



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



**Consilium  
Academies**

## #Team Moorside Parent 09.09.22

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been such a pleasure to welcome all of our students into school this week, we have had a very successful first week of the new academic year. However, we have all been saddened by the news we received yesterday. On behalf of all within the Moorside High School community, we would like to express our deepest condolences on the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Her Majesty's example of selfless service, of duty, resilience, kindness, and leadership is one that inspires us all and will be remembered by generations. In school today we took time when students were with their form tutors to reflect appropriately in a calm and supportive environment. Over the coming days, the timeline of events and plans around national mourning arrangements will be announced. We shall then confirm further school plans as appropriate. During form time today, students had the opportunity to reflect on the life of Queen Elizabeth and watch a short clip on Newsround celebrating her life.

Looking back to Tuesday, which feels such a long time ago, the first day saw lots of smiles as our team of staff greeted all our students. They soon settled into the week, with our new Year 7 students getting to know each other and finding their way around school. Across the week, there has been a lovely atmosphere around school, as classes met with their new teachers and heard about all the opportunities ahead. Today we have concluded the week with an assembly for our Year 7 students. It has been great to celebrate with Year 7 and reward them on how well they have done during their first week as Team Moorside.

Our students have looked so smart this week, 'thank you' to you, our parents/carers for the way the students have presented in school this week. Our motto of 'Dress Smart, Think Smart' has really been a highlight with students attending looking smart and ready to learn. Just a quick polite reminder for those parents that are new to us, shoes must be polishable, no trainers or logo shoes, we appreciate that some outlets may say school shoes, but they are not what we expect. There are images on the school website if you are unsure. We have also seen an increase in students attending in black socks, socks should be white and ankle length. Black tights may be worn, or black ankle socks if wearing with trousers. If you are unsure of what the uniform expectations are, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year or visit the school website where all the information can be found.

While standards of behaviour have remained very good, as recognised in our Ofsted in March, we do want excellence, because we know that excellent behaviour leads to excellent results and a fantastic future. Students are most successful when schools and families work in partnership, so we would be grateful if you could remind your child of the importance of staying focused in lessons, being organised with their planner and knowledge organiser. Your support as always is very much appreciated. We all feel that this year is going to be a really positive one and we look forward to watching all the students grow and develop over the academic year and continuing to work alongside our parents and carers.

Have a lovely weekend  
Mrs Ryles-Dean  
Headteacher

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### **Open Evening**

Our Open Evening takes place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October. This is always a lovely evening and a fantastic chance for us to welcome our prospective Year 5 and 6 students. Please encourage your son/daughter to get involved and help as a guide or volunteer for a department or activity. More information will be shared with the students nearer the time.

## **Individual Pupil Photographs**

The School Photography Company were due in school on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September, apologies that this date was changed. They are now planning to be in school on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September to take photographs of all students in Year 7 and Year 11.

## **Attendance Matters**

### **Message from Miss McBride (Deputy Headteacher – Behaviour, Safety and Welfare):**

Firstly, it has been great to have all of our young people back in school this week and meet our new Year 7 students. It has been lovely to see them around the building and settle back into their learning. Thank you for your support in ensuring that we all have a great start back.

As you will remember, I wrote to you before the summer to explain the changes to how schools now have to deal with attendance underpinned by the government guidance in '[Working together to improve school attendance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk)'. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that your child has excellent attendance to school.

Unfortunately, we are still seeing a few absences that we are not able to authorise and they are not recommended by the NHS as a reason to be absent from school. [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk). These absences will not be authorised, even with parental communication, and therefore will escalate.

Attendance is a priority for us as a school as we want all of our children to be safeguarded and benefitting from the excellent pastoral care in school, but also we want our children to be in school to benefit from the excellent learning. Missing lessons makes it difficult for children to catch up and affects the subsequent learning. We have seen the impact of this in the GCSE results this summer.

On average, those students that had attendance **over 95%** achieved GCSE grades in all their subjects that were **above the average** for their ability compared to what children achieved nationally.

Those students with attendance **over 90%** achieved **just below the grades of students** with the same ability nationally.

Those students with attendance **below 80% significantly underperformed** across all of their GCSES compared to children of the same ability.

More than ever, it is important that we all work together to ensure that children are in school. We want to support you to improve attendance of your child. Please feel free to contact school if this would be helpful.

## **PSHE**

Our PSHE curriculum at Moorside High School equips students with the knowledge and skills to understand more about how to play a positive and successful role within our society, both as a child and as an adult. Our intention is to provide students with a knowledge of their world, locally, nationally, and globally and give them confidence to tackle many of the moral, social, and cultural issues that are part of growing up within this. Between now and Christmas, students will study the following topics (see below). If you have any questions regarding the content, please do visit our school website for more information. Click here to access the [Personal Development page](#).

### **Autumn 1**

Year 7: Transition to Team Moorside (Pt. 1)

Year 8: Staying Safe Online

Year 9: Life Beyond School

Year 10: Mental Health and Wellbeing

Year 11: RSE

### **Autumn 2:**

Year 7: Transition to Moorside (Pt. 2)

Year 8: Physical Health and Wellbeing

Year 9: RSE

Year 10: Staying Safe Online and Offline

Year 11: Life Beyond School

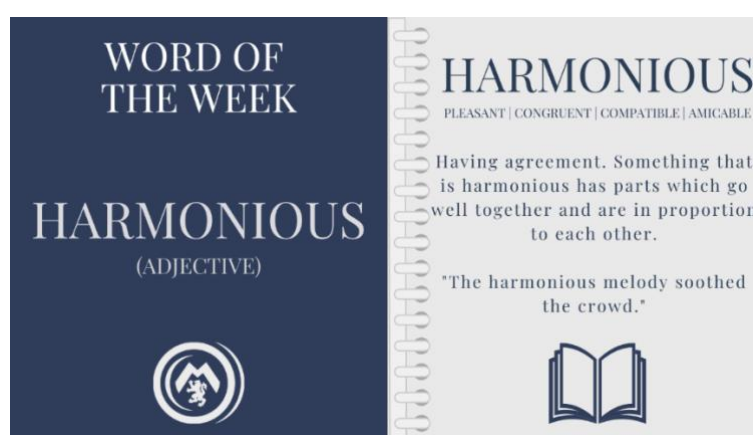
### **Year 10 and 11 Information and Guidance Evening**

In order to ensure that parents are fully informed about Key Stage 4, we are holding two evenings face to face next week. Information about these evenings have been sent to the parents of Year 10 and Year 11 parents and we look forward to welcoming you into Moorside High School.

### **Parent SIMS App**

We are aware that a number of parents have struggled this week with the SIMS app and we apologise for this. We have liaised with SIMS Capita and hopefully have resolved any issues. If you have not yet registered for the SIMS Parent App, or you are a new Year 7 parent [please click here](#) to support you with the process. The SIMS App is the main form of communication to our parents, if you need any support with the app, please email

[MHSInfo@consilium-at.com](mailto:MHSInfo@consilium-at.com)



### **Key Dates:**

- Wednesday 14th September Year 10 Information Evening
- Thursday 15th September Year 11 Information Evening
- Friday 23rd September Macmillan Coffee Morning
- Thursday 6th October Open Evening
- Wednesday 12th October Year 11 – Make it Stick/Careers Fair
- Tuesday 18th October Year 7 Parents Evening
- Friday 21st October INSET Day

All term dates for the academic year, 22/23, 23/24 can be found on the school website or by [clicking here](#)

[MHSYear7@consilium-at.com](mailto:MHSYear7@consilium-at.com) , [MHSYear8@consilium-at.com](mailto:MHSYear8@consilium-at.com), [MHSYear9@consilium-at.com](mailto:MHSYear9@consilium-at.com),

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