

MOORLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Together We Can...

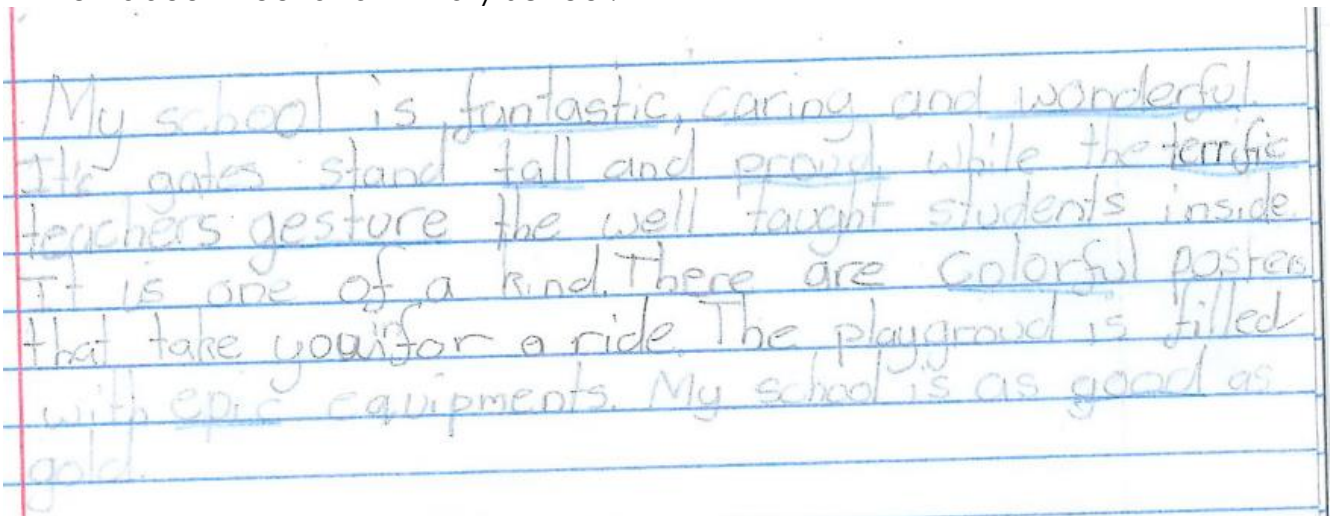
6th October 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are already approaching the end of this half term – just two weeks to go! The first five weeks have flown by! We are so proud of how resilient and passionate they are in their learning and look forward to continuing to help them grow and develop as they learn.

This might be a good opportunity for you to think about how you can support your child's learning. This applies whether your child is in nursery up to Year 6. It can be as simple as talking to them about their day or the things you see as you walk home – the change in colour of the trees for example, - sharing a story together and encouraging them to practise their reading and handwriting. Our Newsletter is our way of sharing what the children have been learning as well as telling you about important events. We hope you find it useful and informative. This week we wanted to share the thoughts of one of our Year 6 children who had quite spontaneously written about Moorland Primary School.



Year 6 children applying for Secondary School for September 2024

We know that our Year 6 families will have been busy going to the Open Days of Secondary Schools, but here is just a reminder that the deadline for applications for a Secondary School place in September 2024 is **31st October**. We have sent our Year 6 parents a separate letter with the links to the Citizen Portal to make their on-line application. If you have not yet submitted your application, then please don't delay and maximise your child's chances of getting a place in their preferred School.

RESPECT Values - Resilience, Equity, Self-Awareness, Passion, Empathy, Communication, Teamwork

Starting School for the First Time in September 2024

Children who are in nursery and were born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 must apply for a school place now, ready for September 2024. Although the deadline for applications is **15th January**, don't delay – apply on line by the end of November, then you can relax and forget about it.

In England, every parent must apply for a place for their child even if it's linked to the child's current nursery. Maximise your chance of getting your preferred school place by doing the following:

Apply on Time

- The Closing date is 15th January 2024 (starting school for the first time)
- Any applications received after this date will be processed after the National Offer day
- A late application means you are less likely to get any of your preferences
- Notification of places offered will be made on 16th April 2024 (unless your application is late).

Apply On-line

- You can only apply on-line at www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schooladmissions. before 15th January 2024
- You will be able to view, update, submit and check the status of your application through the Citizen Portal
- Notification of the place will be quicker and your application will be secure
- You will be able to log in on 16th April to view the School that has been allocated

Use all four preferences

- You could disadvantage yourself if you do not use your opportunity to express a preference for four schools
- Each preference is considered in its own right, so give yourself four separate chances, the schools do not know the order of your preferences.
- **If more than one school is able to offer your child a place, the order of preference is important, so ensure you list the schools in the order you want them to be considered.**

Choose Wisely

- Understand the School's allocation and oversubscription criteria. This is how all the applications will be ranked.
- Don't assume that you will be allocated a place at your catchment school, if you don't state it as one of your preferences
- Don't assume your child will get priority just because they attend a nursery class attached to your preferred school.
- Consider how easy it is for you to get your child to and from school on time.

New Dinner Menus after Half Term

You can now visit Parent Pay to order (and pay for, as appropriate) your child's school dinners for after half term. Remember that children in Reception up to Year 2 are entitled to universal free school meals so if your child is bringing in a packed lunch, then you could save some money by ordering school dinners. They are all cooked here on site and the children are especially enjoying the salad and fruit bar.

Look out for the dates for special themed menus:

Date	
7 th November	Bonfire Theme menu
13 th December	Merry Christmas – join our festive celebrations

Flu Vaccine Catch Up Clinics

Did your Child miss their flu vaccination in School? Luckily there are catch-up clinics in Milton Keynes. The next local clinic is BY APPOINTMENT ONLY:

Date: Saturday 7th October

Time: 09.30 – 14.00

Venue; Wavendon Gate Pavilion

It's easy to catch up. You can book your appointment now by phoning 0300 790 0594.

Supervision of Children at Home Collection Time

Please remember that you are responsible for supervising your children at Collection time. As soon as the staff hand over your children we need you to ensure they stay with you. There are some areas of the paving with yellow markings where repairs are planned and will be carried out as soon as we are able to, but you must keep your children safe on school premises by supervising them at all times. They are not allowed to play on the equipment or run on to the MUGA so please help us keep them safe. Thank you

Table Top Sale

MoorFriends are having a Table Top sale tomorrow, Saturday 7th October between 11am and 2.00pm at the Community Centre on Beanhill. Food and drink are available so why not pop along and treat yourself. You will always be made very welcome.

Lateness and Attendance

Lateness for some families is a real problem and this is having a really negative effect not just on the child's learning but on the whole class. Losing 1001 minutes in learning this week because of lateness is totally unacceptable. For the 95%+ families who get their children to School, Every Day, Ready to Learn and On Time, we thank you. But for those

few families with persistent lateness, we shall be arranging meetings to find out what you can do to support you in improving this situation.

We understand that children get unwell and illness can't be helped. With the changing weather, there are so many bugs around, so we hope that the children who have been unwell this week get better soon and enjoy a snuggly weekend (sharing lots of story books). Well done to Skylarks for the biggest improvement and for coming 1st. Our aim is 97% across the board so as you can see our attendance figures need some help to improve.

Attendance for week 2nd Oct



Ladybirds ~ **95.0%**



Owls ~ **88.0%**



Hedgehogs ~ **91.4%**



Squirrels ~ **89.6%**



Foxes ~ **92.0%**



Badgers ~ **94.5%**



Falcons ~ **92.9%**



Skylarks ~ **95.1%**



Whole school ~ **91.5%**

Lateness = Lost learning

A small number of children have missed a staggering **1001 minutes (nearly 17 hours)** in learning time **this week!**

Please arrive at school between 8.30-8.45am



DIARY DATES:

Date	Event
Thursday 12th October	M&M Performance of Robin Hood – this has been paid for by school
Tuesday 17th October	Deadline for ordering school meals for wk. Beginning Mon 30 th October
Tuesday 24th October	Deadline for ordering school meals for wk. beginning Mon 6 th November
Monday 23rd October – Monday 30th October School closed for Half Term Holidays and Teacher Training Day	
Tuesday 31st October	School Re-opens at 8.30am
Tuesday 14th November	Individual School Photos

Best Wishes



Mrs. Angela Garner
Headteacher