

# MOORTHORPE NEWS - JAN 2026

(I know it's not January but I thought I'd give you an early Christmas treat!)

At Moorthorpe, we love to celebrate the progress of our pupils and watching the wonderful concerts fills me with immense pride. We are so incredibly proud of all our children for the progress they have made and how so many pushed themselves out of their comfort zone by standing on stage, singing in front of an audience or delivering lines. So many of them performed with increased confidence showing just how far they've come in the time they have been with us. It was a joy watching these amazing performances and I know you loved them too. Many of our resource children join the main productions but there was an extra performance in resource classroom for those who are not yet ready and that was simply magical too! Every child is included.

There will be more chances for your children to shine in 2026 starting with Young Voices at the end of this month.

## Staffing

After 16 years at Moorthorpe, Mrs Jackson has decided it is time for a change, so she will be leaving us at Easter – she'll be working her socks off until then! We will be advertising to fill her role shortly in order to get the best possible replacement to make a real difference to the lives of all our pupils but particularly those with additional needs. Miss Stevens has been given a contract so will remain at Moorthorpe to provide stability in our year one class. Mrs Gray, our wonderful music teacher has left the local authority, we await her replacement.

## Governor vacancy

All I want for Christmas is a new governor! Would you like to develop new skills, give back to the community and make a difference to children's education? Can you attend 4 - 6 evening meetings a year, plus occasional visits, if possible, during the school day?

## Smoke Free school

We would like to support our children by helping to make smoking and vaping invisible to them. We know that children are less likely to start smoking if they don't see it happening as a normal part of everyday life. On 5<sup>th</sup> January we will have a new smoke free school policy. This means that parents, carers, and anyone coming to the school will be asked not to smoke or vape near the school gates or in the areas around the school, as well as inside school grounds, including our sports fields. Our new policy will soon be on our website. Thank you for helping our pupils to live a healthy and smokefree future.

If you or another family member would like support to stop smoking, Yorkshire Smokefree offers a free and confidential service. You can find out about this by visiting <https://wakefield.yorkshiresmokefree.nhs.uk> or phone 0800 612 0011 (free from landlines) or 0330 6601 166 (free from mobiles).

## Parents in school

We know you loved the One Life INSPIRE sessions in the Autumn term so we will get more dates in the diary for you to see another aspect of classroom life.

Merry Christmas and a very happy new year. Mrs Deborah Birdsall.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

(New dates in red)

### December 2025

Friday 19th – Xmas eve in school (PJs, hot choc, cookies and a film plus a visit from Santa)

Friday 19th **Break up for xmas to return Mon 5th Jan 2025**

### January 2026

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – Return to school

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> – Y5 Robinwood meeting**

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> – Y4 and Y6 go to Yorkshire Museum – Time Odyssey

### February 2026

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> – Y5 bikeability

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Book fair arriving in school**

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> – Young Voices

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> – Y5 Samba concert for parents/carers

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> – Break up for half term

More dates coming soon!