The Moorbrook Newsletter

October Half Term

Mrs Thompson's half term review

And that's the end of the first half term. It's been a pleasure to welcome our new pupils in year 7 and our new staff. The new Year 7 space and its staff have been really successful; year 7 are settling in really well. It's a pleasure to go into their classroom and watch them learning.

We welcomed 2 new teachers and a new TA in September, we hope they are enjoying working at Moorbrook, we are very pleased they joined us. After half term we also have 3 more staff starting, a TA and learning mentor and a new family support worker.

As you know Ofsted visited us this half term. It was an ungraded inspection and we will receive a letter shortly with their findings. As soon as we receive it, it will be sent to yourselves. I'd like to thank everyone, pupils, parents, staff and governors for their hard work and support during the inspection and each and every day of school. I am not allowed to share the outcome but it goes without saying I am proud to lead the school and the result was very fair.

Many things have happened over the half term and pupils have been working hard. I hope you enjoy reading all about it as I know the standard pupil answer to a parent when asked what they did at school today is "not much!" The newly formed drama group are planning a Christmas play, inspired by the great work of our band, who will also be performing. More news will follow nearer the time. I am looking forward to watching both.

Everyone deserves a holiday and I hope you all enjoy your time off.

Mrs. Thompson

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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 hard work ethic.

The boys have settled well after Summer and I am looking forward to helping all of them make as much progression as possible this academic year.

A special mention to all of the pupils who achieved qualifications over the Summer. The Year 11's who left us all achieved at least their target grade in their GCSE and some of our current Year 11's did well in their first attempt at the GCSE.

Enjoy the half term!

Mr Barnes

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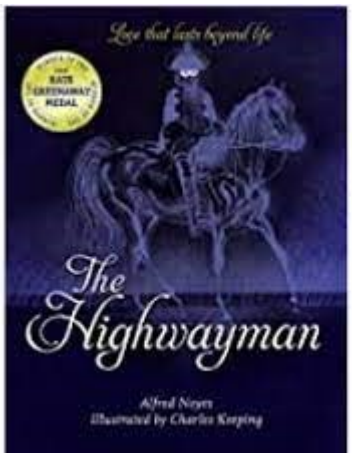
Subject recap - English



In year 8, we have spent the term looking at the poem 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. We have spent time investigating the language used by Noyes and the imagery displayed through his words. We have used hot seating and drama techniques to bring the poem to life to help us remember what has took place. We have used the reading skills of skimming and scanning, inferring and retrieving to answer questions based on the poem and the main characters. Finally we have written diary account from the perspective of one of the characters and written balanced arguments explaining who was to blame for the death of Bess.

In year 9, we have also had a poetry focus. But our focus has been around war poetry. We have looked at a number of poems both by soldiers in The Great War and by those writing poetic propaganda to help recruitment. As a class we have looked at language and imagery used in the poems. We have compared the poem The Soldier and Dulce et Decorum Est both written by soldiers yet showing different viewpoints of war. The first showing the romantic side of fighting for your country the later the stark reality of what conflict was truly like. The third poem written by Jessica Pope tried to compare war to a game of football and we saw how this was used as propoganda to get soldiers to join the fight.

Have a great week off and see you soon!

The English department.

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Subject recap - Computing

This half term in computing all year groups have been focusing on online safety, what is it?

How do we keep ourselves safe online? What are harmful online behaviours and why should we report them? Some of the topics we have covered are:

Privacy and security
Zip it, block it, flag it
Online grooming
Unhealthy behaviours
Report it to sort it
Law-computer misuse act 1990

Next half term we will start to look at Scratch, Power point, website design and functional skills/exam preparation.

We hope you all have a lovely half term!

Mrs TPH and Mrs Morton

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Subject Recaps - Food Technology

This half term in year 8 we have been making puddings and cakes, there have been many favourites! Mrs Lawrenson, Thompson and Maddox really loved the Moorbrook Bake Off!

In year 7 we have learnt about kitchen safety. Over this half term everyone has made a variety of dishes including pizza and brownies whilst safely using the over, hob and knives.

KS4 have been creating their own cakes based on simple recipes and modifying their existing skills to improve their practice.

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Subject Recaps - Outdoor Education

It's been an excellent start to the year for the outdoor education classes and it's been brilliant to see the year 7's adapting to our new trips and conducting themselves so well outside of school! We have visited plenty of outdoor spaces including Darwen Tower, Beacon Fell and even a stint of climbing indoors!

The year 8's have continued to progress their social skills and becoming a strong team off-site, it has been great to see.

Have a great week off everyone and look forward to more adventures when we return!

Mr Uttley and the outdoor education team.

Subject Recaps - PGW

What a start to PGW this year! All pupils have been really receptive in picking up our new topics as well as dealing with a new teacher! All of the boys have been really helpful in letting me settle in, and have shocked me with their maturity and hard work so far this half-term. We have covered topics such as; Self-Concept, Drugs, Gangs, Knife Crime and much more! When we come back we will be looking at Careers, Setting goals, Financial decision planning and the next steps for our oldest pupils. I'm really pleased with the start of the year, and hope everyone has a brilliant week off, ready to go again soon.

Mr. Fitzpatrick

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Home Maintenance

It's been a great start to the year for the new home maintenance pupils and I'm looking forward to next term! The boys have spent a large amount of term in our woodwork room getting to know basic handheld tools and how to use them safely and correctly. The boys have also done their bit with helping the school too by cleaning one of the school buses to a pristine finish! Well done lads and enjoy the weeks break!

Mr Wilson

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Subject recap - Science

We have just completed the Unit 5 of the GCSE Biology course with the Year 11's and will start unit 6 after the half term break to ensure we complete the course on time to ensure enough time is available for thorough revision before the final exams next summer.

The Year 10's have now completed the Chemistry and physics modules of the Entry Level Certificate in Science course and working through the Biology module and on course to finish this by the end of the year.

The Year 9's have nearly completed the Science KS3 course and will continue after the half term to complete it before starting their KS4 journey.

The Year 7's and 8's are working through the KS3 Science course.

Wishing you all a nice break!

The Moorbrook Science Department

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Welcome Year 7 and Mrs Baron

Welcome to Year 7 and well done to all of them for settling down into school life so well. They have really worked hard and have already grown in confidence in the last 6 weeks! I am looking forward to getting to know them all better over the next few months.

Have a great week off and see you soon!

Mrs Baron

Subject recap - PE

This term the boys have been partaking in rugby and have shown some great skills along the way! They have got stuck in and out a lot of effort into learning a new sport. We have had snippets of football towards the end of our session also which they are always improving in and becoming fine sportmen in a range of different activites!

Have a great week off and we look forward to seeing you after half term.

Mr McKenna and the PE department.

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Getting to know our staff

Miss Watson

Hometown: Preston

Dream Holiday: To see the Grand Canyon!

Favourite Food: Anything with cheese!

Favourite Film: Mrs Doubtfire

Celeb you'd most like to meet: Virgil Van Dijk

3 hobbies of yours: Football, walking the dog and spear fishing!

Interesting fact we may not know: My dad lives in Africa!

First memory of Moorbrook: Completing my training with Mr Kilford and Mr McKenna

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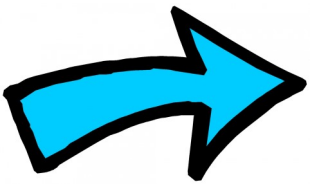
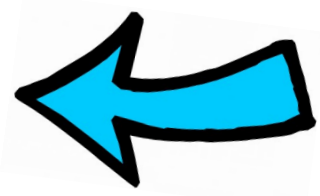
Parent Governor opportunity!

We currently have a vacancy for parent governor. Governors help shape the school and meet for 2 meetings per term for a couple of hours.

The information about being Governor can be emailed or posted to you if you don't have an email address.

Further information is on the school website, in the parent area.





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Birthdays

With a new term on the horizon, it's time for more birthdays to be celebrated!

Happy birthday to the following pupils!

Jaxon

Alfie (Yr 8)

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Enjoy the break!

Happy half term!

We look forward to welcoming you back on <u>Monday the 30th of October</u> and hope you all have a lovely week off!

Emergency telephone numbers/links 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.

Useful Links

https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/cost-of-living/

https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/cost-of-living/warm-and-welcome-places/

Here is some support/advice for making Christmas easier for young people with ASD:

Tips (autism.org.uk)

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.