



**Moorside
High School**
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions



**Consilium
Academies**

#Team Moorside Parent Update 03.12.21

Dear Parent/Carer,

It is hard to believe that we have already arrived at the month of December. As our book swap came to an end on the 30th November, we were totally overwhelmed by the number that we received, thank you for supporting this. From January, it is an expectation that all students have a reading book as part of their equipment, and now we have started our pre-loved book shelves, there will be the opportunity for students to exchange their books once they have finished them.

One of the highlights for us during December, will be our school production 'Beauty and the Beast'. At this point, based on guidance received from Salford Authority, we will continue to plan for parents to come into school to watch the production. We are monitoring developments closely, and will, if necessary, make changes to the production if regional or national guidance indicates that this is advisable.

In the meantime, thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to do our best to ensure our pupils across the school are able to benefit from the fullest possible experience of school life.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Ryles-Dean
Head of School

Year 11 Apprenticeship Talk

On Monday 29th December we welcomed Sarra Smith from the Greater Manchester Learning Provider Network (GMLPN) to present to Year 11 about apprenticeship opportunities - both at 16 after GCSEs, but also as higher or degree opportunities as alternatives to university. Sarra explained that apprenticeships involve securing paid employment with accredited training through an approved training provider (which could include colleges or universities). This provides a work-related learning route into many different career sectors, such as business, law, engineering, construction, ICT, hair & beauty, and childcare. The pupils learnt that apprenticeships can be highly competitive and will typically require 5 GCSEs Grade 4-9 including English and Maths, with a strong school reference too. Mr Farmer (school careers adviser) will be organising further workshops for those pupils interested in applying for apprenticeships in the Spring term when more school leaver vacancies will start to become available. There is further information via the link below regarding apprenticeships on the National Apprenticeship Website:

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices>

If pupils or parents have further questions regarding apprenticeships, please contact Mr Farmer via email - simon.farmer@consilium-at.com

Mission Christmas

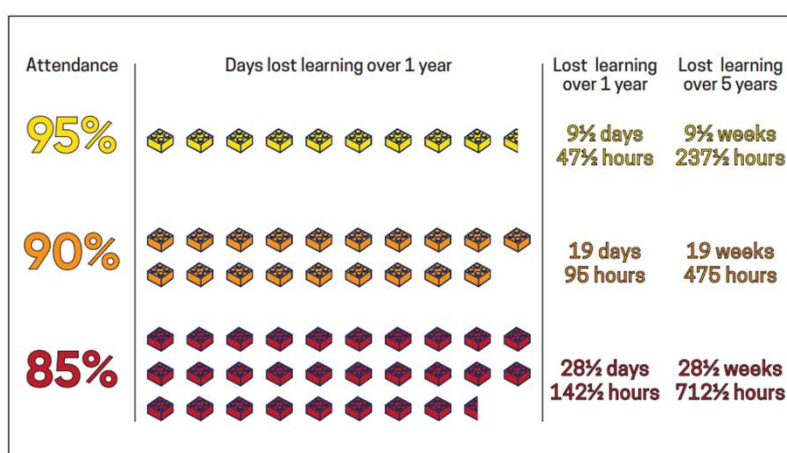
Our Mission Christmas Appeal is now underway for the month of December. Moorside High School have always played a big role in supporting the charity, 'Cash for Kids' and we are hoping to have a record-breaking year this year. If you are able to support, all donations can be left in our charity supermarket trolleys. The only requirement from the charity is that donations are unwrapped and unused (new). We are always overwhelmed by the generosity of our parents/carers and we thank you in advance for your support with this.

Food Bank

Our Food bank donations are also now open. During the month of December, we will be collecting donations to support our local community, so if you are able to spare a tine of beans or packet of pasta. Please do send into reception.

Attendance Matters

We would like to give a huge shout out to Year 7 and Joule House, who had the top attendance this week. Mr Webb has delivered this morning, tubs of sweets to those forms who have come top, this round of the attendance league. The leagues will re-set on Monday and run again for the last two and a half weeks of this term. Again, top forms will receive a tub of chocolates, as will those forms, who show the most improvement, so there is an incentive for everyone! We are starting to look forward to our celebration assemblies and their will be a grand prize draw for everyone that has had good attendance. As we are all aware, attendance is key in supporting students and ensuring they develop a sense of responsibility, which helps them to form good habits, that prepares them for the world of work.



Recommendation to wear face masks

As you are aware, the government announced at the weekend that, considering the new “Omicron” variant, staff, students, and visitors should be **encouraged** to wear a face covering in communal areas in school. On the back of this announcement, we would really appreciate your support in **encouraging** students have a face covering, preferably one which can be washed and reused. We want to do everything possible to protect our school community and prevent students having to remote learn. One of our school values is ‘Consideration’ and we know that TEAMMoorside will consider and work together to protect each other and our community. Students will not need to wear them in classrooms or outside. The government has said, it will review the situation in three weeks’ time, which means this will be in place until Christmas at least.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance of your support, and to remind you, of one or two other key points:

- It is encouraged that students/staff take lateral flow tests twice weekly (on Wednesdays and Sundays). This is a very important measure, in helping to identify asymptomatic cases and keep these out of the school environment where they could spread it to others. If you require further tests, please ask your child to ask at our school reception.
- Anybody displaying COVID symptoms at any point should self-isolate and seek a PCR test.
- If there is a positive case within the household, students should take an LFD test for each day of the isolation period of the household case.

At this stage there are no further updates to the guidance and so, unless you hear otherwise, you can assume everything else in school can continue as normal.

Year 5 visit for a History Workshop

This week, we hosted our very first transition workshop with Year 5 students. The workshop focused on looking at the stereotypes surrounding Vikings and what the reality of the situation was. Students focused in particular on the contributions Vikings made to the English language and then the students had a go at writing their own names in Viking Runes. All the students that were involved had a thoroughly enjoyable time, and the evening has made them even more excited about the prospect of joining us in Year 7 in the future. Thank you to Mr Brooklyn and Miss Birnie who organised the event.

Team Moorside's 'Great Christmas Jumper Exchange'

Don't forget, this year, we are holding our very first Christmas Jumper Exchange. To support sustainability, we are encouraging students to bring in their old Christmas Jumper and potentially swap with a pre-loved one, which I am sure you will agree, probably has only been worn once, last Christmas Jumper Day! During the jumper exchange, any Christmas jumpers donated, will be sold for a small donation (all donations going to charity) Students can bring in their jumpers between 1st December to the 10th December. The big exchange will take place on the 10th December. Christmas Jumper Day on the 20th December, for a small donation of £1 for charity.

Last week of term reminder

Monday 20th December -

- Rewards trip for those students with top 'Behaviour for Learning grades'
- Christmas Jumper Day/themed non-uniform - Green/Red
- Christmas Lunch in the Dining Hall

Tuesday 21st December - Celebration Assemblies.

- Year 7 - Period 1
- Year 8 - Period 2
- Year 9 - Period 3
- Year 11 - Period 4
- Year 10 - Period 5

Wednesday 22nd December -

- Period 1 - Normal Lesson
- Period 2 - Normal Lesson
- Extended Break with a hot breakfast available
- Period 3 - Reduced Period 3 - Form Party/Quiz.
- Early Finish - 12.05 - Happy Holidays

Dates for your Diary

- KS3 Assessments - 29th November until 10th December 2021
- School Production - Beauty & the Beast 16th/17th December 2021
- Christmas Jumper/Non-Uniform Day, Green and Red theme – 20th December 2021
- Christmas lunch - 20th December 2021
- 21st December 2021 - Celebration Assemblies
- 22nd December 2021 - School closes for the Christmas Break 12.05
- 5th January 2022 - School reopens for the spring term
- 18th January 2022 - Year 11 Parents Evening
- 21st January 2022 – Year 11 Mock interview day

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