



Christian Value for September: Respect

Valuing our differences; being polite; using kind words, kind hearts & kind actions; treating others (& things) as you would like to be treated.



ISSUE 1

Friday 11th September 2020

Message from the Head:

Welcome back one and all. We are delighted to have all the children all back with us for the start of this new school year.

As you can imagine teaching staff have been working especially hard over the holidays preparing for this new academic year. It has been a challenging time preparing and I know, as a parent myself, it has been a troubling few months. I am anticipating that we are not out of the woods yet as far as disruption to our lives goes. It has, however, been joyous having children in school again. I hope your children have enjoyed their first week and a bit of school and we look forward to supporting them to achieve their best and enjoy their learning over the coming term.

PE Kit and Forest School Clothes

We would like to trial something different for PE kits, which some other local school are also trialling.



Could we ask that children come to school in their PE kit from next week.

This will enable staff to distance from the younger children especially more easily and will also prevent children inadvertently wearing others' clothes. We thank you for helping us trial this. Please see the grid below for details of PE and Forest School Days.

Could we also please ask that parents ensure that their **children's uniform is labelled**. This is particularly important at this time.

There are many areas of school life where we will be seeking further guidance over this term – and I am expecting some of the guidance to change as the term goes on depending on the national picture. We are seeking further advice, for example, about educational visits including, Arthog.

What is most important is that now that children are back, we give them the best chance possible to continue their learning. With that in mind, it is important that to keep staff safe and well we minimise their contact with other adults. Thank you for your support in the car park. We appreciate you keeping your distance, although it feels unnatural to us too. We are also looking at ways we can continue to hold meetings virtually rather than in person. We are managing to meet 'virtually' for Worship, which is a novelty for the children seeing themselves on the screen alongside their friends in other classes.

Curriculum grids, detailing what the children will be learning this half term, will be coming out this week, so look out for them in your child's bag.

Homework grids will also be coming out this week, so again look out for these in your child's bag. As well as our nine-grid project homework, which is homework to complete over a half term, your child will also be given maths skills and phonics or spelling homework. Children in years 1-6 have been given their Mathletics online login. This IT package was generously subsidised by the PTA. We will be using it in school as well as for setting homework. Your child can access this resource for maths practice at any time and do not have to wait to be set homework. It is an excellent resource which helps practise key skills and improves mental recall and calculation speeds. If you have not received this information via your child's book bag, please let the office know and they can send an electronic copy to you.

Class 1 Nursery and Reception Miss Clarke	PE kit- Tuesday Forest school- clothes to come in on Wednesday in a separate bag to be changed into during the afternoon.
Class 2 Year 1 and Year 2 Miss Jones	PE kits – Tuesday Forest school- kit to come in on Tuesday in a separate bag to be worn over the top of PE kits.
Class 3 Year 3 and Year 4 Miss McLaughlin	PE kits – Tuesday and Friday
Class 4 Year 5 and Year 6 Mrs Baillie	PE kits- Tuesday and Thursday



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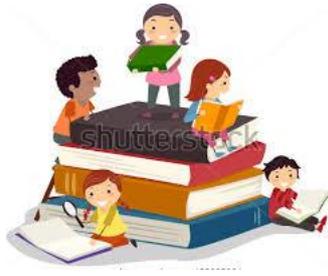
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Reading

The most important thing you can do to help your child at home is to **read with them every night**. Make sure you sign their Reading Diary so that your child receives their Reading Rewards stickers towards a free book.



Can we please remind parents that reading books, book bags need to be in every day and that homework books need to come back in every Friday for new spellings to be put in.

Mrs Stokes

Class 1 have settled into school really quickly and are already starting to recognise their new classroom environment and class rules. We have started phase 1 phonics this week and have been making rhyming silly soup! The children enjoyed finding objects that rhymed around the classroom and adding it into our class silly soup. The children also enjoyed their first Forest School lesson today. The children went on a scavenger hunt for leaves, acorns, pinecones, sticks and other natural objects. The children have been enjoying the story 'Ruby's Worry' and 'The Colour Monster'. We have used these books to help children understand their feelings and worries during this difficult time.

Miss Clarke

Class 2 enjoyed their first Forest School session this week. While we were singing our song a little frogged hopped up in the middle of our circle. What a nice surprise!

In History, as part of our topic 'The Place Where We Live', we will be looking at how our school has changed over time. We are looking at old photos to spot differences and we will be writing letters to past pupils of Moreton Say to find out what school was like long ago.

Miss Jones

Class 3

Class 3 have settled back into school life well. We have once again started using our maths program, 'Maths No Problem' and all the children are coping well with the new challenges this poses.

We have been looking at the book 'The Colour Monster' and have used this as a basis to start to think about our own feelings about what has been a very strange and worrying year. We will continue to work on expressing these feelings and thinking about ways to manage these.

We have already started our topics, 'There's No Place Like Home' and 'Light and Shadows' which the children are really enjoying. I am proud of the positive attitude each

one of them has displayed on returning to school. Well done Class 3!

Miss McLaughlin

Class 4 have made a wonderful start to the term and have worked really hard showing their resilience to their return to school. We have started thinking about our new topic of 'Survival' and have already started to think about different animals in different environments around the world and how they have evolved to be able to survive in the habitats that they do. We have also started to read the story 'Street Child' which follows the struggles of a young Victorian child as he struggles to survive life in the workhouse. We have already written some wonderful diary entries based on the beginning of the story and I have been really impressed with the writing skills shown by all the children. A really positive start to the new school year!

Mrs Baillie

Sports News

We will be continuing to use our '**Daily Mile**' track around the playground each day. '**The Daily Mile**' is a national campaign designed to keep young children fit and healthy. Children run or jog for 15 minutes at their own pace every day. Research has shown that exercising helps improve concentration levels as well as the obvious benefits of keeping physically fit and healthy. For more information about the principles behind 'The Daily Mile' please visit <https://thedailymile.co.uk/>



Attendance and Absence

We are required to record all absences daily and report them to the DfE with reasons for absence so that the government can try to accurately track the spread of infections including flu. So please make sure you telephone the office promptly if your child is absent for any reason. Your child should not come to school if any of your family has and of the three key coronavirus symptoms, namely:

- A temperature
- A new continuous cough
- Loss of taste or smell

Advice about what to do in the event your child is ill or in the event you come in to contact with someone that might have coronavirus is changing all the time, so please don't hesitate to call us for advice if you need it.





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