



Moreton C of E Aided Primary School,
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Head teacher: Mrs N. Batt

5th January 2021

Dear parent/carer,

As you will be aware yesterday evening the Prime Minister announced that we will enter a new COVID19 lockdown period, which came into force at midnight. The Government has issued full Stay at Home guidance, which can be found [here](#).

The immediate impact of this lockdown announcement means that Moreton C of E Primary School will be on remote learning only for the majority of children until February half term. The children of critical workers and vulnerable children may continue to attend onsite, if they cannot stay at home. In light of this announcement and taking on board parent comments, we will be reviewing our remote learning provision. We will be exploring how to best provide some live streaming lessons/interaction for pupils. Some teachers may experiment with this during this week whilst we ascertain the best way to provide for pupils. Please bear with us and be supportive of our teachers during these times.

The PM announced that this year's summer exam series are likely to be cancelled and that the Education Secretary will work with Ofqual to implement an alternative. We do not yet know the details of what this arrangement will be but it is likely that SATs will not be undertaken this year.

Those who are clinically extremely vulnerable have been advised not to attend work or school and to limit the amount of time they spend outside the home. We do have some members of staff who are solely working from home and we continue to pray for them and their families during this time. It is an isolating time for them and we would appreciate your support for them too.

It remains possible for certain households (that meet the [eligibility criteria](#)) can form a support bubble and for households with children under the age of 14 to form a childcare bubble with **one other household**. We would ask that you do not allow your children to have playdates as we can only re-open schools when the rate is low and the virus slows down in its transmission. We must ask you to take on board the measures the government have implemented. The rates in our area increased exponentially in November and December and it was frustrating that some parents were not adhering to guidance.

Moreton C of E Primary School 2021



We will be providing free school meals for those eligible children who are both on-site and also those not on site. This is for those eligible for benefits based FSM not universal free school meals. For the first 2 weeks we will provide food parcels to those parents. If funding arrangements change enabling us to provide vouchers we will update you.

If you are struggling to access technology, please contact us to discuss how we can support you. Work packs will be available on a weekly basis.

As well as ensuring that pupils progress academically, we are also mindful that it is vitally important that we support children and young people's emotional wellbeing and mental health, as well as all our staff at Moreton. Any advice or support would be appreciated.

Although this announcement was not what any of us wanted to hear, it does at least provide some clarity for the next few weeks; we will be working proactively on our plans for pupils to return when appropriate.

As always we will continue to support you in any way we can so please do contact us.

Stay safe, stay healthy and God bless.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nikki Batt'.

Mrs Nikki Batt
Headteacher



Moreton Church of England Primary School

Moreton Headlines



Keeping you up to date with all the happenings at Moreton

<http://www.moretonceprimaryschool.co.uk>

Issue 7: 18th December 2020

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HEAD'S LINES

As we look back over the last year, it is hard to imagine what 'normal' school life was like 12 months ago. However, despite all the challenges this term, it has been fantastic to see the progression made by many children since their return to school. A good school both nurtures and challenges its pupils and it is wonderful to watch our children blossom and grow in confidence as they learn new skills, try new experiences and realise just how much they can achieve with hard work and commitment. We have really missed seeing the children in the last week and we are looking forward to seeing them back in January. I hope that this break will enable many of you to recuperate ready to return fully next term. Thank you to all the staff who have worked amazingly hard throughout all challenges; they have been truly dedicated to ensuring that they enable each child becomes the very best they can be. Thank you too to the parents and governors for all your understanding and support during this pandemic. Finally, it is with sadness that we say goodbye to Mrs Golbourn. Mrs Golbourn has decided to reduce her hours and take a role in a school local to her. She has been a very big part of Moreton over the last 5 years and will be missed by pupils and staff alike. We send her off with our prayers and love. Have a wonderful Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Mrs Batt



Christmas Parties

I have never had so many zoom parties in one day as I did today! I am now an expert at finding various Christmas items around the house. I do believe that I lost the musical statues due to the delay rather than the fact that I was enjoying the dancing so much; my WiFi was playing up. It was unusual but we all had fun and it was great to catch up, albeit virtually.



Upcoming Dates

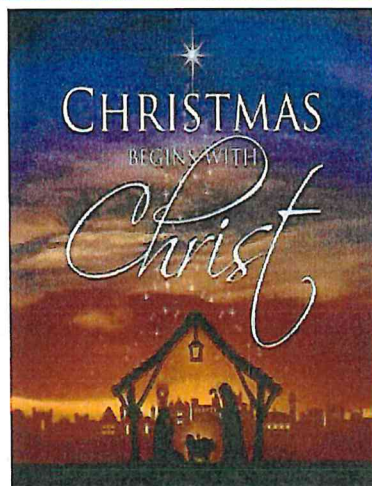
4.1.21 Children return to school

Please note that whilst some schools may have opted to have the first day back as a remote learning day, we will be returning as normal.

If you have any COVID queries or need to inform us of any positive results throughout the holidays please email us on:

covid@moreton.essex.sch.uk

This mail box will be checked daily for COVID related queries



Growing Together in Faith, Knowledge and Love



Charity Work

Thank you to all those who have brought in items for the Foodbank as part of our reverse advent calendar. Despite having only a short time for collection we were still able to donate a large box of items.

I would also like to say a big thank you to a family who have collected and put together food parcels for all of our families in need at this festive time; they were very much appreciated.

Our school Christmas tree was taken to the Norway House in North Weald. Norway House provides room(s) for homeless people who are deemed to be vulnerable and have a connection to the district of Epping Forest. We hope that our tree will bring joy to those who require support during these difficult times.



PE Days

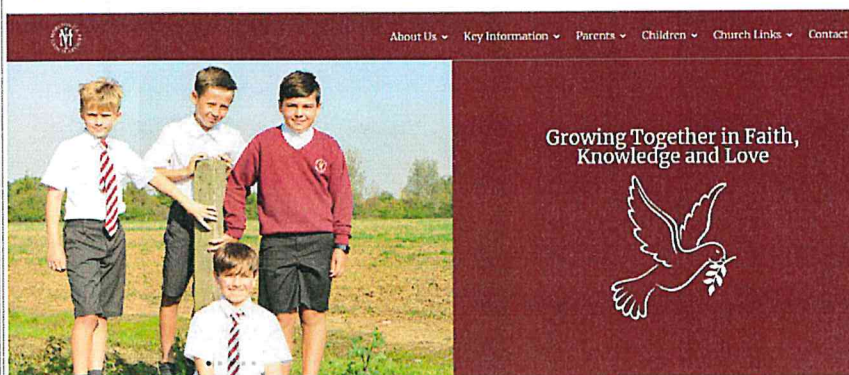
Next term those in KS2 will have an additional day that they will need to come into school in their Moreton PE kit as follows:

Years 3 & 4 Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Years 5 & 6 Mondays and Thursdays

Years 1 & 2 PE on Tuesday, Forest school on Thursday (Yr1) and Friday (Yr2)

On this day they will either have PE or outdoor learning. Can we ask that children wear Moreton PE kit on those days. On other days they should wear our normal uniform including the school jumper/cardigan and not their PE hoodie.



New Website

Our new website is up and running. It has been much improved and we hope it provides all the information you require. On the class pages you will find links to remote learning, including a useful video explaining how to use Google Classroom.

Thank you to Dean at Concept Original for designing it for us. The company also planted 100 trees in our name:

[100 New Trees planted](#)

[New website](#)

The show must go on...

There was no way that EYFS and KS1 were going to allow a pandemic to stop their Christmas production this year. After all it was about the original Nativity—The Greatest Show on Earth. This year they performed the Shining Signing Star. As they couldn't sing in the hall they learnt sign language to tell the story and sang outside. It was filmed multiple times and Mr Smith then spent hours in his recording studio putting it all together. Even though this was a virtual performance, it still managed to pull at the heart strings as we remember what Christmas is all about. Thank you to staff, parents and of course the children for all their hard work in preparing for this spectacular show. I hope parents enjoyed it. The link is restricted and we would remind you not to download or share it elsewhere. The video will be taken off of our YouTube account after 30 days.

Shining Signing Star (Nativity 2020)



Winning Christmas Card



Earlier in the term we sent out details about a competition to design a Christmas Card. At Moreton we loved Eden Withers design so much that we used it on our Christmas Cards that were sent out to the local community. It was also sent to Alex Burghart, MP. Eden was one of the runners up from hundreds of entries into his Christmas Card Competition too. Well done Eden—we are very proud of you.

<https://www.alexburghart.org.uk/news/winning-designs-christmas>

Reading

Next term we will be introducing a new system into KS2 called Accelerated Reading. This will be a fantastic structured way to support independent reading by pupils. We will continue to teach reading through whole class reading sessions and if you are able to purchase these texts for your child it will support them in developing their literacy skills. Next term KS2 will be focusing on these key texts:

Years 3 & 4

- Arthur: High King of Britain by Michael Morpurgo (recommended for year 4 but some year 3 pupils may be able to access this text)
- Arthur and the Sword in the Stone by Teresa Martinez (recommended for year 3 but some year 4 pupils may find this more accessible)
- The Lion The Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S.Lewis (there are simpler versions for year 3)

Years 5 & 6

- The Chicken Gave it to Me by Anne Fine (please can they not read this until they are in class as we will work on prediction skills)
- Cosmic by Frank Cottrell-Boyce

The following book for years 5 & 6 is optional. It will support them in their topic next term. Alternatively there are other space and stargazing books which you may find more suitable at a lower price.

- An Encyclopedia of Space by DK

How to have the perfect digital family Christmas

Christmas will be different in many ways this year, so give thanks that the internet has been invented.

Though some activities will be off limits this holiday season, the digital world offers many workarounds and a multitude of opportunities. And remember, going online is no compromise for most children – though you might have to swap Monopoly for Minecraft, the memories you create playing together will last in just the same way.

So here's Parent Zone's guide to the ways you and your family can bring Christmas online and still have a wonderful break.



