



MORETON SAY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL
ADDMORE FEDERATION – 'TOGETHER WE ADD MORE'

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Kim Stokes
 MORETON SAY, MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE TF9 3RS

NEWSLETTER



Christian Value for October: Thankfulness

Being polite & saying thank you; appreciating others; appreciating the world around us, even the small things



ISSUE 3

Tuesday 20th October 2020

Message from the Head:

Lots has been going on in school since I last wrote, both in the classes in terms of learning and in the background, developing our new way of working within this pandemic.

I have several important things to tell you about this week which in summary are about:

- Microsoft Teams
- Celebration Worship: Friday mornings at 10:30am
- Parents' Evenings
- Our new website
- Permission for website video inclusion
- School meals after half term
- Non-uniform Days: merit rewards
- Celebrations: Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas
- Evidence Me for Nursery and Reception parents

Microsoft Teams

We are now using Microsoft Teams regularly in school for virtual meetings. We are conducting weekly Federation Worship via Teams, which the children are loving as they can see themselves on the big screen in their classroom. It is allowing them to have more contact with other 'bubbles'.

Going forward, we would like to use this tool more with parents to conduct video calls, including review meeting and parents' evenings. If you are familiar with using Facetime or WhatsApp video calls it is not much different, but its advantage is that it allows us to connect via the internet rather than a phone. If parents would like to use this method of communication, **we would be grateful if parents could download the Microsoft Teams App**. I am happy to send parents who would like to try it out, a link so you can get to know how to use it.

Celebration Worship: Friday mornings at 10:30am

Each week we celebrate 'Star of the Week' in our Friday Worship on Teams. From after half term we would like to invite parents of our 'Stars' for that week to join us virtually on Teams. This means you will be contacted to let you know that your child has been awarded the prize the week before (you will need to keep this secret until Friday when you join us). We realise that this may not be possible for all parents as they may be working. There is a record facility on Teams that will allow us to record the session and share a link later. Which we can do for those parents who cannot make it. You will need the Teams App to take part in this new initiative.

Parents' Evening

We will be conducting **Parents' Evenings** in the first few weeks straight after half term, either via a Microsoft Teams video call or a telephone call depending on your preference. Appointment times will be offered to you shortly.

Website

We are delighted to announce that our new website is now live on the internet.

<https://www.moretonsay.shropshire.sch.uk/>

Content is being added all the time and we will alert you to new features as they come online. We are hoping that by the end of the week, we can offer a Parents' Evening booking service via the website but will send out our usual paper booking options too if necessary.

Newsletters and general letters which have been sent out from school are also downloadable from the new website, as are common forms e.g. medical forms, leave of absence forms etc. If you think there is something else useful we could add to the site, please let us know.

The site will gradually look more vibrant as we are able to add photos to each page.

Please return your video permission for the website as soon as possible if you haven't done so already, as we plan to shoot videos and take photos after half term. Any pupils whose permission we do not have will not be able to be included.

School Meals

We have worked hard this term to find a way to offer hot meals again after half term. Due to logistical restrictions related to Covid we will only be offering one hot option each day or a packed lunch with two sandwich choices. **The menu is attached to the newsletter email** and is also downloadable from our new website.

Non-uniform Days: merit rewards

As part of our behaviour rewards system, children are awarded merits for good learning and good behaviour, which shows they are adhering to our Golden Rules and setting a good example to others. Each child is in a team. The merits for each team are collated each half term and



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moretonsayadmin@addmorefed.shropshire.sch.uk

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NEWSLETTER



as part of our rewards system, the winning team is rewarded with a non-uniform day. You will be notified by text if your child is in the winning team.

Celebrations: Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas

We are working hard to make school as familiar and consistent for the children as possible. To this end, we have been working on ways to continue to celebrate annual events such as Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas.

We have experimented with videos for Harvest which we hope to share with you shortly. The videos have been made and we have identified a way of making a secure link for you to view them. Unfortunately, at the moment the videos are not copying successfully to the link. We will keep working on this and will hopefully be able to share these with you soon.

Once we can get the technology to work, we are hoping to do something similar for Remembrance and Christmas. We look forward to being able to share more of what is going on in school as soon as we can.

Evidence Me for Nursery and Reception Parents

On the PD day in October (Friday this week – don't forget!) Early Years staff will be having training on the use of the Evidence Me assessment and recording programme for Nursery and Reception children. Once the software is set up and staff fully trained, we will be able to share photos and work with nursery and reception parents. This will be sent to you via email links, so please make sure that your email address is up to date on our system.

And finally...

Our number one concern is to ensure that children are attending school and are happy and eager to learn and that staff and children alike are safe during this challenging time.

Thank you to all those parents who have taken the time to write emails of thanks and appreciation to the staff, who have done such a wonderful job of settling pupils back into this challenging school year. I am sure you will join with me in wishing them a well-earned rest over the coming half term.

Wishing all our families a happy and healthy half term.

Mrs Stokes

Class 1

Our new topic for the next few weeks is Forests and Woodlands. In Literacy we have been looking at adjectives to describe autumn. We have been using our senses to smell autumnal smells and thought of adjectives to describe them. We have been on an environment walk looking for signs of autumn. The children have enjoyed our topic book Goldilocks and The Three Bears, and we have

been using this to develop our maths, looking at different sized bears, beds, porridge, and chairs.

Miss Clarke

Class 2

Class 2 have enjoyed looking at non-fiction texts this week. We have used a text 'Toys from the Past' to look at the different sections of non-fiction, such as captions, headings, contents, index and glossary. We used the texts to find out information and are now creating our own posters about school using information we have researched. In Forest School, we have been exploring the trees on our school grounds; collecting and identifying leaves and seeds and making leaf and bark rubbings. We can name several different trees and plants and can also talk about the difference between deciduous and non-deciduous trees.

Miss Jones

Class 3

Class 3 have particularly enjoyed our Science and topic work this week. In Science, we have been investigating shadows and how they move and change throughout the day. We had lots of fun mapping a shadow on the playground by drawing around it in chalk every hour. We talked about how the position of the sun in the sky was changing the shadows and why they were 'moving'. Sometimes the shadows moved before we had finished drawing them!

In topic, we learnt about the 'Great Fire of Market Drayton', which like the Great Fire of London, started in a bakery in the town. We created some artwork to show what it may have been like!

Miss McLaughlin

Class 4

Class 4 have finished reading the novel 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty and I think we all agree that we really enjoyed the book. Her work helped to inspire our own writing and we used many of her techniques in our own work. We were also really surprised to find that the book was based on a true story and this is how the charity Barnardo's started. Many of us now want to read the sequel to find out what happened to Jim's sisters!

The children in class four also had the opportunity to take part in Bikeability. They all managed to complete Level 1 and 2 and showed how safe they can be whilst cycling on the roads. The instructors were really impressed by how everyone listened carefully and then were able to apply the information to their cycling. They all did really well and had an enjoyable couple of days! Well done all!!

Mrs Baillie

**PD Day Friday 23rd October.
School closed to pupils**



01630 638 465



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