



MOORBROOK SCHOOL

Easter newsletter



Mrs Thompson's end of term recap

Well that was a quick term, but lots has been achieved and much progress recorded. At Moorbrook 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.

This term we have opened our new sensory room. All pupils have had chance to experience it and decide if they feel they would benefit. It was an absolute pleasure to watch the pupil's reactions. Nearly every pupil said how calm it made them feel, my favourite comment came from a Y7 pupil who I was walking back to class after his taster and he said "Well that was satisfying".

In terms of further building developments; the outdoor climbing equipment has now been fitted along with 2 more wooden shelters, one in Y7 and one in Y8. The bouldering wall is being fitted at Easter. It has been lovely to watch the pupil benefit from the new resources, it has been a goal of ours for some years to increase our sensory resources.

The car park is to be started over Easter and will be finished by summer, I have written to you all with details regarding health and safety whilst the work takes place; if you have misplaced the letter you can find it on the school website in the parent area. Following on from the carpark a forest schools' area will be created, this will put back the greenery we are removing for the extended parking. We have welcomed a new learning mentor who is a qualified forest school leader; Ms. Jones. She will work mainly with our MIP pupils but the main school pupils will benefit from her expertise once the forest school area is established.

The pupils have worked hard in this short but busy term. I have had a large number of pieces of work nominated for the heads commendations and the board outside my office is bursting with great work. A visiting parent commented on what great work our pupils do. I hope you can get sense of how hard pupils have been working from the teachers reports which have just sent to you and in this newsletter.

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





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English with Ms Morton

As we come to the end of another busy term in English, I would like to say well done to all the boys for their efforts this Spring term.

This half term, Year 8b have been learning about villains. They have looked at the different villainous characters from throughout literature from Shakespeare to fairytales. They have identified characteristics and discussed whether all villains are truly bad? They then created their own villains and wrote a story based around them.

Year 9 have been working on their first entry level qualifications completing Step up to English silver. The topics covered have included- film, charities and heroism. They have all worked really hard as this is a new skill for them and has laid the foundations for them going forward to future qualifications and exams.

Year 10 have also been working on their entry level, this time the gold level Step up to English. This has been a new challenge for them working at a higher level and they have worked really hard. The topics covered included- film, charities and ghosts.

Year 11 have continued to look at paper 2. We have studied the different questions and assessment objectives and had a go at completing different parts of the paper, the focus being non-fiction reading and writing. I have been proud of how much effort they have put in and can see how much they have improved as the term has gone on. With this continued effort and engagement all have the potential to do well in their exams in May!

Well done everyone, have a lovely Easter break!





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Maths with Mr Barnes

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.

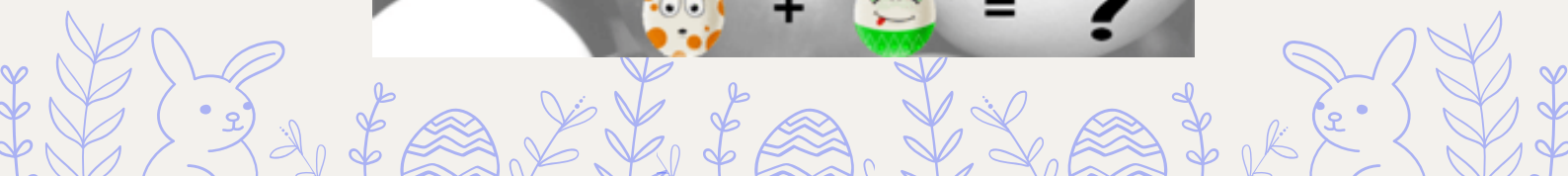
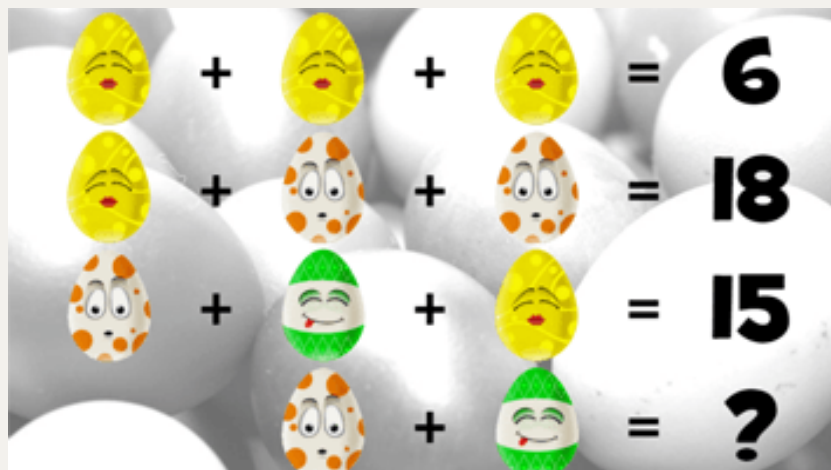
Year 8b, 9 and 10 have been studying a lot of the Shape, Space and Measure strand of maths. There has been some excellent work on Angles and Translations been produced.

William, Mateen and Lewis in Year 11 have worked extremely hard this term. We have finished covering new topics and will be moving onto revision for the remainder of their time at Moorbrook. Kai and Matthew have been busy completing their Entry level components, only a couple more to go boys!!

Special mention to Lewis in Year 11 for achieving a level 2 in his Entry Level this term, well done.

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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Science with Mr Adam

Year 7A and 7B

Year 7 have been diving into the fascinating world of life processes, exploring what keeps living things alive and functioning. They've also been getting hands-on with microscopes, discovering the hidden world of cells and learning how all living organisms are built from these tiny building blocks. Future scientists in the making!

Year 8A

8A have been lighting up their lessons with their new topic on light! From how light travels to how we see the world around us, they've been investigating reflection, refraction, and everything in between. Some brilliant curiosity and questioning on display!

Year 8B

8B have been tackling the building blocks of matter by exploring the periodic table. They've been learning to distinguish between elements, compounds, and mixtures, developing a deeper understanding of what everything around us is made from. Great scientific thinking all round!

Year 9

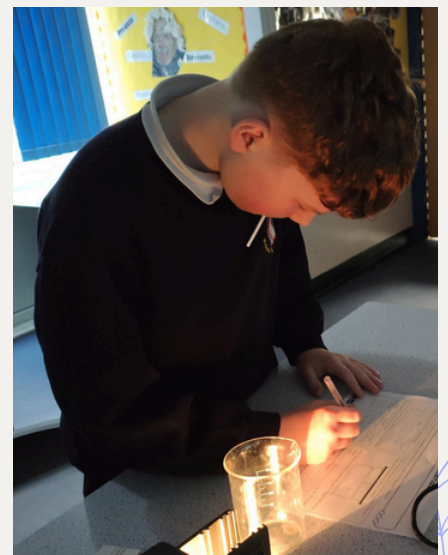
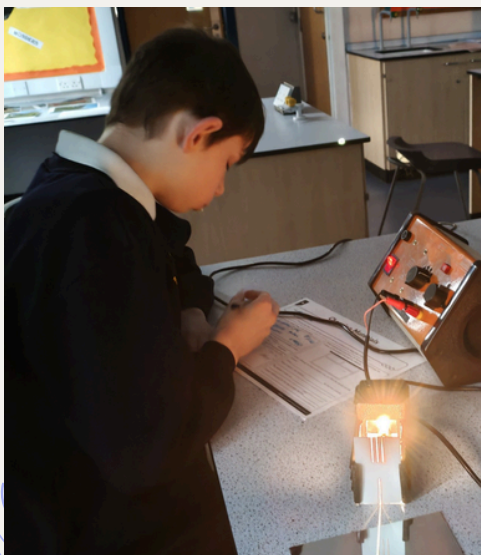
Year 9 have continued their hard work on their Entry Level Certificate in Chemistry. Their dedication and focus have been fantastic as they build their knowledge and skills, keep it up, you're doing brilliantly!

Year 10

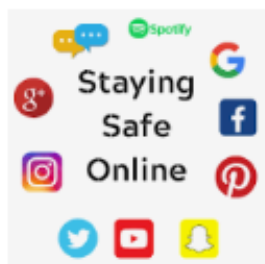
Year 10 have been exploring Topic 6 in GCSE Biology: inheritance, variation, and evolution. They've been learning how characteristics are passed on and how species change over time. On top of that, they've been looking to the skies to learn about eclipses—understanding the incredible interactions between the Earth, Moon, and Sun!

Year 11

Year 11 have also been working hard on Topic 6: inheritance, variation, and evolution as part of their GCSE Biology. With exams approaching, their focus and determination have been excellent—keep pushing, you're nearly there!



COMPUTING



Year 7

This term we have been learning all about “How to be safe when online” and Data Representation using Excel spreadsheets. All pupils have been really engaged and have produced some great work. Well done year 7

Year 8

This term like the year 7 all the pupils have learnt “How to stay safe when online” and alongside this we have also been learning about 3D Models using software on the computers to create a variety of models. The pupils have completed lots of creative models, watched videos, completed practical activities and have worked extremely hard. Well done year 8!



Year 9

Year 9 have been learning all about Cybersecurity and Cyphers and Cryptography, they have worked extremely hard encrypting and decrypting messages using a variety of codes – Morse code/Pigpen/Vigenère and more. The pupils again have all worked hard this term – well done year 9!

Year 10 and 11



All pupils are working towards their qualifications in computing and are soon going to be entered for their exams. All pupils are trying really hard with the variety of topics we need to cover, the knowledge and skills are being recalled from previous learning and all pupils have been fully engaged.

This term has been full of new skills and new knowledge in computing and I would like to say thank you to all the pupils for all your hard work.

I wish you all a fabulous easter.

Mrs. Pennington- Hurst





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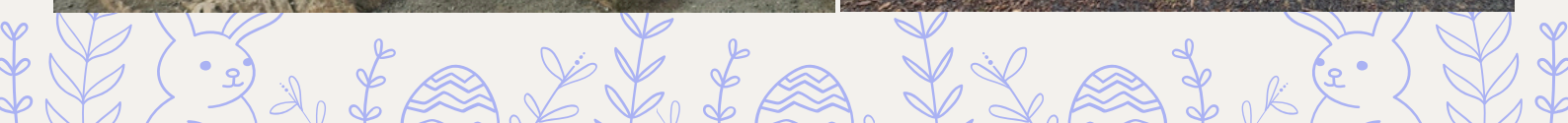
Outdoor education with Mr Uttley

It's been a great term for Outdoor education, and at last the sunshine is on the verge of returning for the summer term!

The groups have undertaken some challenges both physically and mentally whilst visiting a range of spectacular locations. This term we have completed stunning walks to Malham Cove, Rydal Caves, Orrest Head, Rivington Pike and Entwistle Reservoir. Learning about the geology formation and environment of these amazing venues, and enjoying some amazing views! We have also visited Heaton, Astley and Haigh hall parks and had great fun on the playgrounds as well as visiting the mini farm and playing crazy golf.

The lads have represented school off site well as always and have thoroughly enjoyed the trips we have completed this term. As ever, I am very proud of the year 7s and 8s as they continue to make good progress and development.

We are now looking forward to the summer term, and hopefully enjoy some warmer weather, visiting some amazing water venues as well as our end of year reward trip!





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Catch up with Mrs Baron & 7a

The topic for Year 7a this half term has been Natural Disasters! We have learnt about the Earth's structure, how a volcano, tsunami and earthquake happen and the disaster of Pompeii in Italy in 79 AD. During English we have studied explanation texts to further our learning around this topic and have created our own explanation texts about natural disasters and our own interests. In DT we have built our own volcano's using paper mache and during the last week we will be completing a science experiment and making them erupt! In maths we have studied fractions and our Thrive focus has been kindness and working together. As always, the pupils have worked hard and engaged well.

Catch up with Mr Simpson & 7b

What a whirlwind half term, it only feels like last week when I wrote the last newsletter update. We've covered some statistics in Maths, looked at another class novel and written descriptions of cities and city dwellers, had a virtual trip around the world comparing a European country to one from another continent and even squeezed a couple of trips to playgrounds as a bonus.

The occasional glimpse of better weather has meant we've been able to use the new outside play equipment, both the section just for year 7 and the main area for all of school.

Let's hope for some brighter weather over the break and into the summer term.

Have a lovely Easter





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We're on Facebook!

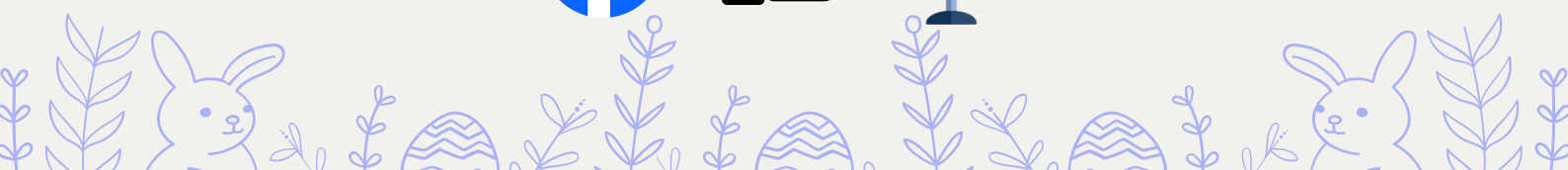


We are on Facebook!

Head over and give us a like/follow to keep up to date with all our events, news and celebrations!

Podcasting with Ms Sheridan

This half term we have been creating some snippets of what goes on inside of school including documenting our latest visit of our school chicks. We have also updated some of our school tour videos as the school has had some upgrades to the outside areas. A school Facebook profile has been set up so please give us a follow to keep up to date with our media content.



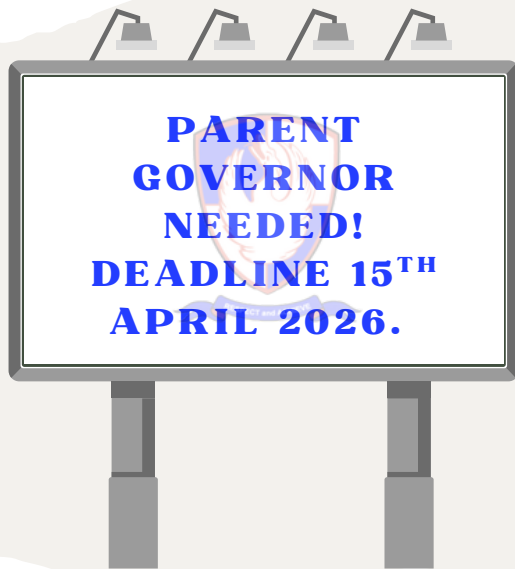


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Parent governor advert



We have a vacancy for a parent governor. if interested please contact the school office and speak to Mrs Morris by Wednesday 15th April 2026.

PGW with Mr Fitzpatrick

Another great team in PGW and work skills with a whole host of topics covered across our year groups. We have looked at; budgeting and personal finance, post-16 options, mental health and exploitability skills.

We have also had the opportunity to go on two school trips to EcoTown recycling plant and Tesco at Deepdale. Pupils from years 9-11 were given the opportunity to experience different roles and careers at these companies, as well as understanding more about the inner workings of such companies and sectors.





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Moorbrook coffee morning with Miss Gallagher

Another successful coffee morning was held in March. This is a great opportunity for parents, carers and professionals to come together. These are held each half term, and the next one will be confirmed asap!

The coffee morning raised £57 through our raffle. With this money, the school has purchased a wide selection of educational resources to send to Jamaica, including coloured and white chunky playground chinks, exercise books, pencils and coloured crayons. These resources will help support and encourage sustainable education for those who are most vulnerable.

Armaan was delighted to win first prize, and we would like to say a huge thank you to Misty at Tesco for the generous donations.

Logan's grandad kindly made a delicious gluten-free chocolate cake to share with staff and pupils, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

Kai was amazing with his waiting-on skills, preparing and serving a variety of drinks and putting the skills he developed during his work experience to great use. It was wonderful to see these transferable skills in action.

We were also delighted to welcome special guests from the police, fire service and LAL – Lancashire Adult Learning Services.





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Getting to know our staff - Miss Mulla

What do you love most about being part of our school community here at Moorbrook?

The thing I love most about being part of Moorbrook is the incredible sense of community. Both the staff team and the students were so welcoming from day one and helped me settle in straight away. It really feels like a supportive and positive place to be.

How do you think the students would describe you?

I think students would describe me as calm, reassuring and patient. I always try to meet them on their level, build positive relationships and, of course, bring a bit of humour into the classroom too.

What is your first memory of Moorbrook?

My first memory of Moorbrook is going into 8B, who were incredibly welcoming. I remember Matthew B speaking to me about Formula 1 and joining in with the Jigsaw that the class were completing.

What are your hobbies outside of school?

Outside of school, I enjoy watching movies, going out for food, watching Formula 1 over the weekends and spending quality time with my family.

What is your dream holiday destination?

My dream holiday destination is Qatar. I love how modern it is, with all the lights and stunning architecture. It's beautiful, full of culture and has amazing weather too.

What is your favourite film? Why?

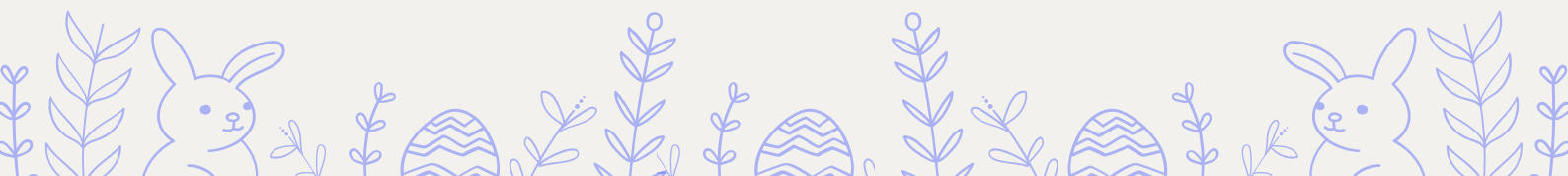
My favourite film is Interstellar. I enjoy its dystopian themes and the mix between the complex ideas about space and time with an emotional story about family. The soundtrack, composed by Hans Zimmer, is incredible, he's one of my favourite composers and his music makes the film even more powerful and emotional.

What is your favourite school meal?

My favourite school meal is definitely the cheese whirl, anything with cheese or pastry is always delicious!

What advice or inspirational message would you give to our students?

Always believe in yourself and never be afraid to try, even if something feels challenging.





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Food technology with Mrs Lawrenson & Miss Hindle

In KS4 this half term we have been practising our bread making skills and developing them with more complex and challenging recipes. We have made pretzels, tiger bread and focaccia - all of which were amazing!

Skills development will be continued into the next half term as we practice, prepare and perfect our dishes for the upcoming assessments.

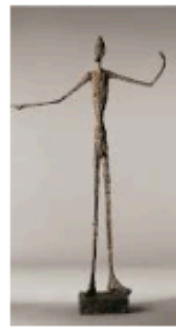
In Year 8 the students have been working hard with Miss Hindle looking at the 'eat well' plate; making healthy lunches with balanced portions of carbohydrates, protein and vegetables. Everyone has worked really hard especially with the ingredients that they are not always particularly fond of. Well done Year 8!

In Year 7 the students have been working on pasta dishes, making their own sauces and using a variety of different types of pasta. We ended the topic making our own fresh pasta, rolling it out and cutting it with the pasta machine. Mrs Lawrenson is sure there are future chefs to come out of Moorbrook!





Art



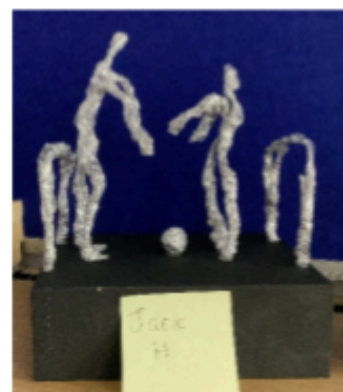
In key stage 3 and 4 we have been completing some great pieces of art this term. We have been concentrating on a famous Artist named Alberto Giacometti who was a Swiss sculptor and who was one of the most important sculptors of the 20th century.

After completing research around the artist pupils then planned how they could redesign some of Alberto's sculptures using limited resources.

The following photographs show how our pupils created their own sculptures using tin foil, a small box as a stage and a glue gun.

Fabulous work was produced by all pupils.

Here are just a few photographs to demonstrate how well our pupils did:



I hope you all have a great easter holiday from
Mrs Pennington-Hurst



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Catch up with Ms Thorpe and 8a

This half term has been another incredibly busy and rewarding one for Class 8A, filled with a wide range of engaging activities and memorable experiences.

A key focus throughout the term has been the development of students' social skills. This has been supported through a variety of new games and collaborative activities, allowing students to build confidence, teamwork, and communication in a fun and supportive environment. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and willingness to try new things.

We were also excited to receive new outdoor equipment, which has already been put to great use. The students have thoroughly enjoyed spending time outside, making the most of these new resources. One of the highlights of the term was our Outdoor Education trip to Malham Cove. The visit provided a fantastic opportunity for students to explore the natural environment, take part in outdoor learning, and create lasting memories together.

In English lessons, students have been reading the novel *Holes* and have shown great engagement with the story of Stanley Yelnats. They have produced some fantastic creative work, including designing their own eye-catching book covers inspired by the novel. It has been a pleasure to see their understanding of the text develop over time.

Our Topic work has centred on volcanoes, which has sparked a lot of curiosity and excitement. Students have learned about how volcanoes form and function, and they particularly enjoyed creating their own model volcanoes. The highlight was, of course, making them erupt using a mixture of washing-up liquid, bicarbonate of soda, and vinegar – an activity that brought lots of smiles and enthusiasm!

Another enriching experience this term was our visit to the Harris Library, where students had the opportunity to open their own library accounts. This was a fantastic step in encouraging a love of reading and independence in choosing books. It was lovely to see individual interests shine through, Alfie showed a keen interest in Ancient Egypt, while Kain was thrilled to discover what might just be the biggest book about trainers ever!

Overall, it has been a fantastic half term. We are very proud of all the students for their continued effort, positive attitudes, and willingness to get involved in everything on offer.





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Physical Education at Moorbrook

Year 8B have recently completed an excellent health and fitness block at South Ribble Tennis Centre, where pupils have been developing both their cardiovascular fitness and overall strength. Throughout the programme, the class has worked hard using a range of cardiovascular training equipment, taking on a weekly fitness challenge that gradually increased in distance or time. It has been fantastic to see pupils pushing themselves to improve each week.

Alongside this, pupils have been introduced to strength training on resistance machines. They have learned about the importance of sets and repetitions and how these can be used to build a personalised fitness plan. This knowledge will help them understand how to train effectively and safely as they continue to develop their fitness.

The class has now returned to Vida for a block of football, and it has been wonderful to see every pupil participating fully and enjoying the sessions. Year 8B is a group with a wide range of abilities, and the support pupils show towards one another has been particularly impressive. During both drills and matches, pupils have demonstrated great teamwork and encouragement, ensuring everyone feels included. The progress being made across the class is clear to see.

Looking ahead, as the weather begins to improve, we hope to take the class to UCLAN to make use of the excellent track and field facilities and begin an athletics block.

Well done to Year 8B - your effort, attitude and teamwork make the lessons a real pleasure to teach. Keep up the fantastic work!

Mr Hatton

Year 7a have spent the term at local parks, participating in team building activities and orienteering type tasks. We have focused on bringing the year group together in physical settings to maximise engagement and social skills of the whole group together. A big shout out to Logan who created a game in the first half of term to play at Worden Maze, a traitor based game that had us all moving, hiding, seeking and engaged throughout. We are looking forward to next term and hopefully some better weather so we can dive into some outdoor sports such as rounders, track and field and more.

ks4 PE have focused on the tactical side of football this term, with goalkeeping and finishing combining to benefit both our outfield players and goalkeepers. The boys have been extremely engaged and we have had some brilliant lessons this term. A large number of KS4 have also contributed to KS3 PE lessons, passing on their knowledge and setting positive examples for the younger pupils.

Well done to all and we look forward to some clearer, warmer days in the near future!

Rest well and see you soon!

Mr Wilson & Mr McKenna





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A day in the life of Miss Gallagher (family support worker)

A day in the life of being a family support worker at Moorbrook, my job is really interesting and varied.

I enjoy listening to pupils discuss any worries they may have and providing support for the whole family. I offer different types of support, including practical and emotional, bereavement and well-being.

Working with pupils directly, covering emotional regulation, building self-esteem, anger management, through drawing and walk and talk therapy

Arranging coffee mornings, inviting guest speakers, and encouraging families to meet other families

An EHA Early Help Assessment helps families and professionals

- What's working well within the family.
- The current network of support from family, friends and professionals
- The children and young people's views, captured appropriately for their age
- What extra support is needed

What support could I get through an EHA?

If the assessment shows early intervention would help, the Family Support Teams can work with the whole family. This helps create positive, sustainable change to build resilience while maintaining safety.

The Family Support Teams typically offer interventions around:

- secure parent/child attachments
- building safety within the family
- supporting children and young people to understand their lived experiences and address complex family dynamics
- identifying and addressing neglect





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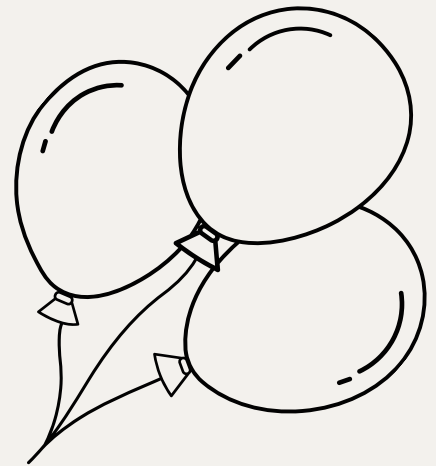


End of term celebrations

Another term concluded means more birthdays are upon us! Big shout out to those celebrating between our Easter break and May half term. We hope you have a wonderful day when it's yours to celebrate!

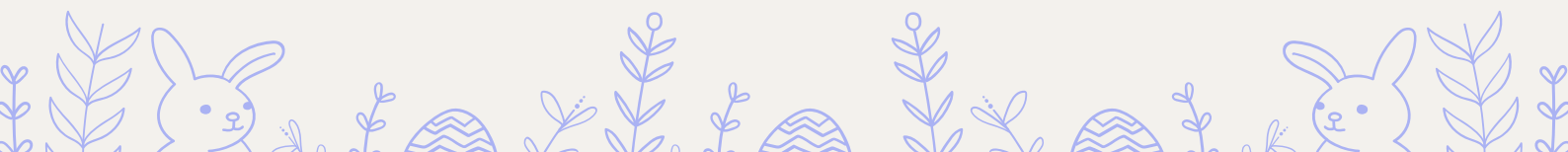
*Happy
Birthday*

Jack (7a)
Jack (8a)
Eli
Matthew (8b)
Thomas H
Cleon
Alfie B



That is the spring term complete,
with summer term not too far away!

Happy Easter to our Moorbrook
community. Enjoy the rest and see
you all on Monday the 13th of April.





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Emergency 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.

