

# Moorlands Schools Federation

*Space to Grow for any Tomorrow*



**2 April 2026**

Dear Parents/Carers

What a marvellous term it has been here at Moorlands! It's hard to believe we are already four terms into the academic year - time certainly flies when you're having fun.

As always, I would like to thank our pupils, staff and families for their continued hard work, enthusiasm and support.

This term, I had the pleasure, alongside Miss Elley, of judging the PTA Spring Bake Off. Full details can be found later in the newsletter but I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the PTA for organising such a fantastic event and to all of our talented bakers whose wonderful creations made judging incredibly difficult.

With the clocks going forward, lighter evenings ahead and the weather beginning to warm, it feels like spring is truly here and summer won't be far behind. I wish everyone a restful and enjoyable Easter break, whatever your plans may be, and look forward to welcoming you back refreshed for the new term on 20 April 2026.

<b>Apr</b>	
2	Last day of Term 4
20	Term 5 starts– children back to school
21	WASPS vs Moorlands Football match
22	OPJS vs Moorlands Football match
28	St Stephen's A team vs Moorlands A team Football match
29	OPJS Girls B vs Moorlands Girls B Football match
30	Batheaston vs Moorlands Football match
<b>May</b>	
4	Bank Holiday– School closed
5	Newbridge Y4 vs Moorlands Y4 Football match
6	Y5 Rainbow Woods trip
8	Y2 Alexandra Park trip
11-14	Key Stage 2 Tests—Year 6
12	Y1 Westonbirt Arboretum trip
19	SEND Coffee morning
19	Y6 Bristol Museum trip
20	Y4 Roman Baths trip
21	PTA School Picnic
22	End of Term 5– Last day of School
<b>Jun</b>	
1	Term 6 starts-Children back to School
5	Moorlands PTA Campout

Have an egg-cellent Easter and a cracking break!

*Louisa Sellars*

*Executive Headteacher*

## 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	96.8%	96%	94.83%
Absence Percentage Authorised	2.7%	3.5%	5.17%
Absence Percentage Unauthorised	0.5%	0.5%	1.36%
Persistent Absence Percentage	5.6%	5.4%	14.04%

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



# Year 1

That's one small step for Year 1, one giant leap for Year 'onekind'. Can you guess our theme this term? We've been learning about 'Space Travel'. We first started our Year 1 space extravaganza with a space day! We didn't think we could top last term's theme of 'Dear Earth' but quite possibly, 'Space Travel' might be a new favourite!

Year 1 have begun their Art and Design paper-based 3D art forms using techniques such as rolling, folding and scrunching paper. We have explored these techniques through making a tree of life. Our next mission is to create a 3D sculpture of a space shuttle.

We have thoroughly enjoyed reading our high-quality texts linked to space. One in particular made us laugh a lot, 'It's One Giant **Leek** for Mankind' by Olaf Falafel! See if you can find it online to have a read at home.

The children have started this term by learning lots of space travel facts alongside looking at how the past has influenced changes within space travel. During our history lessons, we've revisited our previously learnt terminology 'technological advancements', to discuss how technology has helped improve space travel over time. Did you know that we haven't visited the moon in over 50 years? Additionally, the children have learnt about exploration and the role of an astronaut. I wonder what they can tell you.

The children have begun extending their writing by using question marks and exclamation marks. They have recognised that after a question mark or an exclamation mark they need to use a capital letter. We have also been using adjectives and conjunctions to extend our writing. The children have continued to wow us with their imagination, creating interesting sentences and engaging their audience.

In maths, we have been learning how to subtract using different strategies, like number lines, concrete resources and part-whole models. We have also been learning the value of numbers within 50 and have used our concrete resources to visually represent these.



# Year 1



*Miss Robberts, Miss Kennard and the Year 1 Team*

# Year 3

## A Term That Blew Us Away!

Year 3 have had a brilliant and busy term full of exciting learning across the curriculum. Our science focus on forces and magnets has been a huge success, with children showing great curiosity and enthusiasm. We carried out a range of investigations to explore which materials are magnetic and even designed and created our very own magnetic maze games.

Alongside this, we have continued to develop our oracy skills. The children particularly enjoyed debating whether they would rather have magnetic fingers or magnetic feet. This sparked lots of thoughtful discussion, imaginative ideas and some excellent reasoning.

In Writing, we have been inspired by our class text, *The Iron Man*. The children wrote diary entries from a character's perspective and crafted persuasive letters to the Prime Minister, arguing passionately for the Iron Man to be set free. In Design and Technology, our focus has been on pneumatic mechanisms. The children designed and built their own pneumatic toys, showing fantastic creativity and problem-solving skills. We had some brilliant designs, including Bunny vs Monkey, a peek-a-boo red panda and a Whack-a-Mole!

It has been a wonderful term and we are so proud of Year 3. We can't wait to see what Term 5 brings. Well done, Year 3!



*Miss Murphy, Miss Grace and the Year 3 Team*

## Year 5

Year 5 have had a great Term 4 and really got stuck into learning about the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons. The highlight has surely been our Design and Technology project, in which the children have cut, sewn and decorated their own Viking-inspired soft toy. As well as learning specific sewing techniques such as blanket stitch, the children have worked hard on their resilience and teamwork skills, offering to help each other when it has got tricky!

The children's writing has been another highlight, using the story of Beowulf to create some imaginative and exciting (if a little gruesome!) narratives.

Another area where the children have shone has been PE - during our dance unit, the children have all worked really hard in their groups, incorporating jump-kicks, box-steps, the hand jive and many more moves in routines that have developed and got better every week.

We're really looking forward to sharing with you what we have been working on in our ukulele sessions with Miss Nelson from WEMA - look out for details of our performance early on next term.



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

# Sport at Moorlands



## REGIONAL FINALS POKEMON ESFA SATURDAY 14 MARCH 2026

Congratulations to our girls for their fantastic effort at the Regional competition! They performed brilliantly throughout the tournament. Although they didn't make it out of the group stage, they achieved a great set of results with one win, one draw, and two losses. The girls should be incredibly proud of themselves. They are the first team in Moorlands history not only to compete at Regionals but also the first to win a game at this level. What a fantastic achievement! Well done, girls – you represented the school with pride!

With only three fixtures remaining in the season, **Moorlands Schools Federation currently sit at the top of the league table**, reflecting a campaign marked by consistency, discipline, and strong collective performance. Their position is the result of sustained effort from both players and coaching staff, who have demonstrated commendable focus throughout the year.

The team now approaches a decisive moment. **A victory against Wasps on 21 April would secure the league title**, placing the outcome firmly within their own control. This upcoming fixture represents a significant opportunity for the squad to convert an impressive season into a championship-winning achievement.

As the final matches approach, Moorlands Schools Federation remain well-placed to conclude their campaign on a historic high, provided they maintain the standards that have brought them to the top of the table.

*Mr Druce- PE Administrator*

# Dance Umbrella

## Dance Umbrella – A Celebration of Talent and Teamwork

Our school was delighted to take part in the BANES Dance Umbrella 2026, a wonderful celebration of dance that brings together local schools and young people. This exciting event gave our children the opportunity to showcase their creativity, confidence, and teamwork through movement and performance. Both our Year 2 and Year 6 pupils worked incredibly hard in the weeks leading up to the performance. They showed great enthusiasm, dedication, and perseverance as they practised their routines, supported one another, and developed their skills. It was inspiring to see their confidence grow with every rehearsal. On the day of the performance, our children truly shone on stage. They performed with energy, smiles, and pride, and it was clear how much effort they had put into preparing. The audience thoroughly enjoyed their routines, and our pupils represented the school beautifully. We are extremely proud of each and every one of them. Events like Dance Umbrella provide a fantastic opportunity for children to express themselves creatively, build confidence, and experience the joy of performing as part of a team. It was a memorable experience that will stay with them for a long time. We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who made this possible – the organisers of the event, the dance leaders, staff who supported rehearsals, and families who encouraged the children along the way. Your support helped make this celebration of dance such a success.

Well done to our amazing Year 2 and Year 6 dancers – you were fantastic!



*Moorlands School Federation*

# Music at Moorlands

## Instrumental Lessons

Lessons are available at Moorlands in violin, flute, clarinet, recorder, cornet, guitar, ukulele, piano, drums, singing and more!

There is 50% discount available for children in receipt of Pupil Premium funding. Contact the school office to find out more and to sign up. 01225 421912 | [office@moorlands-school.com](mailto:office@moorlands-school.com)

## Moorlands Orchestra

If you play woodwind, brass or strings, come and play in our orchestra on Tuesday morning (come to class at normal time). No need to sign up.

## Junior Choir Club

Come and sing with Mr Cainen after school on Thursdays until 4:15pm! Sign up here:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/bBBexAdmsU>



# Music at Moorlands

## Rocksteady Concert

We were thrilled to be entertained by the five bands who take part in the Rocksteady programme at school in their latest concert last week. The children, aged from Year 1 up to Year 6, performed a diverse range of songs, showing great confidence and development of musical and teamwork skills.



## Guitar performance assembly

It was also great to enjoy a performance by some children who have recently started learning the guitar with Mr Linton. We had an extra treat when Mr Linton and Mr Calvert (our drum teacher) entertained us with some classic rock jamming!



*Mr Carr-Jones, Music Lead*

# Moorlands PTA Spring Bake Off

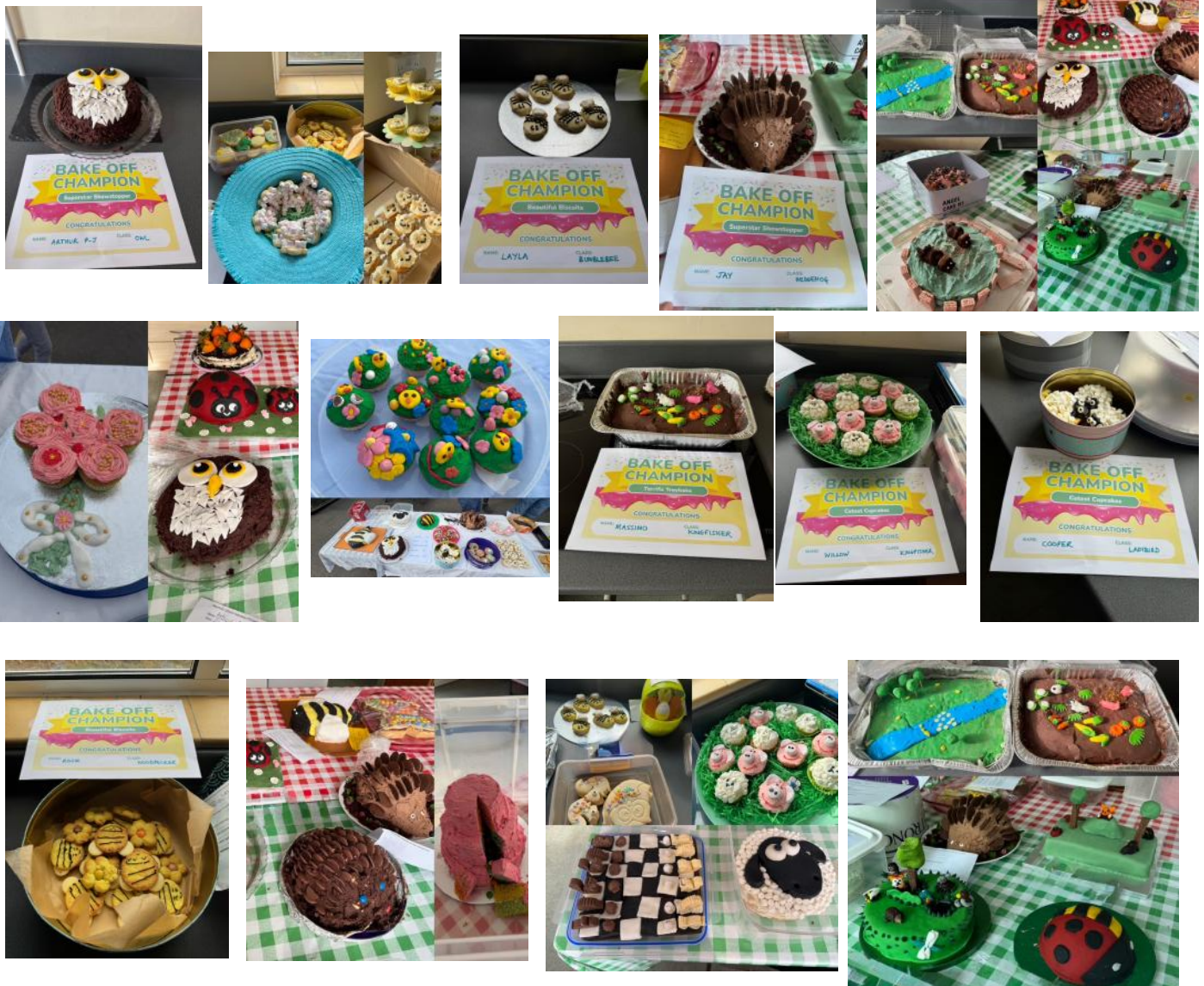
Our recent Spring Bake Off, organised by the PTA, was a wonderful success and a fantastic celebration of baking talent across our school community. The event brought together pupils, families, and staff, all eager to share their delicious creations and enjoy the cheerful springtime atmosphere.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who took part. From colourful cupcakes to beautifully decorated cakes and creative treats, the standard was incredibly high and it was clear how much effort and enthusiasm went into each entry. The judges certainly had a difficult job!

Congratulations to all of our winners across the four categories!

Well done to everyone who participated — whether you baked, helped organise, or came along to support. Events like this wouldn't be possible without the continued support of our wonderful school community.

A special thank you goes to the PTA for organising such an enjoyable event. We are already looking forward to the next one!



# PTA News

Hello from PTA

Thank you to everyone who participated in the **Bake Off** last week, whether helping children to prepare their entries or buying delicious after-school snacks! The event was a big success, not only showcasing baking talent but also raising more than £300 for the PTA! Huge thanks to **Cate Khursandi** for organising, and to all the parents who helped at drop-off and at the bake sale.

In other news, **the pond** continues to take shape, thanks to the amazing efforts of the parent volunteers. These pictures give you a sense of progress, but do take a look for yourselves! Many thanks once again to the pond team.

Finally, **SAVE THE DATE**: Campout will take place on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June. More details next term!

We hope you have a lovely Easter break. See you next term!



*Kit Brown PTA-Chair*

# 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
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

<b>Bank and Public Holidays 2026/2027</b>
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