



The Moorbrook Newsletter

Easter Break

Mrs Thompson's Easter review

This is our first newsletter of 2025 as we did not have one at February half term. 2025 has been a good year for Moorbrook so far in many ways:

The football team has won both its matches,

Pupil attendance has been high,

The MIP project has been recognised as good provision and is being widened to other special schools,

The expansion has been approved meaning new resources and spaces in school,

Pupils are making good progress in all areas of their provision,

We have recruited more staff to enhance our fabulous team,

And Ofsted visited and confirmed we are good in all areas.

I feel very proud to lead Moorbrook. We do what we do for our pupils not for Ofsted but it was very pleasing to get the recognition from Ofsted for our good work, especially as both inspectors were SEND specialists and were knowledgeable about the sector. The stand out moments for me were that pupils told inspectors that the best thing about Moorbrook is the staff; and staff said they valued the training we provide and feel supported. We have worked very hard over recent years to secure the right staff team, give them the right training so they can do their job well, allowing pupils to feel happy and thrive at Moorbrook. It seems we have it right; but it is a never-ending job we cannot be complacent. It is what we do consistently that makes us good. Please be reassured that the work to continually improve the school will go on; our pupils deserve the best education possible.

Over the last month or two, it has been Ramadan and Lent. A number of pupils and staff have been fasting and a number of staff who are not Muslim have been supporting them by fasting too. It was explained to me by one of our lovely taxi drivers that fasting isn't simply about giving up food, it's about self-discipline to become a better person. I have given up chocolate for Lent and fasted one day in support of our Muslim community; I have found both difficult and discovered will power I didn't realise I had, so the explanation made a lot of sense to me. Both Ramadan and Lent end with a celebration, Eid and Easter. I wish everyone celebrating a fun time to recognise their recent sacrifices. Whether we are religious or not we can all use our will power to better ourselves. I hope our Y11s can do this in the upcoming exam period where they need a clear focus in lessons and at home on revision to ensure they do their own personal best in their exams. However, Y11 make sure you take care of yourself too, exams are not just about revision they are about being physically and emotional ready too, do bit of what you enjoy too.

Enjoy reading the newsletter and enjoy a lovely Easter holiday.

Mrs Thompson



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Mrs Thompson's expansion update

The expansion of school was approved by the county council in February. We will become a 92 place school, this includes our MIP pupils who are educated away from the main school site.

As part of the development of the main site, we are having work done over summer to develop the following:

- **Move design technology equipment to the garage so home maintenance have a new dedicated space.**
- **Convert the DT area into a classroom, new quiet workroom and breakout space.**
- **A brand new sensory room, with dimmable lighting built.**
- **Convert the Art room into a classroom for intervention and Thrive. Art will now share with Science in the Lab.**
- **Relocate the library and convert the room into another usable classroom.**
- **A new library space.**
- **A life skills area created by relocating the medical resources.**
- **A new carpark with safe in out access for taxis and more staff parking,**
- **A covered shelter for playground as requested by school council,**
- **If any money left over a climbing frame, also a school council wish.**

All new indoor spaces will have dimmable sensory lighting and acoustic ceiling tiles.

Once the work is done we will organise an open afternoon so everyone can see our improved school building.





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Subject recap - Maths

It has been a very busy half term in Maths this half term with the pupils having completed some excellent learning with most pupils making good progress.

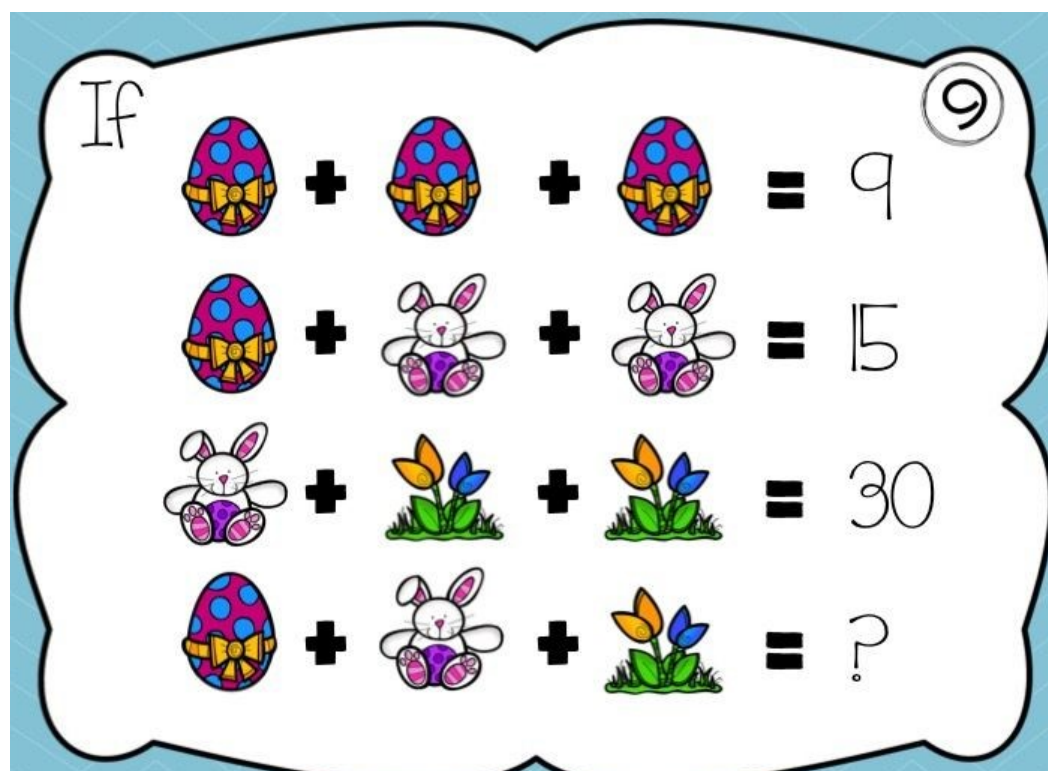
Year 8, and have been studying a lot of the Shape, Space and Measure strand of Maths. There has been some excellent work on Transformations been produced.

Year 10's have had a great term, making good progress. William and Jacob have been working hard on some difficult GCSE topics, Matten and Lewis have been completing their Entry level components and Kai and Matthew have been getting stuck in to intervention sessions with Miss Dunne.

Finally, my Year 11's have worked extremely hard this term, we have finished covering new topics and been focusing on revision for their upcoming GCSE exam. Get lots of rest of Easter boys, you're going to be having a busy term!

I wish all the pupils a happy Easter, I hope you get lots of rest and are ready to work hard in the Summer Term.

Mr Barnes





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Subject recap - English

This term the year 8's have been focusing on villains, creating characters and bringing in different literature to build their English writing skills. They have been writing different types of sentences, using their SPAG skills and using nouns, verbs and adjectives throughout.

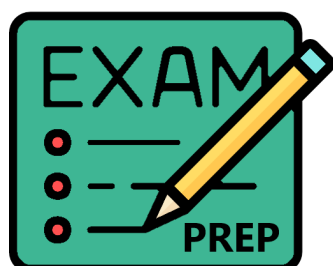
The year 9's and 10's have been working hard in their lessons to build up to their test papers which they are completing on the final week of term. They have been focused and tried their best to get themselves prepared for the tests!

The year 8's, 9's and 10's have continued their weekly SPAG lessons and improved their spelling levels consistently throughout the term, they are showing good signs of progress and engaged really well each week.

The year 11's have also been continuing their preparations for their exams and have been studying, revision and working hard, ready for the final term with us here at Moorbrook.

Well done boys and have a great Easter break!

Ms Morton, Mrs Maddox and Mr Wilson.





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Subject recap - Science

Year 7A had a fantastic term making amazing rockets! Alfie created a giant yellow banana, adding some fun to the projects. They also explored living and non-living things and their habitats, including nature walks and scavenging.

Year 7B has been learning about changing and separating materials through scientific experiments. They have melted foods like cola bottles (and enjoyed eating them too!) and tested the solubility of substances like salt, copper sulfate, and sand.

Year 8 has finished their space topic and did really well on their end-of-topic test. They have begun learning about forces, becoming keen scientists with greatly improved behavior. We have also learned to give thoughtful answers, listen to others, and show respect.

Year 9 and 10 are on the final topic of their ELC course, working towards their last physics assessment. After that, we'll celebrate with a well-earned Nabzys before kicking off their GCSE Biology learning. We've also measured our speed by timing our 100m runs in the yard!

Year 11s are on their final stretch, and it's amazing to see how far they've come! They are eager to do their best in their GCSE Biology, even taking voluntary extra lessons. Their hard work will pay off, and I truly wish them all the success they deserve.





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Year 7a's and Mrs Baron

This half term our topic has been World War II. In history we have studied why and how the war began, who was involved in the war and all about the transport and weapons that were used. We have had a go at making some WW2 recipes such as potato scones, as flour was heavily rationed! We have designed and built our own Anderson shelters from wood and Lego and built our own 3D spit fires.

Our English linked nicely with our topic, and we studied the story Goodnight Mister Tom, focusing on the two main characters and comparing their characteristics as the story evolves. The pupils have really dived headfirst into this topic and work very hard!

In Maths we have focused on fractions, mass and capacity. We have been able to link this learning into other subjects like food tech and DT.

I hope all the pupils have a lovely Easter break and come back refreshed for their final term in Year 7!

Year 7b's and Mr Simpson

In the first half of the term we wrote stories about a ruined city and a solo survivor to link to our geography around natural disasters and tectonic plates. We played badminton inside school then switched to tennis later on in the term.

In the second half term we've been learning about World War Two. We've built model Anderson shelters, learnt about the Blitz and evacuees and been to the Imperial War Museum North in Manchester. Tied in with this in English we have read 'Friend or Foe' by Michael Murpurgo about a pair of evacuee children who find a crashed German plane and also we are currently reading Goodnight Mr Tom also about an evacuee who moves from the busy streets of London to a very quiet countryside cottage.

Some of the class have ventured over to Moor Park to the recently renovated all-weather tennis courts for PE lessons. Others have continued with their love of football at Vida.

In maths we have been learning about fractions and then percentages, especially looking at working percentage discounts out mentally.



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Fab 4 - reward trip

The Fab 4 enjoyed a trip to the Blackpool front as their reward trip this term! They had nice walk down the front, a trip in to coral island and a treat dinner to say well done for their hard work this term!



Well done boys, have a great Easter Break and see you soon!

Reward trips - Blackpool Zoo

The great 8 from main school and MIP visited Blackpool Zoo as a reward for all their hard work this term! They saw some wonderful animals, learnt plenty of facts and watched the aquatic animals show!



A big well done to the pupils who had an excellent day and represented school perfectly!



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Funky hat Friday - Support of Brain Tumour Charity

On Friday the 28th of March, we all wore funky hats and donated a £1 to raise money towards The Brain Tumour Charity. This was to celebrate Mr Sinnott's daughter finally getting the all clear.



Subject recap - Enrichment

For enrichment activities myself and KC have been working on a few things around school i.e. display boards and creating a sensory board. Kai created a vibrant and interactive sensory board, including a variety of materials to engage the senses. The board featured smooth, textured rocks that provided tactile stimulation, while light switches allowed for a fun experience. Various fabrics, each with unique textures, offered a pleasing variety of sensory inputs, from soft and fluffy to rough and bumpy. This creative project was not only visually appealing but also functionally designed to support sensory exploration and discovery, providing an enjoyable experience that stimulated both the mind and the hands.



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Subject recap - PGW

We have had a very busy half term across all years this half term, focusing on careers and our futures. This has seen most years look at Labour Market Information (LMI) to see which jobs and sectors are most popular in the pupils' local areas, as well as discussing where we think the future of jobs lie.

Year 11's completed work around their college choices, including interview techniques and mock interviews, in preparation for their own college interviews which have been successful.

Finally, all year groups have begun to look at entrepreneurship and businesses, with pupils designing their own products and businesses. We have been inspired by Dragon's Den and Shark Tank, looking to pitch our own ideas in the final week.

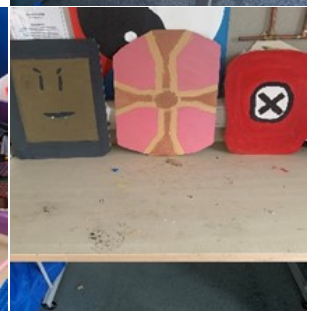
An overall busy term, with a lot of thought going into our futures when the time comes.

Subject recap - Work skills

The Work Skills curriculum this term initially focused on creativity. The Year 8's designed their own theme parks on paper or the computer before designing a ride as the main attraction for the theme park. They attempted to make the ride out of a variety of materials based on their personal preference. The classroom was full of straws, pipe cleaners, lego, card, paper, cellotape and glue as the class let their imaginations take over.

The remainder of the term has been spent in the DT workshop. The class designed wooden shields and set about turning a rectangular piece of wood into the shield shape of their choice. They then used masking tape to mark out a design before mixing the paint to create the desired colour. I'm sure you will agree from the images, the quality of work is amazing.

Well Done Year 8.





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Moorbrook Football Team

The Moorbrook football team has really kick on in 2025 with plenty of keen footballers in all years looking to get involved! The team led by captain Mateen have played in 2 games this term, winning 8-1 and 11-1.

During this term, our centre back Matthew created a letter to send out to local businesses, encouraging them to become our new sponsorship partner to fund a new kit. Matthew did an excellent job approaching business, using great social skills and represented Moorbrook brilliantly.

We have been lucky enough to have Noblets Chippy in Fulwood agree to sponsor us and purchase our new kit! Big thanks to Jon & the Noblets team, and Matthew for his hard work during this. We look forward to our new kits arriving after Easter.

Well done boys!





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Subject Recap - Food Technology



This half term we have used all our previous knowledge and skills to create wonderful food! In KS3 we have been making pasta dishes. The quality of some of the meals were second to none and the fresh pasta could have been served in a restaurant! We were so proud of everyone.



Mrs Lawrenson has given up eating bread for lent and so the KS4 children have really appreciated that there was no taste testing of the bread products! The tiger bread was a new addition to our skills set and Miss Hindle particularly enjoyed the marmite loaf!

Once again we are so proud of everyone for their patience and resilience when developing new skills and exploring new techniques!

Next half term KS3 will be utilising their knowledge of world foods and learning about other cultures.

The KS4 cohort will be revisiting their favourite dishes and preparing for the level one and level two exam.

Have a great and peaceful Easter everyone.





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Subject recap - Outdoor Education

It's been a successful term in outdoor education with the sun starting to show and some wonderful places visited. We have visited the War Museum, Orrest Head, Delamere, Longridge Fell, Tockholes and the Year 7b's had the chance to



work with youth trust at Brockholes this term!

We look forward to the warmer weather next term and hope you all have a great Easter Break!

Mr Uttley and the outdoor education team.





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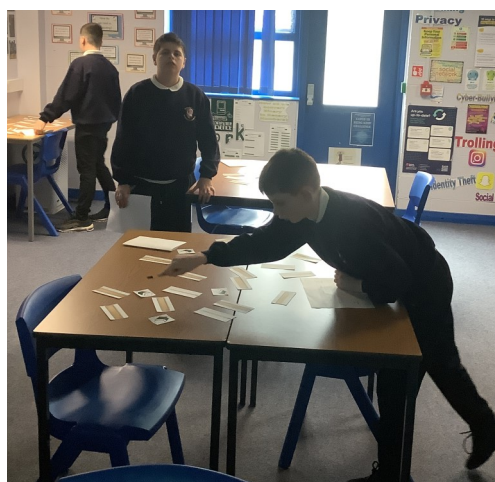


Computing

The Spring Term in computing as always has been really busy across all of the year groups. A big thank you to you all for your learning you have done and the resilience you have shown.

Key stage 3

Year 7a have been working on Digital Painting in Spring 1 and have produced lots of learning raising their individual knowledge and skills around how the artists works with different tools—we have then recreated some of their work looking at shapes/tools/colours and design using the computers and software.



In Spring 2 we have been working on Data and Information—labels/groupings/comparisons and this will continue after the Easter break.

Year 7B have also been working really hard this term, in Spring 1 we completed the topic that introduced the pupils to stop frame animation - how pictures move, what is the story and then created their own animation using props and ipads for their learning.

In Spring 2 we have began our learning with Databases and how they are used this will continue after the Easter break.

Year 8 this term the pupils have completed lots of learning around the following topics—Creating Media using 3D Modelling using software on the computers and then following this recreated the learning in our Art lessons using watercolours and also plastic straws to create buildings.

Spring 2 we have been learning about spreadsheets. The year 8 pupils have found the topics quite challenging yet persevered—great work year 8.



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Computing

Year 9 and 10 we have been working on a variety of skills in Spring 1 and in Spring 2—Spring 1 was our topic all about Pizza Co where pupils learnt all about creating and designing many things such as menus, research on fast food, designing and making their own Logo and evaluating them and at the end we all made our own pizzas in the food technology room.



In spring 2 we have carried out recapping and revision using Excel Spreadsheets—this has been great to see how much all the year 9 pupils can remember from past lessons.



Year 10 in Spring 2 began their new qualifications and are working really hard with all the new topics in preparation for exams .

Year 11 this term the pupils have all been working on their Entry Level 3 Digital Functional Skills and are about to take their exams. Alongside this they have also been working on another qualification—Level 1 in Essential Skills. The year 11's have been very focused and completed lots of learning

Well done to all year groups for this terms learning.

Mrs TPH.





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KS4 French



Over spring term 1 a number of pupils participated in a KS4 option of languages.

Spring term 1 was French.



During these lessons the pupils took part in learning which covered:

French basic phrases

How to have a basic conversation in French

How to count from 0-20

The days of the week

The months of the year

Colours

Body parts

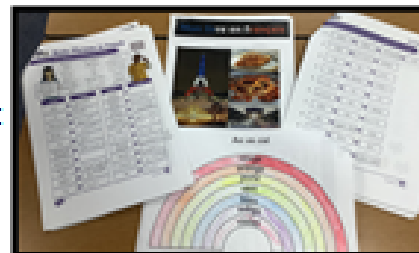
Family members

How to say different food in French

While learning all these skills they completed a French workbook to ensure they achieved multiple AQA awards in French.

Lots of fun and lots of learning— great work and well done everyone.

Mrs TPH & Miss Dunne



Amour - Love
Bon - Good
Oui - Yes
Pardon - Sorry

Bonjour - Hello
Merci - Thank you
Au revoir - Goodbye
Bienvenue - Welcome



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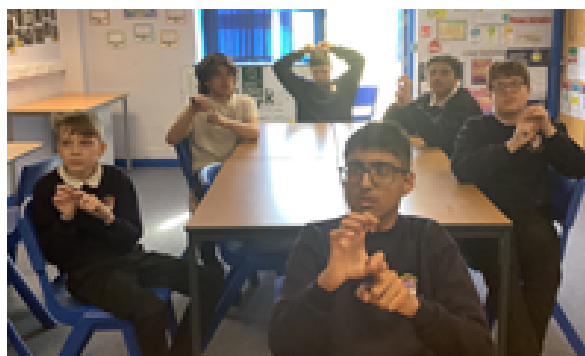
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British Sign Language

In spring term 2 a number of students moved onto learning British Sign Language.

During these lessons the pupils were taught how to sign:

**The alphabet
How to sign their name
General greetings
Colours**



Moving forward we are hoping to cover other subjects within BSL Subjects such as:

**Food and drink
Family members
Animals
Hobbies**

Lots of fun and lots of learning— great work and well done everyone.

Mrs TPH & Miss Dunne



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Miss Gallagher - Family support and events

In March I held the first Coffee Cake and catch up, this was a great gathering for parents and carers to visit school. With guests including: child and family wellbeing, the fire services, debt management, food banks and youth groups.

Date for your dairy'sThe next one will be on Tuesday 1st July, guest from PNE, Smoke awareness, and RNLI water safety.

Hope to see you there, in the meantime if your family needs support please contact the school office 01772 774752 or mobile 07311456904





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Birthdays!

Birthday shout outs!

Happy birthday to the below pupils who celebrate their birthday during the break and next half term.

Eli

Matthew B

Thomas H

Cleon

Adam

Aidan

**happy
birthday**



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Enjoy the break!

Happy half term!

Enjoy the break and we look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday the 22nd of April, bright and early, raring to go for another term!



Emergency telephone numbers for the break on the next page.



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Emergency numbers:

Emergency telephone numbers for the break;

General support

Citizen's Advice – offers a range of support for benefits, work, debt and money, consumer, housing, family, law and courts and health. National help line: 03444 111 444.

Services can also be accessed online at www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Health and wellbeing

Samaritans – for any one suffering with their mental health. Call for free -116 123 / Email – jo@samaritans.org

Child line – help and support for a wide range of issues including depression anxiety, or generally feeling overwhelmed. Phone - 0800 1111. There are also online counselling forums, message boards simply visit childline.org.uk

Northwest Children's Social Care contact details

Lancashire - 0300 123 6720 / Emergency Duty Team: 0300 123 6722

Domestic abuse/ violence

SAFENET - 0300 3033 581 or email contact@safenet.org.uk

Preston Domestic violence services – 01772 201601

Drugs and alcohol support

Inspire – inspirenorthlancs.org.uk - self-referral form online.

Police

Non-emergency number – 101

Food Banks

Luv Preston – Phone: 01772 298107 / Email: contact@luvpreston.com

Noor food bank– referral form is required. Can be done online @ www.noorfoodbank.co.uk

The Salvation Army – Tuesdays 10 – 2.30pm drop in and distribution of food parcels.

Citizens advice Skelmersdale – Go to the office for a voucher.

St Mary's Church, Leyland – Mon- Fri 10am until 12pm

Citizens advice Chorley – Go to the office for a voucher.

IF AT ANY POINT YOU BELIEVE A CHILD TO BE AT IMMEDIATE RISK OF HARM OR THERE IS A RISK TO YOUR SAFETY PHONE 999
IF A CHILD IS AT RISK OF HARM OR HAS BEEN HARMED PHONE CHILDRENS SOCIAL CARE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE – ANYONE CAN DO THIS.