

13<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## MOORSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and friends,

It feels like a long time ago since our first Newsletter at the start of term, but what a great start to the school year it has been!! The children have taken part in launch days to introduce their History themes, 'Homes from the Past' in Key Stage 1 and 'The Stone Age' in Years 3 and 4. On Monday, our visiting Author, Dan Smith launched our children in Years 5 and 6 into their learning about World War 2 through his book, 'My Friend the Enemy', which they are all reading in their English lessons. It was great to hear all about what inspires him to write and we have some children who are keen to be authors themselves following his visit! Thank you to our Friends of Moorside for funding this super opportunity!

Reception have been getting to know the Gruffalo VERY well through the story, their classroom provision and also by learning the Gruffalo song at [Gruffalo song \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gruffalo). You might want to have a 'sing along' at home too! They enjoyed making Gruffalo crumble yesterday and enjoyed eating it too!



In our **Nursery**, the children have been doing paintings of 'ourselves' through our topic 'All about Me'. They have been exploring the areas in Nursery and learning new routines. In Maths they have explored the colour 'red', searching for red things around the classroom to make a red tray. They then played turn taking games to find out what was NOT red - all the children joined in and took turns - a big well done to all the Nursery children for a great start to the term. They have settled in BRILLIANTLY!

**Phonics.....**We have invited all parents of children in Reception to our 'Little Wandle' Phonics Information Evening on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 3.20pm in the school hall. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible, so that we can support your child with their early reading together. If you cannot make it, we will share the PowerPoint with you following the meeting. The children are also welcome to attend!



### We LOVE Reading!

Today is Roald Dahl day! An opportunity to celebrate the great children's books (many of which are also films) that he wrote. Whether you have enjoyed 'The Twits', 'George's Marvellous Medicine', 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory', Matilda, The BFG or another of Roald Dahl's novels, his books are as popular today as they were when they were first published from the 1960s onwards. Our children have been learning about different authors today and have 'adopted' an author to get to know even better throughout the school year. They will be reading lots of their author's books, learning about what inspires them and common themes across their stories.



The adopted author for each year group is as follows:

**EYFS** - Julia Donaldson

**Year 1** - Jill Murphy

**Year 2** - Jill Tomlinson

**Year 3** - Roald Dahl

**Year 4** - Michael Morpurgo

**Year 5** - Phillip Pullman

**Year 6** - Dan Smith



If you have any books by any of the above authors at home that you are not reading anymore and would like to donate them to school, we would be extremely grateful!

## FRIENDS OF MOORSIDE

We have an **AMAZING** team of parents and grandparents who voluntarily run our Friends of Moorside (FOMS) fundraising events. It enables us to keep trip costs to a minimum (as the coaches alone are usually in the region of £500) and provide our children with 'those little extras' to enrich their learning experiences. This might be additional resources, books, access to online learning platforms, treats on school trips, paying for visiting authors and Christmas party prizes etc! Not only that, but the fundraising events are lots of fun and provide opportunities to bring our school community together! If you are interested in joining our FOMS, please contact the school office and we will ensure that you are contacted to share the first meeting date. The meetings take place during the school day at school, usually just after drop off or just before pick up.



Already this term, the FOMS have been coordinating an initiative introduced by Asda. Parentkind (a charity that supports school PTAs) have teamed up with Asda, who are making millions of pounds available to donate to Primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative. To support our school, all you have to do is opt-in through the Asda Rewards app and then shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com between 2nd September and 30th November 2024. Every time you shop with Asda using your Asda Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to your chosen Primary school. Also, every time somebody opts-in to support our Primary school, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. We are awaiting a code to get us started as a school and will send this as soon as we receive it if you are interested and able to help!

## Music!

We offer piano lessons at Moorside and have a new teacher, Mrs Kitching, after we said a sad farewell to Mrs Murray, who moved house at the end of term. If your child is interested in learning an instrument other than the piano, you can apply to the North Yorkshire Music Hub. Instrumental teachers who travel around the Local Authority can then teach your child in school, either individually or in a group if there is enough interest in the same instruments. Please follow the link and select 'Request Lessons' for further information. [Home - North Yorkshire Music Hub.](#)



## Attendance

School attendance is our priority and being at school on time is also really important so that children do not miss out on any learning opportunities. Lessons begin as soon as the children walk through the door and have hung up their coats! Our attendance in school this week has been 97.33%....this is brilliant, our aim is always to be above 96%!

Each class has been as follows....



w/c	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
02.09.24	100%	95.31%	99.38%	95.19%	96.76%	100%	93.33%
09.09.24	98.94%	91.56%	98.33%	98.72%	99.18%	99.49%	94.29%

WELL DONE to Year 5 who have had the highest attendance this week!

## Jeans for Genes

Just a reminder that it is 'Jeans for Genes' day on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September. We will be making posters for our 'We are all Equal' display, considering supportive language for children with disabilities. We will be taking part in a 'dance in denim' on that day so please could children come into school wearing jeans or denim dress/skirt but with school t-shirts and jumpers as normal and bring a minimum donation of £1.00.



## Health and Safety - Earrings and PE!

Last year, North Yorkshire sent the following information to all schools about the wearing of personal effects, such as jewellery and watches to school:

*The wearing of these items can present a risk of injury to the person and/or others involved in activities like PE lessons. Therefore, we insist that **no jewellery** is worn in school, apart from small stud earrings. Pupils who do wear small stud earrings should be able to remove them for PE lessons. If a child is unable to do this themselves, they should not wear any. Staff cannot be responsible for helping children to remove their jewellery for PE.*

Unfortunately, we cannot allow children to take part in their usual PE activities wearing their earrings if they are unable to remove them.

## Musical Production coming to Moorside!



We are DELIGHTED to share that all children in Reception to Year 6 will be watching a production of 'The Wizard of Oz', when we welcome M&M theatrical productions to Moorside on Monday afternoon next week. Our aim is to ensure that all our children experience a high-quality music performance or concert at least once per year, as part of our curriculum offer. We are sure that they will tell you all about it and that it will be lots of fun!

We hope that the children have all started to feel settled into their new year groups and routines but if you do have any questions or queries, please do get in touch with us at school so that we can help!

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend ahead and look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday.

With very best wishes,

**Mrs Rowett**  
Headteacher

## Diary Dates:

Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	Phonics Information Evening for Reception Parents at 3.20pm
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	Jeans for Genes Day – wear jeans with school t-shirt and jumper
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2024	Reading Café
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	KS1 Trip to Castle Museum in York
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	Break-up for Half Term Holidays
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Staff Training Day
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Children return to School