



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



**Consilium**  
Academies

## #TeamMoorside Parent Update 14.10.22

Dear Parent/Carer,

This week we have highlighted mental health awareness week via our assemblies and PSHE time. Kooth.com joined us via a video link to provide an informative session to all students on how they can access support. Kooth.com is commissioned by the NHS, Local Authorities, charities and businesses to provide anonymous and personalised mental health support for children and young people. For links to support mental health and wellbeing, please visit our school website.

All our students are provided with a knowledge organiser folder. Within this folder, students have knowledge organisers within each subject area. The knowledge organiser is a black folder that is a core element of our equipment, alongside it, students are able to put in their timetable, timings of the school day and the menu of extra-curricular activities. The knowledge organisers ensure that the essential minimum knowledge is more accessible to students, as well as embedding revision resources to develop independent study skills to enhance our students ownership of learning. We know from studies conducted by the Education Endowment Foundation (2021) that to ensure learning is taking place, students must transfer information from working memory to long term memory. For students to learn successfully, and in turn achieve good qualifications, they must 'know more and remember more' in every subject. Our staff have worked hard to develop a well-rounded and sequenced curriculum within their subject areas that allows for students to regularly review key knowledge to ensure that they can remember more. It is also crucial that students are reviewing the information learnt in lessons independently, to ensure that the knowledge sticks. Students are expected to bring in their knowledge organiser folders alongside the school equipment to demonstrate that they are 'ready to learn'. At the start of each lesson, knowledge organisers will be placed out on the desk so that they are accessible. It is important that students can self-regulate during lessons, meaning that if they find they don't remember or understand a concept in lesson, they should have the independence to search their books or knowledge organisers to refresh their memory. This reduces their reliance on the class teacher for the answer. It is clear from research that 'trying to remember something makes memory more long-lasting than other forms of studying', so it is crucial that we continue to encourage our students to become independent learners who are aware of their strengths and weaknesses so that their learning and revision fits their needs.

Our Year 11 Mock Exams and Year 8 working at assessments start on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> November. This is just three weeks away, all students should be preparing for these. Students have been given a timetable and this can be found on the school website alongside topics/information lists that they will need to revise in preparation for the assessments. For students in Years 7, 9, and 10 their working at assessments will take place from Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> December for two weeks. These students will be issued with a timetable after the half term break.

Thank you for your continued support  
Have a lovely weekend  
Mrs Ryles-Dean  
Headteacher

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### **Book Fair**

We are really looking forward to welcoming back our book fair W/C 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Parents can buy pre-loaded gift cards here: <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers> which students can swap for books in person throughout the week. Parents may also wish to order in advance here:

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay/1239320>

Additionally, we will be taking orders on Year 7 Parents' Evening where students/parents can browse the selection and pay for books using a QR code.

## **Parent Forum**

We would like to invite parents to attend our next Parent Forum on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022. This forum will be focused on Attendance and will be led by Miss McBride (Deputy Headteacher). The aim of the parent focus is to hear our parents/carers views on how we can support with attendance and ideas on how we can continue to improve attendance at school. There are 30 places available, please email [MHSinfo@consilium-at.com](mailto:MHSinfo@consilium-at.com) if you would like to attend.

## **Electronic Devices**

Mobile phones and mobile devices (including headphones/earphones) should be turned off and remain out of sight from 8:25 until the end of the school day. If mobile phones or other electronic devices are seen or heard at any point during the school day, devices will be confiscated and should be collected by the student from reception at the end of the day. Smart watches are not banned in school, but alerts and notifications should be on silent. Smart watches will be confiscated as above, if notifications or communication disrupts lessons.

**Contacting your child during the school day:** We appreciate that there will be times you may need to contact your child during the school day in the case of an emergency or to pass on a message. Please can we ask that you contact school to pass on the message rather than make direct contact via their mobile phone. [MHSinfo@consilium-at.com](mailto:MHSinfo@consilium-at.com) is regularly monitored throughout the school day and out of hours.

## **Aspirational Lecture support**

Aspiration is one of our school values and we are really trying to ensure we encourage our students to be aspirational in their post 16 choices. We would like to start offering a range of inspirational talks which are open to all students. Ideally the talks will be on offer after school between 3.15-4.15pm. If you would be interested in giving a talk around a specific subject or career, please email [MHSinfo@consilium-at.com](mailto:MHSinfo@consilium-at.com) with your name and a brief description of your career or subject talk.

## **Year 11 Mock Exams**

Over the years students have asked what are the point of mock exams and do they really matter? Our response to this is that there is every point to them, and yes, they really do matter. As a result of the GCSE exams being cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic, mock exams formed a significant part of the evidence used to award both Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs) and Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs).

As a school, we have welcomed the return of our students preparing for and sitting external end of year exams. Mock exams play a very important part in helping students improve their exam performance. Testing themselves is an effective way to improve their knowledge and ability to recall information. In a study on mock exams, researchers found that students who did a practice test after a period of revision did better on the final exam than those students who didn't do the mock exam and had just spent the whole time revising. Mock exams are a good way to find out what students do know and what students need to work on. Students need to become comfortable in sitting exams, for the same length of time as the real exams under exam conditions. Pressure can do funny things to students. For some, it can lead to nerves, anxiety, frustration, and silly mistakes, culminating in a poor exam performance. For others, pressure allows them to concentrate more, work harder and perform better. It takes time and practice to perform well under pressure. Year 11 will be sitting their mock exams from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November. All students have been issued with their mock exam timetable and on Monday they will receive a presentation on how to study and make it stick. Year 11 should be spending a significant time at home revising and preparing for these exams. Mrs Ryles-Dean and Miss Smalley will be running a silent study room each evening 16:00-18:00.

Mock results day will be on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> December. The idea of this session is to prepare the students for the apprehension that is associated with waiting to find out their results in August. We will give them an envelope with their subjects and grades, laid out exactly as their GCSEs will be. Student will be able to sense what August will feel like when they discover the outcomes of their hard work. Following receiving their results, students will spend some time with their form tutors to offer support and guidance on the next steps. Results will be sent home W/C 12<sup>th</sup> December and our Year 11 parents' evening will take place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January in school. This will be an opportunity for teachers to discuss your child's mock performance and what they need to do to continue moving forward within the subject. If you have any questions, please do contact your child's Head of Year – Mr Halsall.

## Puzzle of the week


### Puzzle of the Week

Numeracy Puzzle of the Week


One year, there were exactly four Tuesdays and exactly four Fridays in October.

On what day of the week did Halloween, October 31st, fall that year?

Tell your maths teacher the answer by the end of the week and they will give you a card for a prize if you got the answer correct.



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## Word of the week

### WORD OF THE WEEK

# INEXPLICABLE

(ADJECTIVE)




### INEXPLICABLE

MYSTERIOUS | UNFATHOMABLE | INCOMPREHENSIBLE

Unable to explain or be accounted for.

"The events in the haunted house were inexplicable!"



### Key Dates:

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| • Tuesday 18th October                                      | Year 7 Parents Evening            |
| • Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October                         | Year 11 – English Parent Workshop |
| • Friday 21st October                                       | INSET Day                         |
| • Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October | Half term                         |
| • Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October                           | INSET Day                         |
| • Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November                          | School re-opens 08:25             |
| • Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November | Year 11 and 8 Assessment Weeks    |
| • Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December | Year 7, 9 and 10 Assessment weeks |
| • Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December                       | School closes for Christmas       |
| • Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023                       | INSET Day                         |
| • Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2023                      | School re-opens 08:25             |

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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CONSIDERATION ASPIRATION RESILIENCE EQUALITY