These passports can be completed throughout the year and signed by adults at home or school. All completed passports will be placed in a grand prize draw at the end of the year.



Poetry Performances

Class Performances To round off the month of Reading Madness – the children in each class will work together as a class team to learn a poem 'off-by-heart.' Each class will **perform** their poem during a special assembly on **Friday 6th February**.



Diary Dates:

Monday 5 th January 2026	Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 6 th January 2026	Children Return to School after the Christmas Holidays
Friday 13 th February 2026	Break-up for Half Term Holiday
Monday 23 rd February 2026	Children Return to School after the Half Term Holiday