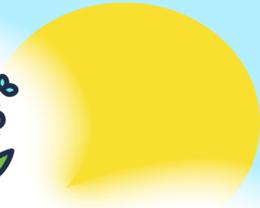




Moorside Newsletter



Oracy, Times Tables and Moorside Magic

It has been another busy and action-packed half term, full of exciting learning experiences, trips and opportunities for both pupils and staff. Across the school, we have been focusing on developing oracy skills, improving how children communicate, take part in discussions and confidently express their ideas. We believe that schools have the power to change lives and create a fairer society, and strong oracy skills are key to helping children develop understanding and engage positively with others.

We are delighted to share some fantastic news about our times tables success. In the recent NSPCC competition, our school placed an outstanding 29th out of 3,980 schools, securing a position in the top 1% nationally. A huge well done to 4B, who achieved the highest number of points—an excellent achievement!

This week also saw the launch of our brand-new Moorside Magic afternoon, and it was a huge success. This exciting new initiative gave pupils the opportunity to mix across year groups, build new friendships and take part in a wide range of fun and engaging activities in a safe and supportive environment. From baking and disco dodgeball to forest school and more, there was something for everyone. Moorside Magic was a wonderful way to celebrate the children's hard work and achievements at the end of the half term.

National Year of Reading—2026



We know how busy family life can be and we truly appreciate the many ways parents and carers support their children's learning at home. Reading regularly is one of the simplest and most effective ways to help children build confidence, vocabulary and understanding across all areas of learning. Even a short, shared reading time each day can have a big impact. 2026 has been named the National Year of Reading, recognising the vital role reading plays in expanding our world and sharpening our minds at a time when fewer people are making time to read for pleasure. This Department for Education initiative, delivered in partnership with the National Literacy Trust, aims to re-connect people of all ages with reading as a relevant and rewarding part of everyday life. The campaign encourages everyone to Go All In on their passions and interests in 2026, showing how reading can unlock the things children already love – whether that's football, music, baking, gaming, family time or science fiction. We also recognise that screens are a normal part of modern life; however, finding a healthy balance is important. Limiting screen time, particularly before bedtime, can help children concentrate, communicate and enjoy stories more fully. Small, manageable steps such as reading together, talking about books, sharing stories, visiting the library, and modelling reading for pleasure can make a real difference. By working together and prioritising calm, screen-free reading moments, we can help nurture a lifelong love of reading and learning.



Punctuality, Attendance and Contact Details

Regular attendance and punctuality are absolutely vital for children to thrive at school. Pupils who attend consistently and arrive on time every day make the most of learning opportunities and are far more likely to achieve their full potential in assessments and exams. Every day counts and being in school, ready to learn, sets the foundation for success. We understand that some absences are unavoidable, but we urge families to prioritise attendance wherever possible. If your child is unwell, please report their absence via MCAS or email admin@moorside-primary.org—please do not use Class Dojo, as staff may not see messages promptly.

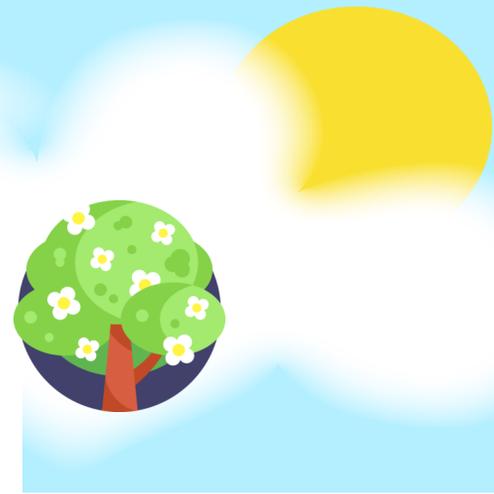
We also ask for your support in ensuring pupils take pride in their appearance and adhere to our uniform expectations. Children should attend school in full uniform, with fully black shoes or trainers (including logos or stripes). Smart watches, necklaces, bracelets, and false nails are not permitted and for health and safety, stud earrings must be removed or covered for PE. Recently, we have noticed an increase in jewellery and other items not part of our uniform policy, and we appreciate your support in maintaining high standards. Together, by prioritising attendance, punctuality and a smart, safe uniform, we can give every child the very best chance to succeed and flourish.

Class	Attendance
Nursery	93.2%
RC	93.8%
RN	93.8%
1F	93.5%
1L	95.0%
2H	94.1%
2R	94.8%
3P	95.5%
3W	95.4%
4B	95.2%
4W	94.1%
5B	94.0%
5F	94.2%
6P	93.0%
6R	95.1%

Overall Attendance is 94.5%



Moorside Newsletter



Social Media, Mobile Phones & Wellbeing - What Families in the Should Know

Thank you for supporting our safe routines, including walking bikes and scooters on school grounds and ensuring pupils switch off their phones before entering and when leaving through the gates.

We would like to remind all families that the Early Years outdoor areas must not be accessed before or after school. Recently, there have been several incidents involving children entering these areas and moving or damaging resources. This has had a direct impact on the learning environment for our youngest children. We would also like to remind families that football is not permitted on the play-ground before school.

Additionally, we have seen a rise in issues linked to online platforms such as Discord, WhatsApp, Snapchat, TikTok and Roblox. Unfortunately, some of these incidents have resulted in suspensions or police involvement. Please remember that most social media platforms require users to be at least 13 years old, yet many children are accessing them earlier. Even one impulsive photo, video or message can lead to serious and far-reaching consequences, so continued parental vigilance is essential.

Across the UK, there is increasing focus on how mobile phones and social media affect children's health, learning and wellbeing. The government is consulting on restrictions to addictive features, a potential social media ban for under 16s and clearer guidance for schools to enforce phone policies during the day. Regulators are also strengthening children's privacy online through the Children's Code, giving platforms default safeguards to protect young users.

For our families, this is an important time to talk to children about healthy online habits, set sensible boundaries for phone and app use and balance screen time with reading, outdoor play, and family time. By working together, we can help children enjoy technology safely, responsibly, and positively.



Junior Park Run

We are proud to celebrate our students who have taken part in the Junior Parkrun, a free, weekly 2k community running event designed for children aged 4 to 14, held on Sunday mornings in parks across the UK. These friendly, inclusive events allow children to walk, jog, or run for fun, either independently or with their parents. One of our pupils was even interviewed by Newsround, sharing her experiences and inspiring others to get involved. It's wonderful to see our children enjoying exercise, building confidence and being part of a supportive community! As a school, we have now registered for to be part of the Park run community and will be inviting families to attend on Sunday 8th March to start their journey. More information to follow shortly.

Welcome Our New Assistant Principal - Mrs Turner!

We are excited to welcome Mrs Turner as our new Assistant Principal. With 17 years of teaching experience, mostly in Key Stage 2 and over a decade in leadership roles across Mathematics, PSHE, Wellbeing and Key Stage 2, she brings a wealth of experience and passion to our school. Please join us in giving her a warm welcome!

Half-Term Wishes and Learning Tips

Finally, all the staff at Moorside would like to wish our families a restful and enjoyable February half-term! We hope you all have the chance to relax, recharge, and enjoy time together. To help keep your child's learning ticking over during the break, we encourage:

- Daily reading to build fluency and comprehension.
- Regular practice on Times Tables Rockstars to support maths confidence.
- Continued engagement with Boom Reader and Reading Plus to strengthen vocabulary and reading stamina.

Even a few minutes each day can make a big difference and keep children motivated for the new term ahead. If you have any questions about logging in or accessing these resources over the half-term, please feel free to get in touch with your child's class teacher—they will be happy to help.



Moorside Curriculum

Nursery — Good to Grow

Reception — Good to Grow

Year 1 — Australia

Year 2 — Explorers

Year 3 — Stone Age

Year 4 — Mayans

Year 5 — India

Year 6 — WWII



Events, Inset and Fundraising

Thank you to all the parents who joined us for our Stay and Play, Parent Workshops, Moorside Mingles and Parents' Evening last week.

World Book Day— 5th March

British Science week—WB 9th March

International Maths Day— 14th March

Comic Relief — 20th March

Easter Discos—TBC (see calendar of events)