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HEAD'S LINES



Welcome back to the summer term. I hope you had a restful and joyful Easter. We have had a very settled start to the term and the children have come back with an enthusiastic zest for learning. It is wonderful to be back and able to undertake all our usual activities. At the end of term we said a sad farewell to Mrs Moran who has decided to start up her own business. We welcome Mrs Beverton, who has joined our LSA team, and Mr Curtis and Mrs Shelton who are trainee teachers within year 1 & 2. Unfortunately Mr Armstrong is unwell at present, so we have Mr Garratt teaching within year 5. I am sure you will make all of them feel very welcome within our school community. This term is full of fun activities and we look forward to seeing you at some of our many events.

Mrs Batt

Keep going to the end!

Our half termly value is **PESEVERANCE** and we will be encouraging pupils to continue to understand and develop great learning behaviours and habits. Many of the children will be leading our collective worship times and Grace, year 5, begun the week by exploring what perseverance is. She talked about the 'learning dip' and how to persevere to keep learning. Children watched this [clip](#) perhaps you could watch it with your child and discuss it. Part of our focus will be about persevering for positive changes in our world. We have also sent home a home school value sheet.

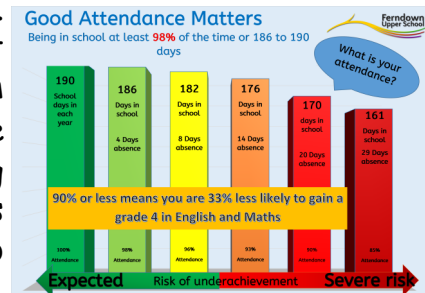


Upcoming Dates

- 9.5.22 Year 6 SATs Week
- 23.5.22 Year 6 Residential
- 30.5.22 HALF TERM
- 6.6.22 Non-Pupil Day

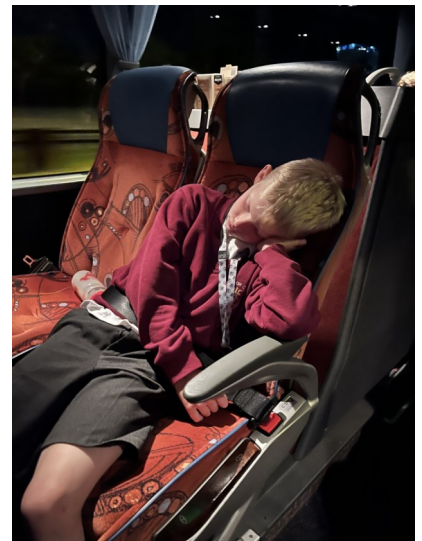
Attendance

Now that all COVID restrictions have been lifted there is an expectation that children resume to attending school fully. Please note that holidays during term time will **NOT** be authorised. Having good attendance is vital for pupils to make good progress.



Musical Theatre

This week musical theatre attended the O2 as part of the Young Voices concert. It was absolutely fantastic and the children had a brilliant time singing their hearts out. It was so great to be able to join together with other schools to form this one big choir. They were all absolutely exhausted on the way home. Thank you to Mrs Brumby and Mr Smith for all their hard work preparing them for this special event.



As a reminder this year we will be holding our Summer fete and Jubilee celebrations on Friday 10th June from 3:30–6:30pm. There will be many stalls and activities. All the children will be performing a ‘Dance from the Decades’ and there will also be a gallery of art spanning the years created by the children. I do hope you are able to join us.

Furthermore, we will be sending out details of a Potato head display based on the theme of ‘queen’ for the children to partake in. These will be displayed at the Moreton and Bobbingworth celebratory event over the last May bank holiday. Entries can be as creative as you like, so get your thinking caps on.



Dates for Summer Term

An updated calendar for this term has been sent and this is also on our website. These dates may be subject to change depending on the weather.

COVID

We are now in the ‘living with COVID’ as all restrictions have been lifted. Therefore, we are treating COVID like any illness as is reasonably expected. Sickness and diarrhoea is still under the 24 hour rule but children with coughs and colds should attend school unless they are very unwell. There is no longer a requirement to test for COVID, but if you do and the result is positive then children are advised to stay at home for 3 days from the positive result.

Thank you to parents for your support and understanding whilst we have been managing these times. A big thank you from the leadership team to all our staff who have gone above and beyond during the pandemic to ensure that your children have the best education possible during difficult circumstances. Many have stepped in for others and covered each other or helped with planning and clubs to minimise any disruption - great team work has been seen here at Moreton.

Learning this term

We have sent out each year group's new learning map for this term. As a school, we will be having a whole school focus on diversity around our world. Topic webs can also be found on our website.



A place I call home

Year 5 & 6

Year 3 & 4

EYFS and Years 1 & 2



EYFS would be grateful for any donations of the following for their outdoor area please:

- Rice
- Pasta
- Dried cereal
- Flour
- Spagetti
- Lentils
- Big pegs



- Sturdy different sized spades and forks to dig in the mud area
- Washing up brushes
- Silicone cake cases or metal muffin tins
- Large watering can
- Plastic jugs for measuring
- Funnels

Thank you!



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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

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WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied – as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed.

BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert: potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

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CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat. Instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing Internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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Easter Works

During the Easter holidays, we had some improvements to the school environment. Carnall Landscapes very kindly donated and installed new fencing by the year 2 & 3 area and across the back of our playground. This has made a huge difference and is a very generous donation from them. We also had some doors fitted from the cloakroom area outside year 5 which means that the year 5 coats and bags will be more protected.



Multi-Schools Council



Before the Easter holidays, some of our pupils represented Moreton at the Multi-Schools Council. They had some fantastic ideas and were praised for their diverse outlook and forthcoming ideas for the future. They produced a fantastic poster which we have up in school and some of their ideas will be rolled out across the county.

