



Moor First School

School Lane
Biddulph Moor
Stoke on Trent. ST8 7HR

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September 2022 Newsletter

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to a brand new year at Moor First School! It's lovely to see all our pupils looking very smart, especially the new blue t-shirt and are ready to learn. A special welcome also to our new children and their families. It is a pleasure to welcome you all to Moor First at the beginning of what we hope will be a very happy time spent with us.

We have democratically nominated our Playtime Pals; School Council and ECO Committee for all classes, I'm sure our pupils will perform amazingly in their roles.

Our vision for our school is **"TOGETHER WE UNLOCK POTENTIAL AND LEARN FOR LIFE!"**

Manners cost nothing; respect all,
On task all the time; ready to learn,
Only our best is good enough,
Responsible and honest,
FIRST school rules to reach our targets in life!



Houses: The children have now been put into houses - red, blue, yellow and green. Each class feeds in weekly coloured coins to the coin counter in the main corridor. Children will gain team points from all members of staff by showing good manners; helping other children/adults; being courteous; conducting themselves appropriately around the school building and grounds; looking after our school environment, both inside and out. The points from each class will be counted weekly and the winning team at the end of every half term will have a non-uniform day. So far, **yellow** are in the lead.

Children also gain **merits** in class for their own individual achievements. They have each been given a '**dojo** character', which promotes good behaviour; points are awarded, but can also be taken off! This is used in the classroom by the Teacher and T.A's. There is one class dojo winner each week; the winner will receive a class prize. **Head Teacher's** awards are given for exceptional performance in either behaviour or work.

Good to be green - This scheme is for classroom behaviour, where the aim is to praise the positive! All the children start with a '**Green Card**' and their aim is to **keep the Green Card**. If they stay green until the end of the half term, they will receive a certificate. On the other hand, if their behaviour unfortunately changes from good to bad, they firstly have a verbal warning from their class teacher and upon the second time of telling they will be given a red dojo and on the third time their card will change to **orange**. If they have to be told again this will change to a **red** card. This card will then be taken to Mrs Mayes or Mrs Atherton, where the child will be asked to explain what they have done. They will then miss a playtime or 'Golden Time'. Parents will receive a red letter, in this instance, which the child must explain, so please ask. In addition to this, if they are continually going onto orange you will also be informed.



School lunches: - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are entitled to free school meals, provided by the Government. Once your child enters Year 3 meals are no longer free and the charge is £2.53 per meal this will be charged through your ParentPay account. If you think you entitled to free

school meals please see separate letter. Nursery children who stay for the whole day can also have school lunches at a cost of £1.26 for half a portion or £2.53 for a full portion.

Food Allergies: Can we also please remind you not to send your child/ren into school with **nuts or nut products**. Often cereal/snack bars are brought in as tuck and for lunch boxes and many of these products do contain nuts. Please check for all of our children's sake. Thank you.

Our Harvest Festival: Will be taking place on Wednesday 12th October at 9.15am at Christ Church. Parents are welcome to join us there for our Harvest celebration.



Cauliflower Cards: Your children will be designing a Christmas card again this year. Completed designs will be sent home for you to look at and then place an order online. You will be able to get their design on cards/ wrapping paper/ mugs and notebooks. Please read attached letter for more information.



Walk to School Month: October will be 'Walk to School' month. Please take the opportunity to walk to school with your child/ren on a daily basis. It's good for health and wellbeing and it will help save the planet too! We will also be doing Footstep Friday, if you walk, cycle or scoot to school every Friday from a distance further than the Rose and Crown or Biddulph Moor Park, your child will win a badge. The school can even win a new bike rack if we can increase numbers. We will be entered in to the County prize draw.

Jewellery/Earrings: Earrings are **NOT** to be worn in school as stated in the Governors' Policy. If children do forget to take their earrings out before coming to school, they will be asked to take out their own earrings and to put them safely into their book bags until the end of the school day. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Keeping you in the know...

We send you information by various means:

Website: All letters, Learning Enrichments, Newsletters & Dates for your Diary, School Policies and events on the School Calendar can be found on our website which is www.moorfirstschool.co.uk.

We also send home paper letters in your child's book bag if a reply slip is needed to be returned.

Twitter: @MoorFirst is our Twitter link, please follow us we will be celebrating school events and the local community.

E-mail: letters and newsletters are also emailed (please ensure we have your up to date email address; paper copies can be sent home if you do not have the facilities for email - please inform the office.)

Text messages: Urgent information and reminders will be sent via the text messaging service.

Copies of letters and newsletters, Premier Sports, after school club information, school dinner menus and uniform information are also available **outside the school office in the blue pockets**.

SeeSaw & Tapestry: please log in to your account to keep up to date on your child's school learning.



Holidays in term time update from Staffordshire County Council

Attendance at school is extremely important and being regularly absent will affect your child's ability to learn and do well. You will be aware that the Department for Education made important changes to the law for families wanting to request leave of absence in term time. The changes made it clear that Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time **including holidays** unless there are **exceptional circumstances**. The Local Authority and school Governors support this; therefore pupils will only be given permission to take leave in term time if there are **exceptional circumstances**.

As a school, we are obliged to inform you that you may be subject to a Penalty Notice if your child's absence from school is unauthorised. This is in line with Staffordshire County Council's Code of Conduct. If you have any questions with regards to this, please contact your Local Support Team. Contact details can be found online at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/LST.

Attendance: our target attendance is 96.5% over the year which is in line with the other Biddulph schools. In our weekly assemblies an extra 10 minutes play will be awarded to the class with the highest attendance.

Recorders: All year 3 & 4 children need to bring in their own recorder and must bring recorder books into school weekly - we only had 30% bring them in this week.



Dyslexia Course: Last chance to book onto a free dyslexia and multi-sensory learning training. This training will take place over the following four dates: Monday 3rd October; Monday 17th October; Monday 7th November; Monday 14th November. The training is 20 hours and so timings will be 9-3pm (12-1pm lunch) = 5 hours per day of training. At present, this will take place at Moor First School in Biddulph Moor, but it may become virtual if we have high numbers. Please let the office know if you are interested

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Mayes & Mrs V Atherton
Co-Headteachers

Important "Dates For Your Diary"



2022	
September	
Monday 26 th September	Garnet educational trip to Brampton Museum
Monday 26 th September	Amethyst Parent/ Carers Welcome Meeting
Thursday 29 th September	Flu vaccinations for Reception - Year 4
October	Walk to School Month
Wednesday 12 th October	Harvest Festival at Christ Church 9.15am - Parent/ Carers welcome
Wednesday 12 th October	Book Fair in the hall 3.15pm
Wednesday 12 th October	Year 4 Tag Rugby Festival at Woodhouse
Thursday 13 th October	Book Fair in the hall 3.15pm
Friday 14 th October	Book Fair in the hall 3.15pm
Friday 21 st October	Non-uniform day for whole school (£1 donation towards school fund) School closes for Half Term
Monday 31 st October	School opens

Staffordshire County Council

