

MOORLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Together We Can...



1st December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas"

10 lucky children across the school spent last Friday at Tesco Kingston for a wonderful surprise Christmas party. They were warmly welcomed by the staff at Tesco's who had laid on some tasty treats and party food. They then visited Santa's grotto where they met Santa's elves and were given a Christmas gift.



A huge thank you to Tesco's for their generosity and also to Brooklands Farm School who provided the minibus and driver to take the children over to Tesco Kingston. We are so lucky that our community partners support our school.

Two of our children went along with Mrs Holmes and Mrs Nicholls to choose our Christmas tree from Fearn Farm on Wednesday. The children had a lovely hot chocolate as they watched the tree being cut down for us and found out that it had taken 8 years to grow. We will be asking for volunteers across the school to decorate it for us on Monday and help make our school hall look really festive.



Angels at the Abbey – Sunday 3rd December

Year 4 children will be singing at Bradwell Abbey on Sunday 3rd December at midday. Why not join them and enjoy the music and perhaps a visit to Santa's grotto and a mince pie or two.



Our RESPECT values: *Resilience, Equity, Self-Awareness, Passion, Empathy, Communication, Teamwork*

Christmas Fair – Thursday 14th December 1.30pm – 3.00pm

We are looking forward to seeing parents and children at our Christmas Fair on Thursday 14th December. Make sure you put a reminder on your calendar and come along and join in the fun! You will be sent a letter next week for you to let us know whether you will be coming along so that we can plan staffing and spaces accordingly. Please fill these in and send back ASAP.

A reminder that raffle tickets are on sale before and after School at the playground gates. They cost £1/strip.

Advent Calendars for 100% Attendance

Our school Governors work closely with school leaders to ensure that Moorland continues to offer all children a high-quality education. They visit regularly and meet with us to review all aspects of the school including attendance. As you are all aware, persistent absence remains a concern for us so they were **delighted** to hear that nearly a quarter of our school (50 pupils) had managed to **achieve 100%** since September despite so many illnesses going around.



Governors requested that we acknowledge this achievement by giving them an Advent Calendar to count down the remaining 15 school days. We realise that children, parents and staff get ill which cannot be helped, so we know how hard it is to achieve 100% attendance and that it is important to recognise this and hope you do so too. Pupils were awarded the advent calendars in our celebration assembly on Friday cheered on by their friends who recognised what an achievement this was. **All children** have the opportunity to spend their Marvel Pounds in the Attendance Market and treat themselves to an advent calendar or other reward if they choose.

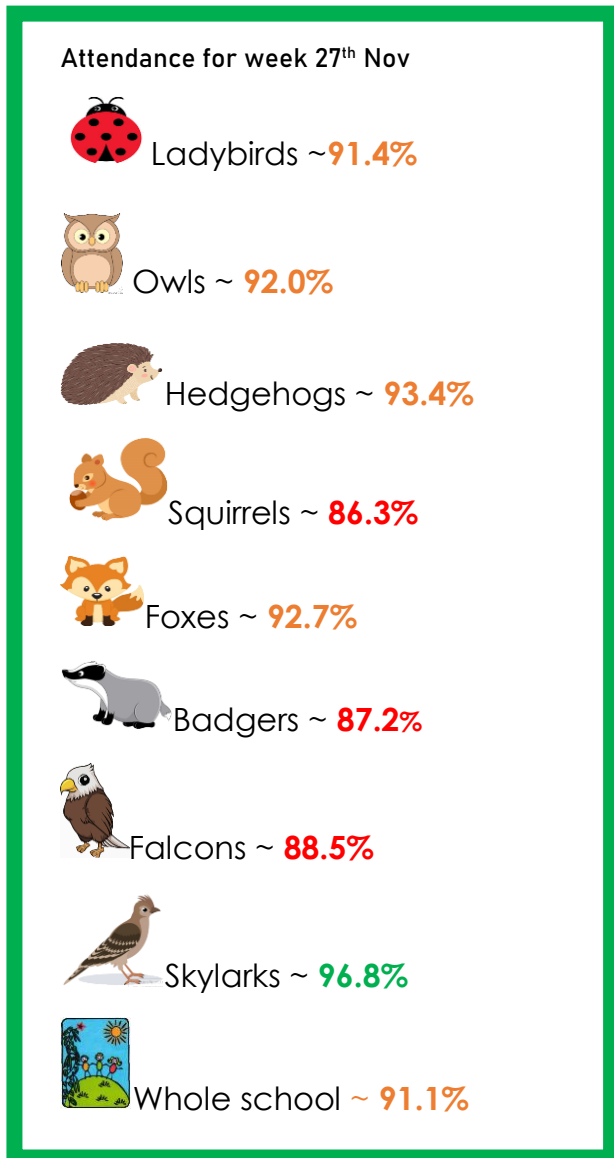
Here is a reminder what **every child can achieve** just by coming to school on time ...

- **Your child will be awarded a token worth 5 Marvel pounds every week that they come to school every day on time**
- If they are absent or late for even one day they will not win any Marvel pounds for that week
- Your child can choose to spend every time they win 5 Marvel pounds or **save up their tokens** to buy something even more special!
- We restock regularly and children have brought themselves some really fabulous treats this term such as bags, books, magazines, toys, games, sweet treats and craft packs.



Attendance and Time-Keeping

Congratulations to **Skylarks** for taking the lead for two weeks on the run. Attendance improved overall but we really need to raise the attendance standards and get all classes out of the **RED**. So much is planned over the last three weeks of term and we want everyone to enjoy the fun and make everyone a **Moorland Attendance HERO** – Here, Every day, Ready to learn, On time.



Lateness = Lost learning

A small number of children have missed a staggering **1182 minutes (nearly 20 hours)** in learning time **this week!**

Please arrive at school between 8.30-8.45am. You owe it to your child to get them to school on time.



Arriving late will affect your child's attendance records so please help them to achieve this wonderful goal of 100% in the Spring term.

Hello and Goodbye...

We are delighted to welcome Miss Edwards to the EYFS teams. She starts with us on Dec 8th and is very keen to get to know all of the children and parents. We are sure that you will welcome her to the school.



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We are **sad to share** that we will be saying **goodbye to Mrs Littlewood** at the end of term. However, she has been offered a new challenge and fantastic opportunity to work on behalf of another Local Authority supporting Early years settings. We **wish her all the very best** with her new job and **thank her for all her hard work, passion and commitment** to Moorland.

Starting School in September 2024?

Attending the Moorland School nursery does **NOT** mean that your child will automatically be offered a place in our School for September 2024. There are a number of parents who have yet to apply for a school place for September. If you are one of them and your child is **born between 1 September 2019 and 31st August 2020**, then you must act now. Please set aside the time to visit the Milton Keynes Council website www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schooladmissions, to submit your on-line application, before the end of the school term. Then you can relax, forget about it and enjoy the family celebrations. If you have any difficulties applying on-line, then please come and speak to us. We are always more than happy to help.

Following on from our parent survey...

Some of you said you would love for us to hold more family events and workshops in the School and community - if you agree then please complete the survey link below so we can find out a little more. We can't promise anything but we will work hard with our wider team in the Woughton area to see if we can come up with some ideas.

<https://forms.office.com/e/2bBxWvp8Yt>



Change of PE days

Please see below as we have made a few changes to some year groups PE sessions. Please send your children to school in warm black joggers, trainers, white Polo tops and School jumpers on their PE day:

Wednesday	Friday
Year 5	Year 2
Year 3	Year 1
Year 4	Year 6



Our **RESPECT** values: **Resilience**, **Equity**, **Self-Awareness**, **Passion**, **Empathy**, **Communication**, **Teamwork**


Phonics with Robot Reg

Nursery parents might be interested in a new activity for pre-school children:

Tuesdays 1.00 – 1.45pm at Moorlands Family Centre – no booking required. Please contact the Family Centre for more details.



DIARY DATES:

Date	Event
Sun 3 rd Dec 11am	'Angels at the Abbey'. Free Family Event at Bradwell Abbey. Year 4 children performing at 12.00. Year 4 parents, please check your child's bookbag for a letter about the final arrangements.
Tues 5 th Dec 9am – 10.30am	 Reception class parents/ carer – Story Café 'Stickman' with Miss Tindle and Mrs Nicholls
Mon 11 th Dec 11am	The After-School Club Singing Group will be performing at Moorlands Family Centre
Wed 13 th Dec	Children's Christmas lunch and Jumper Day
Thurs 14 th Dec 1.30– 3pm	Christmas Fair – Come along for some Christmas fun
Tuesday 19 th December	Early Years Christmas fun morning for parents/ carers (Nursery and Reception) 9 – 10.30: Christmas Crafts & play – Come along and have fun learning with your child. 10.30: mince pies and refreshments with the Well-being team (Children get ready) 10.45: Christmas songs performed by the Nursery & Reception in the hall
Tues 19 th Dec	KS1 Christmas Nativity for parents/ carers (Year 1 and Year 2) 1.15: Mince pies and refreshments with the well-being team in the hall 1.30: The Nativity performed by Years 1 & 2
Thurs 21 st Dec	Children's Christmas Party (Donations of party food are welcome)
Fri 22 nd Dec – 3pm	School closes for the Christmas Holidays
The School is closed: Monday 25th December – Monday 8th January	
Tuesday 9th January 2024 - School re-opens at 8.30am	



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