

Moorlands Schools Federation

Space to Grow for any Tomorrow



13 February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

A Happy End to the Half-Term

As we come to the end of the final week before February half-term, I want to say a huge well done to all our children for their hard work, positive attitudes and enthusiasm for learning. Throughout the half-term, the children have shown our LEARN values in so many ways: leading by example, engaging enthusiastically in lessons, aiming high in their learning, showing respect to others and never giving up.

It has been a busy half-term filled with lots of learning, creativity and smiles, and we are so proud of everything the children have achieved.

I would also like to say a big thank you to all our staff for their continued dedication, care and commitment to our children every day and to you, our parents/carers and wider community, for your ongoing support and partnership with our marvellous school. We really appreciate all you do to help our children thrive.

I would like to wish everyone in our school community a restful, happy and well-deserved half-term break and I look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for more learning and fun on Monday 23 February 2026.

Kind regards,

Louisa Sellars

Executive Headteacher

Feb	
1-28	LGBTQ+ History Month
9-15	Children's Mental Health week
13	Last day of Term 3
23	Term 4 starts—Children back to school
23	Moorlands Girls A vs WASPS Girls A football match
25	Moorlands C team vs Newbridge football match
26	Year 5 Viking workshop
Mar	
1-31	Women's History Month
3 & 5	Home School Partnership Meetings EYFS-Y6
4	Y2 Bristol Zoo Project Trip
5	World Book Day
9	PTA Bedtime Storytime
10-20	Y4 Fox Swimming lessons
22-24	Y4 Otter Swimming lessons
23	PTA Bake off
27	Rocksteady concert
31	Y2 and Y6 Dance Umbrella – The Forum

Absence and Punctuality

Please report absence by phone using the office absence line ONLY: 01225 421912, Option 1. Please DO NOT use Class Dojo to communicate absence.

Please ensure that your child is on time for school. You may drop off between 8:35am and 8:45am.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

DfE guidance states that pupils are identified as persistently absent if they miss 10% or more of their possible sessions. Our persistent absence levels are shown here against the national average:

	INFANTS	JUNIORS	NATIONAL AVERAGE
Attendance Percentage	97.0%	95.8%	94.83%
Absence Percentage Authorised	2.5%	3.8%	3.75%
Absence Percentage Unauthorised	0.5%	0.4%	1.42%
Persistent Absence Percentage	4.8%	7.5%	18.62%

There are **190** days in a school year which leaves **175** days to spend on family time, shopping, appointments and other things.





Reminder to Parents and Carers – The Partnership Trust Survey

On behalf of the Partnership Trust, this is a reminder to please complete the Parent & Carer Survey if you have not already done so. Your feedback is very important in helping us understand what is working well and where improvements are needed across our schools.

The survey is anonymous and will be used to inform future school priorities and planning. Please use the link below to take part.

Thank you for your continued support.

[The Partnership Trust Parent & Carer Survey](#)

Year 1

In Year 1, our focus this term was all about animals. Our key texts were *Saving Mr Hoot* and *Dear Earth*. The children wrote their own *Saving Mr Hoot* stories. We spent time drafting, before moving on to editing and publishing, using our editing and publishing skills to create their very own storybooks. We are sure you will enjoy reading these at home. This term, we turned into expert scientists! The children shared many wonderful animal facts. It was great to hear about their favourite animals and pets from home. We focused on classifying animals into groups such as mammals, fish, birds, amphibians and reptiles. We also listened to Miss Kennard's very own made-up story about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores! To create a real 'WOW' moment for the children, we arranged a visit from a vet, who answered questions about animals and talked about their experiences in their profession. In art, we explored mixing primary colours. The children worked independently and in groups to create different pieces of work that included the skills of blending and mixing colours to create different hues and shades. We thoroughly enjoyed our PE focus this term, gymnastics! The children moved their bodies expressively to represent animals. We learned about different body shapes, such as the straddle, star, pike and tuck. We hope the children were able to show you these shapes at home! Towards the end of the term, the children were able to perform a sequence using these different moves.



Miss Robberts, Miss Kennard and the Year 1 Team

Year 3

Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Shang Dynasty this term. We found it particularly interesting to learn about Lady Fu Hao and what the discovery of her tomb has taught archaeologists about this period in history. This learning inspired some brilliant pieces of writing across the class.

Alongside this, we have been learning about seasonal cooking, tasting a range of seasonal vegetables (some of us enjoyed these more than others!) and deciding which ingredients to use when creating our own seasonal vegetable tarts.

In science, we have been studying plants and particularly enjoyed learning about pollination by bees, producing some impressive scientific diagrams to show our understanding.

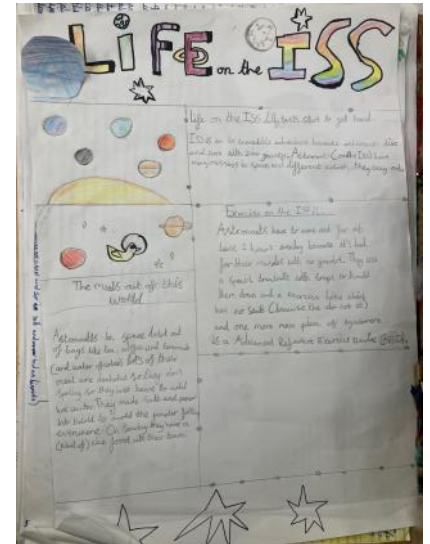


Miss Murphy, Miss Grace and the Year 3 Team

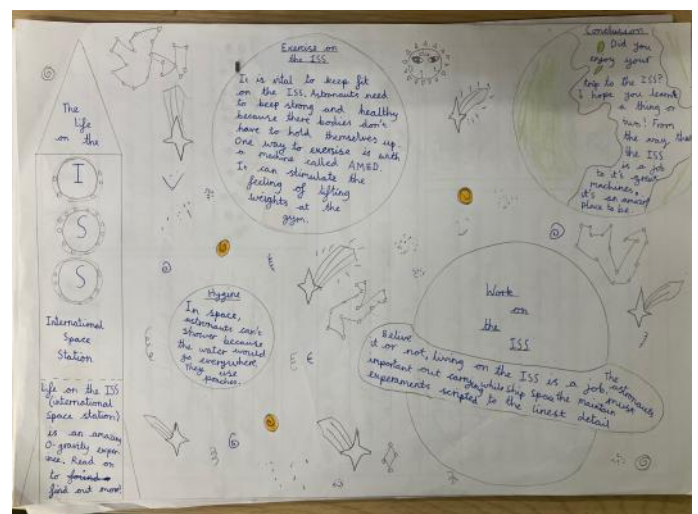
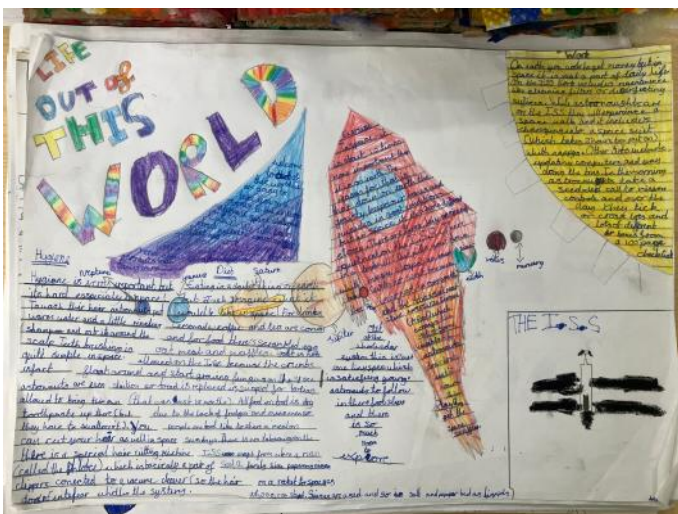
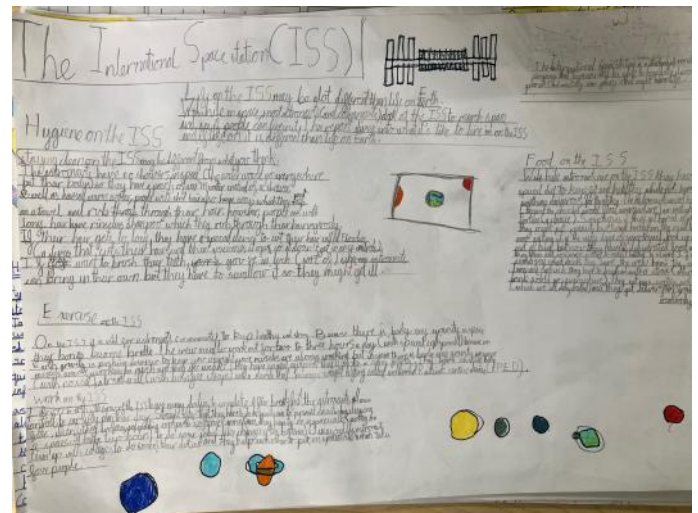
Year 5

Year 5's learning this term has been inspirational as the children have delved into learning about space. The highlight was undoubtedly our school trip to We the Curious, where the children learned about training to be an astronaut and experienced a breath-taking planetarium show.

Lots of the writing learning this term has been focused on Life on the International Space Station. Looking at different aspects of this, including exercise, food, work and hygiene, the children created some really eye-catching reports about the ISS. We're looking forward to showing them off to the whole school when we put them on our corridor display.



The children have continued to learn the ukulele with our visiting teacher, Miss Nelson. Look out next term as we are planning to give families an opportunity to hear the children perform!



Mr Cainen, Miss Harry, Miss Eden and the Year 5 Team

Moorlands Eco Warriors and School Councillors

Eco Warriors and School Council Lead the Way at Moorlands

Our Eco Warriors have been busy working hard to make Moorlands a cleaner and happier place for everyone. Recently, they held assemblies in their classes to talk to children about the importance of not dropping litter around the school site. They had noticed litter appearing across both the Infant and Junior playgrounds and wanted to encourage everyone to take more care of our environment.

To help spread the message, the Eco Warriors have launched an exciting poster competition for all classes. Children are invited to design a poster that encourages people to stop dropping litter. The winning designs will be announced during Celebration Assembly on **Friday 13th February** and will be proudly displayed on the Eco Warrior display boards next term.

Meanwhile, the Junior Eco Warriors are also taking action to reduce plastic waste at breaktimes. Every Friday, they are counting how many snacks are brought in without single-use plastic packaging. The Junior class with the highest number of plastic-free snacks will win an **extra playtime**—a great reward for helping the planet!

Our School Council has also been making a positive impact by leading assemblies to mark **Children's Mental Health Week**. Councillors encouraged thoughtful discussions in class about fostering a sense of belonging at school. Children shared ideas about what helps them feel like they truly 'belong' at Moorlands.

After voting on the best way to celebrate belonging, the children chose to hold a **"Come As Yourself Day"** and to include a **Children's Choice Learning Session** in the final week of term. A big thank you to **Orson** for suggesting such a fantastic idea!

Well done to both the Eco Warriors and the School Council for their leadership and commitment to making Moorlands an even better place to learn and grow.

Moorlands School Councillors and Eco Warriors

Inclusion at Moorlands

LGBT+ History Month – February 2026

Two of the golden threads that run through our Moorlands curriculum are diversity and inclusion, which are woven throughout children's learning across the year. As part of this commitment, we take time to recognise and reflect on a number of national focus months, including Black History Month, Disability History Month and LGBT+ History Month.

We have celebrated LGBT+ History Month at Moorlands for several years and use this time to reinforce an important message: that all children and families in our school community are valued, respected and included. This year, our focus will be on celebrating different kinds of families and promoting love, belonging and acceptance.

Throughout the month, children will take part in age-appropriate discussions and activities, led by their class teachers, which explore what family means, how families can look different, and why kindness and respect are important. These conversations are carefully planned to reflect children's developmental stages and are rooted in themes such as belonging, empathy and inclusion, rather than labels or adult concepts.

The resources used during LGBT+ History Month include a shared storybook, *Love Makes a Family* by Sophie Beer, alongside materials from Diversity Role Models, a DfE recognised UK charity that works with schools to promote respect, challenge stereotypes and prevent bullying. These resources are widely used in primary schools and are designed specifically to be appropriate, supportive and accessible for children.

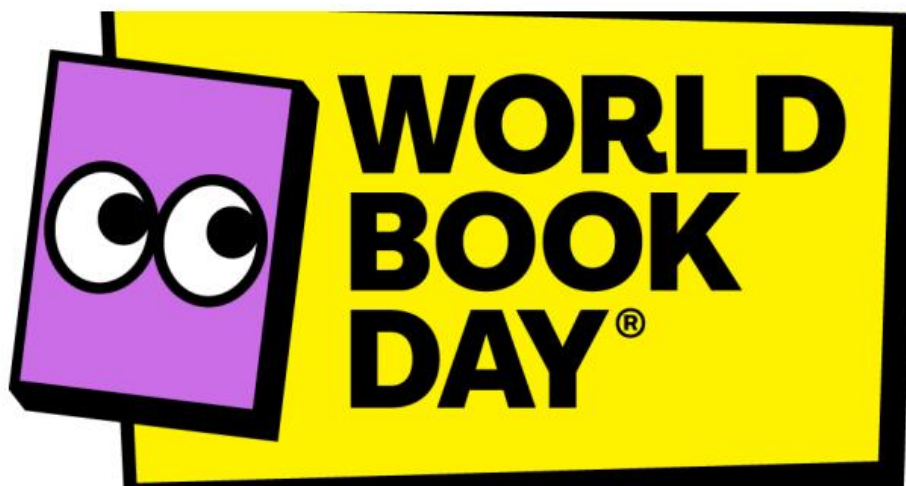
Our intention throughout this month is to ensure that all families within our school community feel visible and that every child knows they belong at Moorlands. By celebrating difference in a thoughtful and respectful way, we aim to help children feel proud of who they are, confident in showing kindness to others and able to live out our shared school values.

As always, our teaching is guided by statutory expectations, British Values and our duty to create a safe, welcoming environment for all children.

Thank you for your continued support in helping Moorlands remain a community where everyone feels welcome.

Caroline Robberts
KS1 Phase Leader and
Reading Subject Leader





Last year's book swap was such a success and brought so much joy to the children, that we would like to launch it again this year. Please send any donations in with your child and these will be stored until the 5th March (WBD). We appreciate your support!

We are encouraging children to take a photo of themselves reading in **EXTREME** ways (Eg: while doing gymnastic, playing football, on a climbing frame etc). We hope that this will get children excited about World Book Day and get them engaging with books in a fun way.

Deadline to submit photos is Friday, 27th February 2026.



Hello from the PTA!

We hope you have all had a good Term 3, despite the weather. This is a fairly quiet period for the PTA, but we do have a bit of news to share:

- The **pond** will soon have its liner installed, along with cobbles. This will then allow the pond to be filled with water. Watch out for calls for volunteer help via WhatsApp groups!
- Despite the dreadful weather, the **Gardening Group** had a great turnout on Sunday 8th February for work on the school allotment. For those who haven't seen it, it is next to the Y1 classrooms. The volunteers shoveled 2 tonnes (!!) of compost on the allotment beds – a heroic effort! This means they will be in great condition for the children to grow lots of tasty fruit and veg during the spring and summer. Thank you to Vivienne Darby, Helen Brown and Jenn Bailey for leading on this, and to all the parents and children who came along to help.
- Finally, we are pleased to say that on **Monday 9th March** we will be holding a **bedtime storytime** event for infants. More details will be circulated in the coming weeks, so for now please just 'save the date'. We expect that we will also hold our **AGM** at the same time, so that parents can learn more about the PTA while their children are being read to: hopefully that will inspire some of you to get involved in our work, if you aren't already!

Wishing you a good, and hopefully dry, half-term...

Kit Brown PTA-Chair

SPORTS DAY UPDATE - CHANGE OF DATE

Due to an unforeseen clash of school events, we have had to change our Sports Day date. Wednesday 17 June is our new Sports Day at Moorlands. Please do add the date to your diaries!



MEDICATION - IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please ensure your child does not bring in any medication to school. We have had several incidences of medication from home being brought in by children. Parents/carers must hand any necessary medication over to the office and sign a medical consent form. Thank you for your support.

ITEMS BEING BROUGHT IN FROM HOME

We have seen a significant increase in things being brought in from home by children such as keyrings, toys, gadgets, money, lip balm and many other items. This has caused significant challenges for staff, families and children. We are unable to guarantee that these items will not be taken, broken or damaged and we have seen an increase in behaviour incidents linked with this.

Teachers have already spoken to their classes about why we do not bring in anything from home, and the importance of this. We would like to reassure families that we will provide everything that children need at school.

Please support your children at home with this message. We would appreciate it if you could check children's bags before the new term and remove any unnecessary items. Many thanks for your support.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!
WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Moorlands School is looking for dedicated individuals to join us in our mission to make a positive impact in our school community.

Contact us today to learn more about this exciting volunteer opportunity.

PLEASE ENQUIRE

<https://forms.office.com/e/Ri4dAqJshs>





Term Dates



2025 – 2026 Academic Year

Term	Start date	End date	INSET
1	Monday 01 September 2025	Friday 24 October 2025	Monday and Tuesday 01 September 2025 02 September 2025 Friday 24 October 2025
2	Monday 03 November 2025	Friday 19 December 2025	
3	Monday 05 January 2026	Friday 13 February 2026	Monday 05 January 2026
4	Monday 23 February 2026	Thursday 02 April 2026	
5	Monday 20 April 2026	Friday 22 May 2026	
6	Monday 01 June 2026	Tuesday 21 July 2026	Monday and Tuesday 20 July 2026 21 July 2026

Bank and Public Holidays 2025/2026

Christmas Day – 25 December 2025

Boxing Day – 26 December 2025

New Year's Day – 01 January 2026

Good Friday – 03 April 2026

Easter Monday – 06 April 2026

May Day – 04 May 2026

Spring Bank Holiday – 25 May 2026

Summer Bank Holiday 31 August 2026



Term Dates 2026 – 2027 Academic Year



Term	Start date	End date	INSET
1	Thursday 03 September 2026	Friday 23 October 2026	Thursday and Friday 03 September 2026 04 September 2026 Friday 23 October 2026
2	Monday 02 November 2026	Friday 18 December 2026	Monday 02 November 2026
3	Monday 04 January 2027	Friday 12 February 2027	
4	Monday 22 February 2027	Thursday 25 March 2027	
5	Monday 12 April 2027	Friday 28 May 2027	
6	Monday 07 June 2027	Friday 23 July 2027	Thursday and Friday 22 July 2027 23 July 2027

Bank and Public Holidays 2026/2027
Christmas Day – 25 December 2026
Boxing Day – 26 December 2026
New Year's Day – 01 January 2027
Good Friday – 26 March 2027
Easter Monday – 29 March 2027
May Day – 03 May 2027
Spring Bank Holiday – 31 May 2027
Summer Bank Holiday 30 August 2027