

# MOORSIDE INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

Monday 22nd May 2017

Issue: 27

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Junior School Tudor visit**

There was disappointment all round last week when we needed to cancel our visit to Bolton Castle for children in years 3, 4 and 5. The price charged per child was more expensive than previous visits from the school, as the price of the coach wasn't subsidised by Friend of School. We have recognised that £18.00 per child is too much to ask, and will ensure that future curriculum visits will be less expensive.

A number of parents contacted the school before and after the cancellation about a number of points.

- All school visits are not charged above the cost to school; and the school cannot charge a contingency fee to cover any potential shortfall in donations.
- The £18 charged for the visit last week included the price per child for the 'Tudor Experience' at Bolton Castle, £13 and £5 per child for the cost of the coach. Coach hire is always more expensive when they are needed after the end of the school day, which takes them out of use for school transport.
- Schools can only ask for a donation, and no child can be prevented from taking part in the visit if their parental contribution has not been received.

The shortfall on the visit on Monday afternoon was approximately £670 representing about a third of the children going on the visit. Moorside Infant and Junior Schools do not have available funds to make up a shortfall of this nature. Whilst it is not a requirement that children have visits from school, we believe that the children's learning is greatly enhanced through rich and shared experiences.

Mrs Rowett has contacted a number of other, more local, Tudor settings and is putting together a new itinerary, risk assessments and an information letter, which will be sent out shortly. We will also review our curriculum and endeavour to map out our visits at the start of each year, so that we can give you more notice.

### **Ofsted**

Thank you to all our children, parents, staff and Governors for their hard work and support during our section 5 Ofsted Inspection at the Junior School on Wednesday and Thursday last week. The report will be shared with parents in approximately three weeks. Until that time, the outcome is confidential.

### **Academy**

There is still nothing to report at the moment. The proposal to join Elevate Multi Academy Trust is still on the table; as a sponsor for the Infant school and as a converter for the Junior school. We are waiting for Elevate to 'go live'. This was planned for 1<sup>st</sup> May, but there has been a slight delay. Before the end of term, we are anticipating the Academy trust will visit the schools to carry out due diligence to look at the conditions of the buildings and the health of the school budgets.

In the meantime, leaders and Governors have continued to address the areas for improvement from the Ofsted visit at the Infant school last year. A report will be shared with parents at the end of the school year.

## Forest School Update

The Year 1 children have had a fantastic 10 weeks of Forest School. They have become real explorers and tried lots of new activities. The children have learnt how to be safe around the campfire, built dens, climbed trees, watched the frogspawn develop into frogs (which they have become very good at catching), identified trees and plants growing and observed how they have changed throughout Spring. They have used a range of tools including peelers, knives and hammers. They have whittled sticks for toasting their marshmallows and made and cooked their own healthy soup on the campfire. We have had great support from parents so thank you – we could not run the sessions without you!

After half-term the Year 2 children will take part in Forest School on Friday afternoons. They will need waterproof clothing as the Summer weather can be unpredictable. More information will follow. If you would like to help with Year 2 Forest School please let Mrs Goss know. Parents from any year group are welcome.

Some pictures from recent sessions:



## Abacus

	Class 3	Class 2	Class 1	3/4a	3/4b	4/5	5/6	6
06.03.17	65%	15%	20%	74%	45%	21%	64%	59%
13.03.17	35%	35%	15%	33%	28%	25%	64%	74%
20.03.17	30%	20%	15%	33%	34%	25%	68%	89%
27.03.17	28%	19%	30%	72%	38%	54%	57%	77%
03.04.17	86%	20%	27%	19%	62%	32%	57%	73%
24.04.17	72%	5%	15%	29%	34%	25%	52%	62%
02.05.17	81%	24%	20%	35%	35%	26%	63%	23%
08.05.17	68%	5%	84%	41%	29%	78%	30%	42%
15.05.17	77%	35%	68%	32%	43%	64%	34%	85%

Back up there in the winning seat again Y6 with 85%...well done!!

## Class Update

FSU have been doing lots of exploring in the past week, making metal detectors and searching the outdoor area for treasure! This week, FS2 will be writing some alternative versions of the Goldilocks story and solving maths problems related to halving.

FSU – Children in the FSU have been doing lots of exploring in the past week, making metal detectors and searching the outdoor area for treasure! This week, FS2 will be writing some alternative versions of the Goldilocks story and solving maths problems related to halving.

Year 1/2 – In Maths, Class 1 are working on geometry - properties of 2D and 3D shapes and position and direction. In English we are studying the text Tiddalik and using it as a model to write our own narratives. In Class 2 we will be continuing our story writing based on the Australian traditional tale Tiddalik the frog. In Maths we will be looking at the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. Class 3 are telling the time including o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to. We are reading Tiddalik and writing a new event for the story. We will also be finding out more about Australia and aboriginal art.

Year 3/4 – In Year 3/4, we are learning about 2D and 3D shapes in Maths. In English, we will be using persuasive writing to link our topic of Tudors with a specific focus on Anne Boleyn. In Science, we will be conducting an experiment using magnets.

Year 4/5 – In Year 4/5 this week, we will be developing our knowledge of shapes in maths. We will be finding out and writing about the rich and poor in Tudor times. In Science, we will be continuing to learn about different types of forces, particularly gravity.

Year 5/6 & 6 – Year 5/6 - This week we are focusing on the Earth, Sun and Moon in Science, with a specific problem solving task involving ratio. In literacy we are thinking about the general election and writing our own manifestos. In ICT we will continue to design a Tudor game using Scratch. Last week, Year 6 really enjoyed preparing for and writing their Titanium stories - which are fantastic! This week, we will be looking closely at the upcoming election by writing our own speeches and debates and having a vote! In PE, the children are thoroughly enjoying preparing their dance routine for the end of year performance, which will continue into next half term.

## Attendance

To date:

Reception (FS2)	Mrs Goss	Mrs Wilkinson	Mrs Hunton	Mr Price	Mrs Burland	Mrs Taylor	Miss Ryder	Mrs Plummer
93.89	96.80	97.98	96.80	96.43	96.54	97.03	94.76	97.13

Last week:

Reception (FS2)	Mrs Goss	Mrs Wilkinson	Mrs Hunton	Mr Price	Mrs Burland	Mrs Taylor	Miss Ryder	Mrs Plummer
98.13	99.09	94.74	96.84	97.31	95.67	98.21	92.61	96.67

## Diary Dates

15 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	KS1 Trip – details to follow
20 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2017	Bikeability – Y6 (Group 1) – details to follow
28 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	Y6 Trip to Newcastle
10 <sup>th</sup> & 11th July 2017	Bikeability – Y6 (Group 2) – details to follow