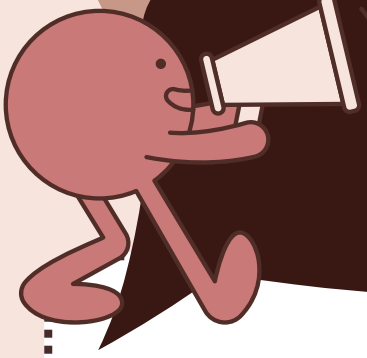

MOORBROOK SCHOOL

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

RESPECT and ACHIEVE

MRS THOMPSON'S HALF TERM RECAP

Wow the last half term has flown. It has been lovely to see the new Y7 pupils settling in amazingly well and are working hard. All other year groups have returned to school and are working very hard too. I'm always blown away how the older boys support the younger pupils. School has grown again with us now having nearly 100 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 am immensely proud of our team, their daily dedication and how they embrace professional development to ensure we can meet pupil needs.

I hope you find this newsletter informative and enjoy reading all about the pupils' achievements over the last 7 weeks. The school Facebook page is doing a really good job of keeping you all up to date. If you have Facebook but you haven't visited our page I would strongly encourage you to do so. I like to thank Ms. Baron, Ms. Sheridan and the KS4 podcast crew for doing such a fantastic job.

Over summer, we had further building works. The new car park is proving a fantastic addition to keeping pupils safe at taxi time, providing parking on site for staff and visitors, although we might need to add a few extra spaces. For those who haven't visited, the gates on Queens Road are the entrance to the new car park and the gates on Ainslie Road are the exit; the signs haven't yet been installed. Rendering work to the of the outside of our building is ongoing; the back of school is complete and looks great. We look forward to the completion of this work as and when the weather conditions allow.

The intervention staff have moved into a beautiful wooden pod to the rear of school, Ms. Lawrenson has made it a very nurturing space. This freed up a classroom for Y8b; the boys and Mr. Simpson chose some lovely new furniture, the room looks great, well-done boys. Inside school the corridors have benefitted from a lick of paint and some new doors, it is looking much brighter and cleaner. The site team worked tirelessly in the final week of the holidays to ensure school was ready to open up; Thank you to Colin and his team. oh yes, our new fire alarm system was installed and the pupils recently had a fire drill which they undertook safely and quickly.

Next half term is a long one and will finish on Friday 18th December, we will end the term with our annual Christmas assembly (the time will be confirmed in advance). I am hopeful we will have a performance from the school band and also I have had a request for a staff/pupil choir this year too. I am not yet sure if we will be having a Christmas play, previous performances will be hard to top. We will let you know nearer the time once the final line up is confirmed.

I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter, and please contact us if you have any comments, questions or concerns.

Mrs. Thompson

MOORBROOK SCHOOL

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RESPECT and ACHIEVE

ENGLISH WITH MS MORTON

As we come to the end of a long, first half term back, I would like to say well done to all the boys for their hard work!

Year 9a and 9b have been looking at World War One poetry, analysing the language and poetic devices, looking at emotive language and learning about how poetry was used to recruit soldiers for the war. They have written their own acrostic and war poetry to end the half term.

Year 10 have been looking closely at fiction writing, what makes a story opening to get you hooked? What is good setting? How to create interesting characters? How can we put all this together to write a creative story that engages and entices our readers? After looking at lots of examples, asking questions and reading extracts of novels the class then planned and wrote their own short stories.

Year 11 have dived right in this term looking at GCSE English language paper 1, finding out what is expected, what the questions look like and what the mark scheme is like. We have practised lots of answers and read many sources in preparation for the coming months. We have also started to read Blood Brothers (the play) as a group read to break up the extended writing that they have been working so hard on. Well done for showing so much resilience and determination.

Wishing you all a very happy half term
Ms Morton



MOORBROOK SCHOOL

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RESPECT and ACHIEVE

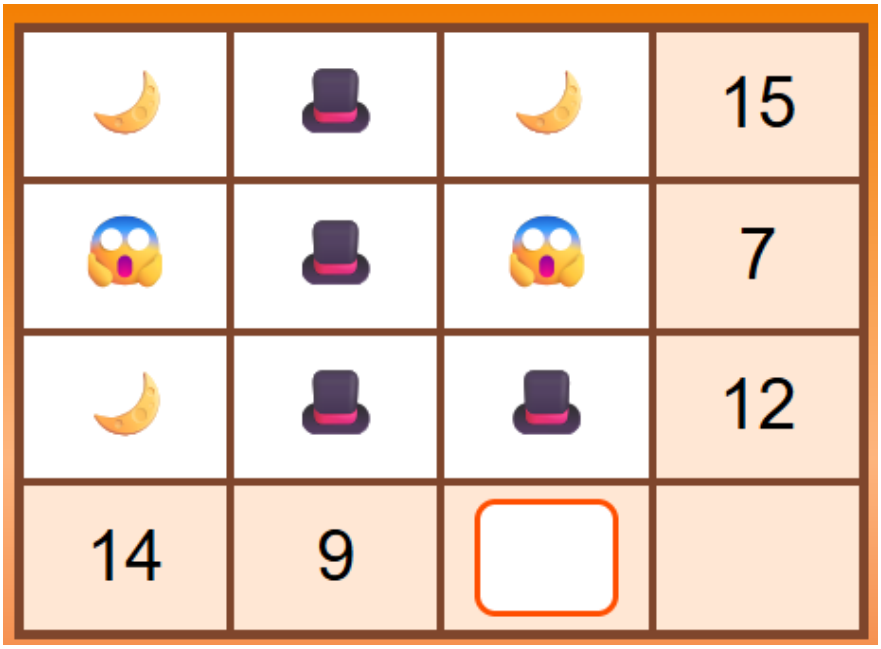
MATHEMATICS WITH MR BARNES

It has been a very positive start to the year in maths, and I am delighted with how well the pupils have settled into their lessons. They have demonstrated a good attitude towards their learning and have shown enthusiasm and a willingness to engage with the challenges presented to them.

As we reach the end of the first half term, I would like to congratulate all pupils on their efforts so far. I look forward to continuing to support and guide them throughout the year, helping them to develop their mathematical skills, build confidence and achieve their full potential.

A special mention must go Regi and Armaan, who have successfully passed their GCSE maths in Year 10. This is a fantastic achievement, and they should be extremely proud of their hard work and dedication. Well done to both pupils!

I hope everyone enjoys a restful half-term break, and I look forward to welcoming the pupils back for another successful term of learning in maths.



MOORBROOK SCHOOL

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RESPECT and ACHIEVE

SCIENCE WITH MR ADAM

Year 7

Year 7 have been learning all about laboratory safety and how to work safely during practical experiments. They have also been putting their science skills to the test by making their own rockets! 🚀

Year 8

Year 8 have been exploring how the human body works, focusing on life support systems such as the lungs and the different parts of the body. They have been learning how our bodies function and how the different organs work together to keep us alive.

Year 9

Year 9 have been working towards their Entry Level Science qualification. They have been learning about cells, exploring the science behind food and nutrition, and taking part in a heart dissection to discover more about how the heart works. Lots of hands on learning and exciting practical science!

Year 10

Year 10 have been continuing their GCSE Biology studies, building on their knowledge and developing their understanding of key biological concepts as they work through the course. Keep up the great effort!

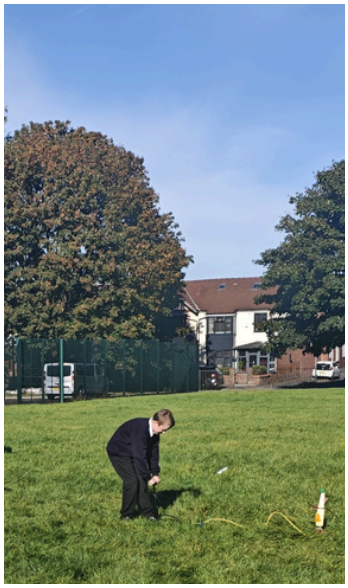
Year 11

Year 11 have been revisiting topics from their GCSE Biology papers to strengthen their knowledge and prepare for their exams. They have been focusing on microscopy and transport processes, including diffusion and osmosis, developing their understanding of how substances move in and out of cells.

Well done to everyone for their hard work and effort in Science this term. Keep asking questions, exploring new ideas and discovering the amazing world around you! 🔬







MOORBROOK SCHOOL

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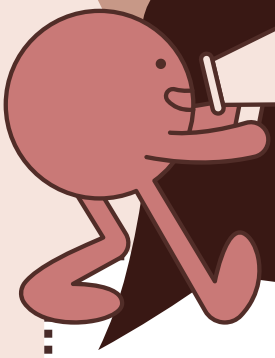
CATCH UP WITH THE PODCASTING TEAM

A new year for the school podcasting team, Thomas and Armaan have been extremely engaged getting involved with the school's Facebook page, creating content and following other students and their involvement in school learning. Armaan is our camera man and technician support and Thomas is our editor. The students have come up with content to film and are learning to edit and stitch the clips together, adding in any audio and special effects. We hope to continue to create enough content for our social media page to keep parents and followers engaged and up to date, along with creating their own podcast episodes as the term goes on! Well done Thomas and Armaan, keep up the good work.

We take on board any feedback or requests for our social media page!







MOORBROOK SCHOOL

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

RESPECT and ACHIEVE

CATCH UP WITH THE PE DEPARTMENT

Mr Wilson - 7a

Year 7a have had an excellent start to PE at Moorbrook, we have focused on football this half term and the boys have shown great entuhisiam and willingness to improve and learn! They have learnt some key skills of how to conducted themselevs offsite and have represented school really well at our external venues. Next half term we will be heading to the gym to look at fitness testing!

Mr McKenna - 7b

Year 7b have had a great start to PE too! We have also looked at football and they have all shown great effort, enthusiasm and good behaviour offsite. I look forward to seeing you next half term!

Mr Wilson - 8a

Year 8a have had an excellent opportunity to partake in swimming this half term! We have trialed it the last two weeks and it has been a great success! The boys have had so much fun and we look forward to continuing our swimming lessons next half term! A big thank you to Ms Thorpe, our 8a teacher and qualified swimming coach who has allowed us to access this lesson!

Mr McKenna - 8b

The year 8b's have started the academic year with a mixture of gym and football. It's been a great start with the pupils picking up were they left off with enthusaism, respect and determination to improve all on show! I look forward to welcoming them back after the break for more!

Mr McKenna - 9a

It's been an majorly improved start to PE for the year 9a's with full participation throughout. The boys work together offsite well as a team and have shown great levels of resilience. It's been great to see how the boys have progressed over summer and there has been some top football skills on show.

Mr Wilson - 9b

Year 9b have continued their football skills brilliantly in this academic year, picking up from were they left of last year with Mr Hatton. We have worked on mastering the basics of passing, dribbling and shooting. Having showed an interest in the sport Padel, we have managed to secure a booking at a local court and will be introducing this to the boys next term. We are very excited for this and look forward to seeing the boys learn a new sport!

MOORBROOK SCHOOL

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

RESPECT and ACHIEVE

MRS BARON AND THE 7A'S

Well done to Year 7A for completing their very first half term and settling so brilliantly into Moorbrook life! In English, we've been diving into How to Train Your Dragon, exploring exciting descriptive writing techniques to bring our settings and characters to life. This paired perfectly with our Vikings topic, where we learned all about daily Viking life and even built our own class longboat—big enough for everyone to fit inside! You've all worked so hard, so enjoy a well-deserved rest over the half-term break!





MOORBROOK SCHOOL

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RESPECT and ACHIEVE

MRS MASHITER AND THE YEAR 7B'S

What a brilliant start to secondary school it has been for our newest class, 7B! They have settled into life at Moorbrook School exceptionally well and have already shown themselves to be kind, caring and intelligent young people.

In English, we have been immersed in the magical world of Harry Potter, writing letters to Hogwarts, creating our own potions, and producing some wonderful character descriptions. The creativity and imagination on display have been fantastic!

Our Geography lessons have taken us around the world as we have explored different continents, while in Food Technology we have been busy creating a range of delicious recipes, from homemade pizzas and burgers to refreshing fruit cocktails.

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of place value and are eager to continue expanding our mathematical knowledge throughout the year.

We have also enjoyed some memorable adventures during Outdoor Education, exploring abandoned castles near Rivington, spotting mushrooms on Beacon Fell, and visiting a few play parks along the way. These experiences have helped us build confidence, teamwork and resilience.

Our learning has extended beyond the classroom too. We have completed Emergency First Aid training, including learning how to perform CPR, and were delighted to welcome the Fire Service, who taught us valuable fire safety skills ahead of Bonfire Night.

It has been a wonderful first half term, and we are incredibly proud of everything 7B has achieved so far. We cannot wait to see what the rest of the year brings! 🌟

MOORBROOK SCHOOL

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RESPECT and ACHIEVE

MS THROPE AND THE YEAR 8A'S

What a fantastic start to the school year for 8A! The boys have settled brilliantly into their new classroom and routines, showing great enthusiasm and a positive attitude towards their learning. We have been particularly impressed with their progress in Maths, where they have been working incredibly hard and making some fantastic achievements. The boys have also started swimming lessons on Tuesday afternoons as part of their PE curriculum, which has been a brilliant experience for everyone!

Our Outdoor Education sessions have also been a huge success, with the boys enjoying visits to some fantastic locations, including Tockholes, Brockholes, Worden Park and Williamson Park in Lancaster, where we explored the Butterfly House and visited the impressive Ashton Memorial. These trips have provided wonderful opportunities to explore the outdoors, develop teamwork and confidence, and enjoy new experiences beyond the classroom.

This half term, 8A have enjoyed taking part in the Macmillan Coffee Morning and our Halloween Craft Morning. We also welcomed Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service for an informative talk about staying safe during Bonfire Night.

Drama has been a particular highlight in English, with the boys throwing themselves into their roles during our exciting murder mystery activities. We have certainly discovered some budding actors and detectives!

It has been a wonderful first half term, full of learning, laughter and new experiences. We are incredibly proud of all the boys and can't wait to see what the next half term brings!









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MR SIMPSON AND THE 8B'S

It only seems a few minutes since we started back in September! What have we done? Well, we've settled into the new classroom and rearranged the furniture several times. The sofa is proving popular for quieter times when work is finished! In Maths we've re-visited basic numeracy and then moved on to Fractions, Decimals and percentages, with a little bit of money included. English has been focused on Poetry, including The Highwayman and also a new class novel, Small Steps, which is a sequel to Holes which many of the pupils have already studied. We welcomed a new pupil during the last week of the half term and I am sure the established students will show their caring sides and help him to settle into life at Moorbrook quickly, after all everyone knows how difficult it is to start a new school.

In PGW we've been discussing Emotional Wellbeing and looking at coping strategies, both positive and negative. Whilst I hope no one ever needs them, some of the strategies will be useful both now and in the future.

Enjoy the half term break and I'll look forward to seeing the pupils again on November 2nd.

MOORBROOK SCHOOL

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RESPECT and ACHIEVE

OUTDOOR EDUCATION WITH MR UTTLEY

This first half term has seen the new year 7 pupils settle into the subject, developing their social and personal skills, and the year 8's straight back into outdoor ed making further progress and development. This half term we started with visits to some local parks such as Worden and Moor Park, and have gradually progressed to Brockholes nature reserve, Beacon fell and Tockholes. For the final week we are visiting Williamson park in Lancaster, enjoying the history and culture of the park as well as visiting the butterfly house and mini zoo to finish off! A great start to the year, well done all!





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A NEW FRIDAY ACTIVITY WITH MRS KARIM & MISS SCOTT

This half term, Ms Scott and Mrs Karim launched an exciting new Friday activity: Design Den! It has quickly become the ultimate space for students to unleash their creativity, explore sensory projects, and get delightfully messy.

Over the past few weeks, we turned the room into a buzzing science lab with hands-on experiments, including giant foamy elephant toothpaste, stretchy slime, swirling lava lamps, and the crowd-favourite Coke & Mentos eruption! The laughter, teamwork, and curiosity in every session have been wonderful to see.

This is just the beginning—we have plenty more inventive, creative, and fun projects lined up for the weeks ahead. We are so proud of the curiosity, collaboration, and enthusiasm everyone has shown.





MOORBROOK SCHOOL

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

RESPECT and ACHIEVE

FOOD TECHNOLOGY WITH MRS LAWRENSON AND MISS HINDLE

Year 7 Food Technology

Year 7 students have worked incredibly hard this half-term while learning about the importance of health and safety in the kitchen. They have developed key food preparation skills, including safe knife handling, good personal hygiene, and safe use of kitchen equipment. To put these skills into practice, students have made a range of delicious dishes including chocolate brownies, fruit salad, burgers, and pizza. We are very proud of their enthusiasm, excellent effort, and growing confidence in the kitchen. Well done, Year 7! 👏🍕🍔🍫🍓

Year 8 Food Technology

Year 8 students have had a fantastic half-term developing their cooking skills through a range of dishes using minced meat. They have successfully prepared burgers, lasagne, donner kebabs, and homemade naan bread and cottage pie; demonstrating excellent practical skills and confidence in the kitchen. Throughout this half-term, students have worked hard, explored new ingredients, and challenged themselves by trying new recipes. We are extremely proud of their effort, enthusiasm, and the high standard of work they have achieved. Well done, Year 8! 👏🍔🥙🍽️

KS4 Food Technology

KS4 Food Technology students have enjoyed exploring the flavours and techniques of Italian cuisine this half term. Using their previous knowledge and experience in the kitchen, they have prepared a range of dishes including carbonara, lasagne, stromboli, tiramisu, and focaccia. Students have shown increasing confidence by adapting recipes to suit their own tastes, selecting seasonings and ingredients to create personalised dishes. Their creativity, independence, and excellent practical skills have been on display in every lesson. Mrs Lawrenson has particularly enjoyed seeing students experiment with flavours, although as she's currently on a diet, she still believes every recipe is improved with a little extra spice! 🌶️🍝🍞 Well done to all KS4 students for their hard work and enthusiasm this half term









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EMERGENCY NUMBERS

<u>General support</u>

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

<u>Health and wellbeing</u>

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

<u>Northwest Children's Social Care contact details</u>

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

<u>Domestic abuse/ violence SAFENET</u>

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

Preston Domestic violence services – 01772 201601

<u>Drugs and alcohol support</u>

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

Police Non-emergency number – 101

<u>Food Banks</u>

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.

<u>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.</u>