

Early Years Phase Leader Newsletter

Spring 2022

Moorlands Primary School



Issue 1 : 01/03/22

Happy Easter!

What a term it has been! The children have continued to flourish and amazed us with their progress that they have been making.

Year R have been transitioning into a new phonics programme which they have coped so well with and have learnt very quickly. More information on this will be given at Ms Llewellyn's virtual Workshop on Wednesday 4th May.



Year R have also been luckily enough to enjoy some new resources to support their play and learning which has been very exciting! Our main aim continues to run with your children's interests and use these to hook in cross curricular learning; to help your children cover all areas of our curriculum in their play!

I hope you and your children enjoy the Easter break together and enjoy many special moments as a family. We have many exciting things planned for this last week ahead and look forward to seeing the children again in the Summer term.

This term's highlights...

There have been so many wonderful highlights over the last term. From our Toy Story topic and searching for Woody, celebrating his return with our Woody party; to our very first school trip and everything in between.

The children enjoyed thinking of their own special toys and thinking about differences of toys in the past; as well as solve many clues and create posters on our hunt for Woody.

We also began to use our wall bars in PE and work on different kinds of balances too. The children have loved developing their climbing skills and really enjoyed working around different obstacles and apparatus.

The children have been very interested in the life cycles of animals we have been lucky enough to look after—chicks, caterpillars and tadpoles. The chicks went to live a happy life at the farm after the children watched them hatching from their eggs, growing bigger and helping to hold them and feed them. They are eagerly awaiting our caterpillars to emerge from their cocoons this week so we can release the butterflies into our school grounds at the end of the week and are still lucky enough to observe our tadpoles which are on their journey to become frogs.

We are beyond proud of the children on their first school trip to the farm. They represented the school impeccably well and learnt many interesting facts about the animals and able to take part in tasks to have a day in the role of farmers.

Children have also learnt about sea creatures and wild animals and learning more facts about them and learn more about their habitats and how these places around the world differ from where we live.



I would also like to celebrate our selected Star Students for this half term. As ever, it is so hard to pick just a couple of children. I know every single one of our children have been able to share many proud moments with you; whether it has been bringing home a certificate, good news slip, sticker or sharing good news from their day. I know we are looking forward to sharing this good news with you during parents evening too! Every single one of them deserves to celebrate their special accomplishments as they have all had so many! Well done to below children for outstanding hard work. An extra well done to the children below who have been picked by the team for exceptionally outstanding accomplishments. Please remember to share your special moments with us which can easily be sent as an observation on the Tapestry app!

Mrs Henneberg - Early Years Phase Leader



Scarlett Aspeling
Harvey Owers



Kieran O'Grady
Thea Hoyland

Helpful Tips & Reminders

Please remember we do ask that:

- Your child brings a named water bottle everyday
- Uniforms need to be named to avoid lost property
- Your child needs a PE kit in school if they haven't already.
- Bring a piece of fruit or vegetable as a snack if you wish for your child to eat a morning snack
- Your child should have their reading diary and book in their book bag each day and the reading diary needs to be given in every Thursday for the class teachers to read comments and write their own comments
- Please remember your child is outside in all weathers please ensure they have weather appropriate clothing such as coats for wet weather

Upcoming topics in Spring:

- ◆ Superheroes — children will be immersed into a world of imaginative superheroes while also learning about our real life superheroes; the people who help us e.g. Police officers, postal workers, doctors, nurses, shop workers, etc.



- ◆ Julia Donaldson — children are immersed in a different book each week of the Summer 2 half term from this brilliant author where children's learning will all be linked to the focus book such as: Room on the Broom; The Smartest Giant in Town; The Gruffalo and more.



Near the beginning of the year we shared with you that as parents you would be able to access your child's wow moments through tapestry. Please remember this is just one way of us collecting and capturing your child's wow moments. Parent contributions continue to be a very important part of our assessments so you can share your proud moments from your children outside of school. We will continue to send home proud parent certificates which you may wish to complete but you may also share and upload your contributions via tapestry as often as you wish. We really love to see these moments which you share with us.

Home Reading!



It has been lovely to see so many children earn their Reading Rocket rewards this term. Please encourage your children to read at least 4 times per week at home. This doesn't have to be a whole book—it can be 5 minutes and will make a huge difference! Don't forget for the nights where your children are tired or struggling you may choose to let them read one page, listen to you read a story, or search for their tricky words within the text, ask questions for them to answer about the book, or stop at a word for them to read which may contain a sound we have been learning in phonics. Especially our digraphs and trigraphs which the children need to practice the most. Record 4 x reading in your child's record and they will get one of their stars in their reading rocket towards a planet certificate! Please ensure you hand in the Reading Rocket Rewards when you hand in your child's reading diary so that we can award them their star and know when they have earned their next certificate.

Children have also made tremendous progress with their tricky words. These are a vital part of their reading and writing skills and so have a big impact on the children's progress. Please continue to practice these at home.

Children can change their book as often as they need and adults with support them in choosing the correct. Please return any books so we can ensure we have plenty for everyone! Let your child's teacher know if they need a replacement reading diary or Reading Rocket booklet!

Thank you so much for your continued support and for the hard work you and your children do at home.

Kind regards,
Mrs Henneberg