



Moredon Primary & Nursery School

Moredon Road, Swindon, Wiltshire SN2 2JG

Tel: 01793 600344 Email: admin@moredon.swindon.sch.uk

Website: www.moredon.swindon.sch.uk Follow us: @MoredonPrimary

Principal: Mrs Claire Leach

Happy New Year! Welcome back – we hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and enjoyed some quality time with your families.

Our topic this term is **Ancient Islamic Civilisation** – please see the topic web for more information about our learning. As part of this topic, we have arranged for a DT teacher to come into school on Monday 2nd February – children will be experimenting with some traditional Islamic cooking using lots of dates, honey and exotic spices!

Our Young Voices trip is on Thursday 8th January for those who have signed up. Please refer to our previous letter and Dojo for further information. Children not coming on the trip are expected to be in school as usual – Miss Laila, Mrs Eccles, Mrs McGuire and Mrs Cager will be present to take care of the Year 6s in school on this date.

Timings and Attendance: A reminder that our classroom doors are open from 8.30am each day, and the register taken promptly at 8.35am. We would like to stress the importance of children's punctuality and attendance in Year 6 as we get ever closer to SATs in the spring – it is crucial for their learning.

Reading: Every child has a colour banded reading book which they read to adults in school. They are also welcome to use the school/class libraries to choose a reading for pleasure book. We expect everybody to read at home on a regular basis. **Please spend time listening to your child read and talk to them about the texts.** Any home reading should be recorded in your child's reading record. During half terms and school holidays, we will send home additional reading texts and questions in preparation for SATs.

Spellings: Each week, we focus on a different spelling pattern in school. Children are given word lists to practise on Mondays which contain the pattern we are learning and these are tested on Friday mornings. These spelling patterns may appear in the spelling SATs paper so it is beneficial for children to spend time learning them. Please continue to use EdShed to help with this. (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling homework will be given to children for half terms and school holidays.)

Times Tables: We will continue to complete practice arithmetic papers on Fridays in class. A large part of arithmetic is dependent on a secure knowledge of times tables and their corresponding facts. Please practise your child's times tables and division facts on a daily basis as this will hugely benefit their arithmetic speed.

Home Learning: Maths homework will continue to be given out on Fridays. This is based on the learning we have completed during the week – therefore it is consolidation not new learning. **Maths homework is due in on Thursday mornings.**

Uniform: Please ensure correct uniform is worn to school each day. This includes no jewellery (stud earrings accepted) and no nail varnish or false nails. Footwear must be fully black.

PE: PE will continue to take place on **Mondays** (gymnastics indoors) and **Thursdays** (hockey outdoors). Children must have their full PE kits on these days:

- White t-shirt
- Black shorts/bottoms
- Trainers
- Black sweater/hoody (school jumper can be used)

Jewellery cannot be worn for PE and long hair must be tied up – please ensure children have hairbands on PE days.

Snacks/Water: Please make sure that your child comes to school with a healthy snack (fruit, cereal bar, etc.) and a water bottle every day. We are a nut free school so we ask that children do not bring in any foods containing nuts or seeds. We have noticed that morning snacks and packed lunches have become increasingly unhealthy recently – we'd really appreciate it if you could check the food that your child is bringing to school so that it is substantial and provides them with a steady source of energy, rather than a quick sugar rush.

Coats: Please ensure your child has an appropriate coat in school each day so that they can play outside. A forewarning that wellies will also be required for the field once Opal Play is launched this term.

Mobile Phones: If children bring mobile phones to school, **they must be turned off whilst on school site** and given to their teacher at the beginning of the day to be stored securely.

Contact: If you ever have any questions or need to get in touch, please use Class Dojo to send us a message, or contact the school office using admin@moredon.swindon.sch.uk / 01793 600344. We'll always do our best to get back to you as soon as possible, but please remember that we are teaching during the day and don't typically check messages during this time.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Miss Carter and Mrs Brasier-Ayres