



The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

Mrs Thompson's half term review

I am writing to you at the end of what has been a fantastic half term. The new Y7 pupils have settled in amazingly well and are working hard. The other year groups have also returned to school and are working very hard too. School has grown this September with us now having over 70 pupils; we feel proud that each pupil is receiving an individual approach; and each and every pupil is making progress. Everyone's progress should and does look different, we are all individuals and progress for one person is not the same as another. To meet the growing needs of our pupils we have taken on numerous new staff; they have all settled in really well and we are pleased they choose to join our team.

I hope you find this newsletter informative and enjoy reading all about the pupils achievements over the last 7 weeks. I have 2 pieces of English work on the Headteacher commendation wall, they are of a very high standard; I am looking forward to receiving more nominations from the staff for great work.

This term myself and the senior leaders undertook lesson observations; it was a pleasure for us all to observe our staff and pupils working together I even joined in the PE lesson with Y7a and the encouragement I received from them with the running task was fantastic. All teaching at Moorbrook is good and we have team of staff who are continually striving to improve.

One of the highlights this term has been watching older pupils mentor younger pupils, there are a couple of Y10 pupils who have been outstanding when supporting Y7 and Y8 at PE. Year 7 have produced some excellent biscuits in food technology, and it was a pleasure to judge Y8 cakes. Y9 pupils have settled well into optional subjects and Y11 are working extremely hard for their GCSE's Ms. Maddox is very proud of how they are working in English which is lesson 1 each day. MIP pupils have had some fantastic reports from the vocational providers. The enthusiasm I see from pupils for their learning is fantastic and I'd like to thank to the staff for planning lessons that engage and excite the pupils. The school council has reformed and the boys were proud to receive their badges; I look forward to the difference they make to school.

As well as welcoming new staff, we also welcomed a new parent governor and I'd like to thank them for their support of school. We still have one vacancy for a parent governor, if any other parents are interested please give me a call.

Next half term is a long one but it will finish with our Christmas assembly; I am just giving advanced notice that our Christmas assembly is on Friday 20th December at 11:30am. I am hopeful we will have a performance from the school band, and I have also had a request for a staff/pupil choir this year too. I am not yet sure if we will be having a Christmas play, last year's performance will be hard to top. We will let you know nearer the time once the final line up is confirmed.

In more good news, our new therapy dog, Willow, is settling in well at home and will be ready to attend school by the New Year once she is approaching 1 year old. At present she is very puppy like and this does not fit with the risk assessment for dogs in school.

Enjoy reading the newsletter, enjoy the half term holiday and please contact us if you have any comments, questions or concerns.

Mrs. Thompson



The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

Subject recap - Maths

It has been a very positive and settled start to the year in maths, with lots of the boys showing enthusiasm and a hard work ethic.

My year 8's have made a smooth transition from the nurture group they were in last year. All the boys have settled well, and shown a brilliant attitude towards their maths lessons. I am looking forward to helping each one of them achieve their potential over the next 4 years.

The rest of the boys have settled well after summer. We have been focusing heavily on 'Number' over the last seven weeks. Most pupils have been able to make good progress over the half term.

A special mention to last year's year 11 pupils who achieved qualifications over the summer, I was very pleased with the GCSE results again.

Enjoy the half term, don't eat too many sweets at Halloween.

Mr Barnes

CAN YOU SOLVE IT?

$$\text{Spider} + \text{Spider} + \text{Spider} = 24$$

$$\text{Cauldron} + \text{Cauldron} + \text{Spider} = 18$$

$$\text{Cauldron} + \text{Ghost} + \text{Ghost} = 11$$

$$\text{Ghost} + \text{Cauldron} + \text{Cauldron} \times \text{Spider} = ?$$



The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

Subject recap - English

What a brilliant start back to school for all the students in Years 8,9 and 10, they have all made my first half term teaching English a pleasure.

Year 8 have been learning about poetry and our focus has been 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. We have looked at poetic language and techniques and used this knowledge to understand the poem. We have written our own newspaper reports based on the tale, identified similes and metaphors, made storyboards and written our own poems.



Year 9 have been looking at poems from WW1, we have learned about how persuasive language was used to encourage men to sign up for war, we have formed our own opinions on the subjects portrayed in the poems and used these to write formal letters, create postcards home, write our own poems and analyse a selection of poetry from the time.

Year 10 have been following a scheme of work linked to the step up to English qualifications, the focus of this unit was pets. We have looked at language and techniques used in pet adoption centres, formed arguments about the advantages and disadvantages of pet ownership and created our own advertisements encouraging people to use rescue centres.



Well done everyone a super start to the school Year! - Ms Morton.

This term I have had the pleasure of introducing 'Wilson Wednesdays' with the year 8's, 9's and 10's. We have been focusing on spelling, punctuation and grammar to help the boys in their lessons with Ms Morton. We have completed some excellent pieces of work this half term that has helped us to identify what areas we need to work on in the future to further our English skills. I look forward to continuing after the October break.



Well done boys and have a nice week off! Mr Wilson.



The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

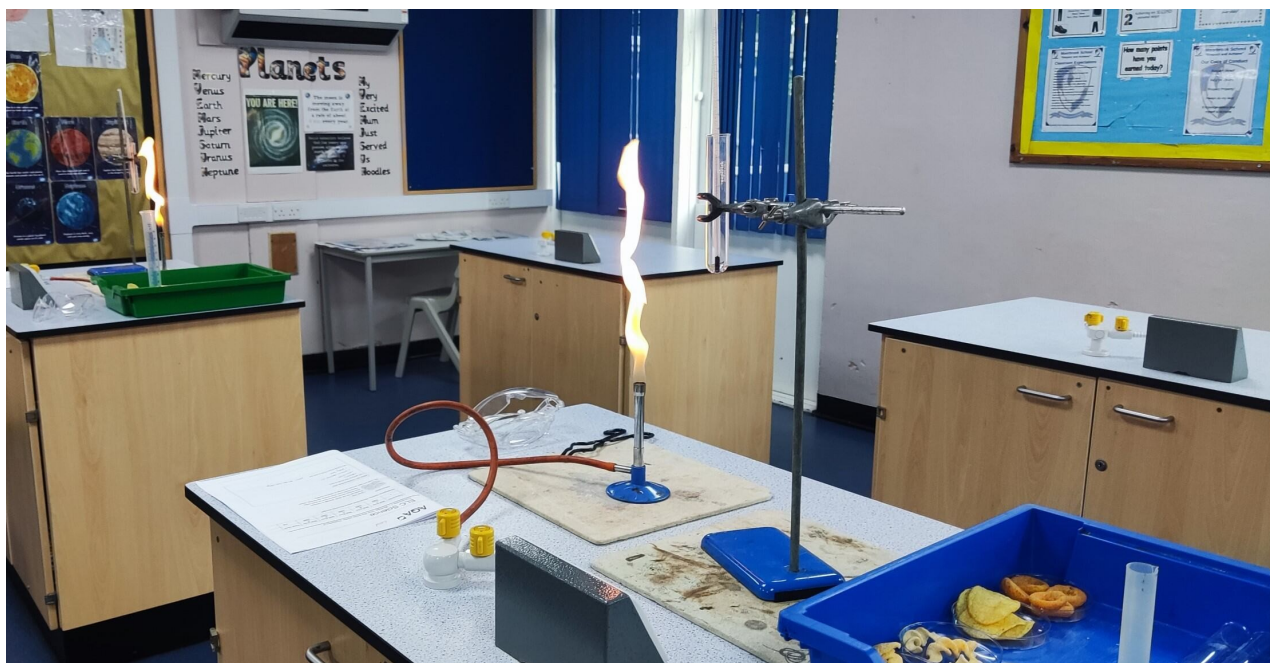
Subject recap - Science

Year 7 pupils have had an amazing start to science in which they have all successfully passed their science passports. They have all received their safety and bunsen burner badges and have started exploring microscopic organisms and cells.

Year 8 have been carrying the amazing work they left off last year and have been working really hard to make 3D models of specialised cells.

Years 9 and 10 - Most pupils have successfully completed all 3 elements of their coursework for their entry level certificate in science, which involved burning crisps, chromatography and test how the height of a ramp affects the speed of a car. We finished this half term by working on the biology section of the course. We have finished 50% of the course, just 50% left for the promised Nabzys.

Year 11 have been carrying out topic 4 (Bioenergetics) of their biology GCSE. We have carried out experiments on pondweed to see how light intensity affects the rate of photosynthesis, we have tested the leaves in the quad to see if there is starch present, and we observed respiration in yeast by feeding it sugar.





The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

Year 7a's and Mrs Baron

This year we have two Year 7 classes, who have settled into life at Moorbrook School extremely well and it has been a pleasure to get to know them this half term!

Mrs Baron teaches 7a and Mr Simpson teaches 7b.

In English we have been looking at descriptive and story writing, based around a short film called Invasions. We have done this alongside completing baseline assessment for both reading and writing. In maths we have been working with the number system, using practical equipment to order numbers, compare numbers and solve addition problems. In topic we have been studying different types of maps and learning how to read them. We even planned our own local route and used maps to navigate each other to Moor Park.





The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

Year 7b's and Mr Simpson

Hello everyone, it has been a very busy few weeks settling in to Moorbrook, for staff as well as students. The new year 7s have settled in to their new classroom really well and have shown great efforts in their lessons. Pretty much from the first day they have thrown themselves into whatever task they have been given. There is clearly some favourite lessons and some less so, but the effort levels are amazing!

Beacon Fell and Darwen Tower have been conquered.

Chocolate Crinkles baked.

Contour lines drawn and made into 3D models.

Fractions have been tackled with varying levels of enthusiasm but high levels of effort!

Activities and shop visits on Fridays to end each week too.

It has been a great start to everyone's time at Moorbrook and I hope all the year 7s feel as welcome here as I do.





The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

Moorbrook Individualised Provision (MIP)

Our MIP (Moorbrook Individualized Provision) Team is growing rapidly and positively, and we have welcomed lots of new pupils this year. 😊 We now have 30 pupils who are engaging in a variety of alternative provision such as, hair and beauty, mechanics, photography, construction, woodwork, aquatics and many more alongside their individual academic studies. We have welcomed a new member of staff and forged partnerships with new provisions and agencies within the community.

We look forward to the year ahead and supporting our pupils and their families to thrive!





The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

Subject Recap - Food Technology

Welcome back to all the new and existing budding chefs of Moorbrook!

Year 7 have been working extremely hard developing their kitchen safety skills and have started to build their kitchen skills portfolios. We have ended this half term with the rubbing in method; creating shortbread and pastry. Pumpkin pie was a special Autumnal treat. Well done everyone!

Year 8 have revisited their pudding and cake making skills, working together to create some beautiful cakes that they could sell in a café! This has tied in with their work skills lessons looking at budgeting and the cost of ingredients. We were extremely impressed with the contributions for the MacMillan Coffee Morning too. Well done everyone!

KS4 carousel afternoons in home cooking skills have been a success. We have worked hard on our key baking skills; revisiting old methods and introducing new ones. The blind bake technique for bake-well tarts was especially impressive... the choux pastry eclairs however were much more tricky! Well done everyone for all of your hard work, patience and resilience!





The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

Subject recap - Outdoor Education

This half-term on outdoor education has been filled with lots of forest-based adventures. We visited places such as Beacon fell, Darwen tower, Silverdale and Tockholes. When at these different places the boys have been given tasks and challenges to complete, when undergoing these they have all worked together as a team or in small groups and this has helped them all develop their communication and teamwork skills. Both year 7 groups have settled in amazingly well on outdoor education and all of them have showed enthusiasm to explore and learn new skills. We are now excited about next week where we will be visiting Williamson Park, which has a mini zoo and butterfly

house. After the half-term break, we will look forward to going to the climbing hangar in Liverpool where the boys will undertake different challenges by rock climbing, and we will also be visiting different museums.





The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

Subject recap - Computing

This half term all the pupils have settled in and have worked really hard within our subject of Computing.



Year 7 have been working on what is technology and how technology around us can help us in our daily lives.

They have also been working on how digital devices work, are they inputs or outputs and why.

Year 8/9 have been learning all about being safe whilst online including topics relating to online grooming, gaming and social engineering.

There have been great discussions from all pupils how to deal with situations they may come across and who would they report to if needed.

Year 9 have also had lessons how we communicate with others using messages/video calling, memes and emoji's.

Year 10 have been working hard about being safe online and how our reputation can be seen as negative/positive, how data is collected when we sign up for different sites and how we can protect ourselves as much as possible in the world of technology.

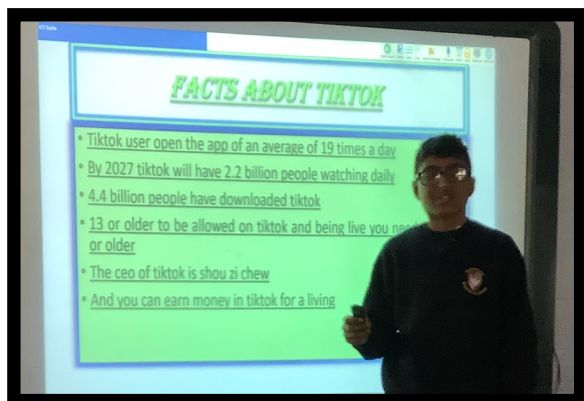


Year 11 have had a variety of lessons this half term working on similar topics to those

in year 10 but also on the new Digital Functional Skills covering presentations and how to deliver them to an audience, desktop publishing, emails and online forms.

It has been a great half term and all pupils have tried with all of the activities they have been set—well done and keep it up.

Mrs T Pennington– Hurst





The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

Subject Recap - PGW

This term we have looked most recently into the Zones of Regulation (ZOR), something which we will be championing in school. The students have all received a lesson about ZOR and how they can impact our lives each day. We have discussed the behaviours we exhibit when we are in each zone, and individual tips on how we can self-regulate throughout the day when experiencing different emotions.

Alongside this, we have been looking at relationships, the features of positive relationships, how to recognise signs of abuse in relationships, understanding the concepts of pressure, persuasion and coercion in relationships and who we can speak to if we are in difficult relationships.

Work Skills/Careers

This term we have looked at identifying personal skills and qualities needed for employment, with our KS4 students discussing their ambitions and which routes we can take to achieve these. Year 11 have begun to look at personal statements and how we can best showcase ourselves through them.

OPEN DAYS;

Cardinal Newman College - 09/11/2024

Preston College - 02/11/2024

Myerscough College - 16/11/2024

Blackburn College - 16/11/2024

Runshaw College - 16/11/2024

Have a top break lads. Mr Fitzpatrick.



The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

Getting to know our staff



Mrs Sheridan

Hometown: **Settle.**

Moorbrook Role: **Teaching assistant.**

Dream Holiday: **Croatia.**

Favourite Food: **Roast beef dinner.**

Favourite Film: **Princess Diaries.**

Celeb you'd most like to meet: **Ryan Reynolds.**

3 hobbies of yours: **Gym, walking and swimming.**

Interesting fact we may not know: **I used to coach and play in a netball team!**

First memory of Moorbrook: **Armaan spending all of my money on rollercoaster tycoon on a half completed ride!**

Mr Howarth

Hometown: **Colne.**

Moorbrook Role: **Teaching assistant.**

Dream Holiday: **Italy.**

Favourite Food: **Pizza.**

Favourite Film: **Forest Gump.**

Celeb you'd most like to meet: **Sir Alex Ferguson.**

3 hobbies of yours: **Gym, walking and cooking.**

Interesting fact we may not know: **I've ran the great north run, twice!**

First memory of Moorbrook: **Kai asking me what football team I support!**



The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

Birthdays!

Birthday shout outs!

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

Jack L

Jaxon

Will



**happy
birthday**



The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

Enjoy the break!

Happy half term!

Enjoy the break and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday the 28th of October, bright and early, raring to go for another term!



Emergency telephone numbers for the break on the next page.



The Moorbrook Newsletter

October half term

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.