

Moorlands Schools Federation

Space to Grow for any Tomorrow



8 May 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope everyone enjoyed the Bank Holiday Monday this week and had the opportunity to spend some quality time with family and friends, enjoy the sunshine, and recharge for the busy weeks ahead. It has been lovely to see the children returning to school refreshed, positive and ready for another exciting week of learning.

Next week marks an important milestone for our Year 6 pupils as they begin their SATs assessments. We are incredibly proud of the hard work, determination and resilience they have shown throughout the year, and we know they will approach the week with confidence and positivity. Good luck, Year 6 — believe in yourselves and remember just how much you have achieved already!



CONGRATULATIONS MR CAINEN

We are also delighted to share the wonderful news that **Mr Cainen** has been appointed as our new Deputy Headteacher from September. This is a fantastic achievement and a reflection of his dedication, leadership and commitment to our school community. Congratulations, **Mr Cainen**

— this is a very well-deserved appointment, and an exciting time for everyone involved.

As I prepare to leave Moorlands at the end of Term 6, it is incredibly reassuring and exciting to see the next chapter of the school already taking shape so positively. There is so much to look forward to, and I know Moorlands will continue to thrive with such strong leadership, supported by an excellent staff team and a wonderful school community.

Louisa Sellars

Executive Headteacher

May	
8	Y2 Alexandra Park trip
11-14	Key Stage 2 Tests—Year 6
12	Y1 Westonbirt Arboretum trip
15	Y3 Parade Gardens River trip
19	Y6 Bristol Museum trip
20	Y4 Roman Baths trip
21	PTA School Picnic
22	School photographer— Class photos and Y6 individuals only
22	End of Term 5— Last day of School
Jun	
1	Term 6 starts—Children back to School
3	Moorlands league vs OPJS league Football match
5	Moorlands PTA Campout
8	Moorlands Y6 vs Widcombe Y6 Football match
17	Sports Day
18	Moorlands Y5 vs Widcombe Y5 Football match



Moorlands School is proud to belong to The Partnership Trust.
<https://thepartnershiptrust.co.uk/>

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	96.9%	95.9%	94.84%
Absence Percentage Authorised	2.7%	3.5%	3.78%
Absence Percentage Unauthorised	0.4%	0.6%	1.38%
Persistent Absence Percentage	5.6%	5.4%	13.78%

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



EYFS

We have had a very exciting start to the term, made even more memorable by some amazing visitors. One of the true highlights was a special visit from the Royal Naval Air Squadron, who brought along their remarkable Wildcat Helicopter. The children were absolutely thrilled by the experience—they had the chance to see the helicopter up close, climb aboard, and even watch it land and take off. It was an unforgettable moment that sparked great excitement and curiosity, leaving the children buzzing with enthusiasm long after the visit ended.

This term in reception our theme is 'Ready, Steady, Grow!' and we have been learning about our local area and growing. We have had some very special visitors in our classroom - tadpoles. We have been fascinated to see the frogspawn turn into tadpoles and froglets. We have been learning about the life cycles of a frog and have enjoyed watching them grow and have been trying to draw pictures of them.

We have been learning the story of The Extraordinary Gardener and how he wanted to make his environment colourful. He started to grow lots of plants and flowers to share with his community, so everyone could enjoy them. We used this story to draw a picture of an apple tree and used our 'Fred fingers' and 'special friends' to help us write the sentence 'The seed started to grow'.

In Maths, we have been learning about addition, subtraction and sharing using objects. We have also been learning to write number sentences using $+$, $-$ and $=$ and using whole models to help us with our number bonds to 5 And 10.

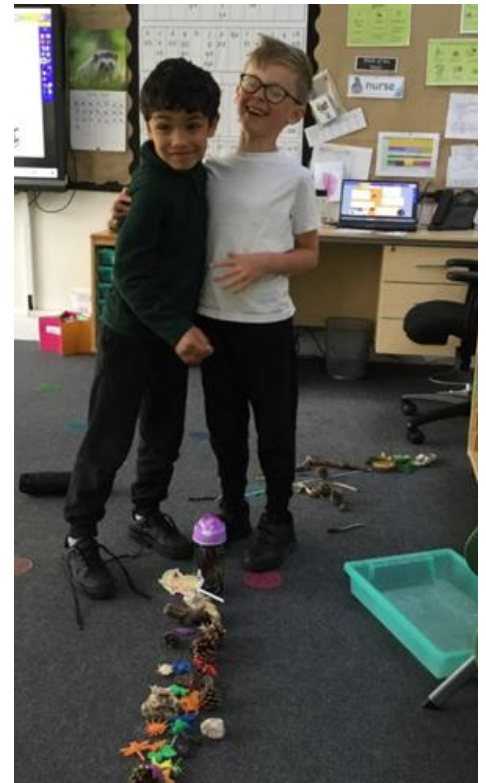


Mrs Flynn, Miss Yoxon and the Year EYFS Team

Year 2

Year 2 have been busy gearing up for their next big learning journey as we launch our new topic 'explorers'. We launched with our WOW morning where Year 2 planned out their own expeditions, created treacherous trails for their mini explorers to tackle and filled their backpacks with all the essentials a good explorer needs. Thinking about the resilience and curiosity of our explorers, Year 2 have been getting ready, through our Geography learning, for an expedition of their very own. As we write, preparations are underway with the help of Hedgehogs and Squirrels for our Alexandra Park trip. Practising their navigation and map reading skills, Year 2 have been looking at our local area and discussing reviews of our destination to determine our best routes and plan for the day like true explorers. We're curious to see how they will review our trip themselves in the coming weeks.

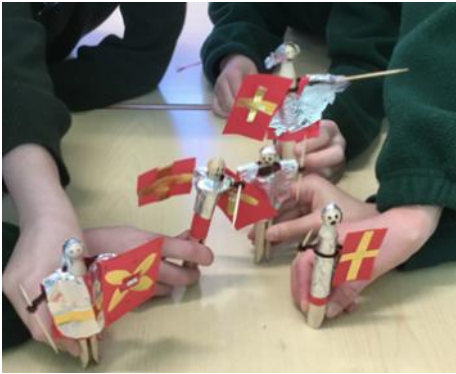
Another exciting development as we head into spring, our planted bulbs have started to sprout! Thank you to the volunteers who kindly shared their time to help with planting; Year 2 have taken the responsibility in stride making sure that our plants get plenty of water and sun so that they can thrive. Thinking about what plants need to be successful, plant pots continue to fill our classrooms as we begin our new Science experiment growing cress. It's been very exciting watching the speedy growth of our 'Big Sow' project over the first few weeks. We're all patiently waiting to see if they'll ever be tall enough to reach the ceiling (as some children predicted!).



*Mrs Cook, Miss Brown, Mrs Waterhouse
and the Year 2 Team*

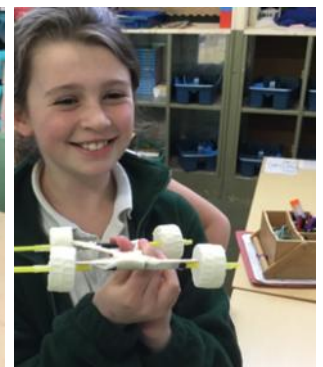
Year 4

We are so excited to be learning about the Ancient Romans. We kicked off the term with a WOW day all about the Romans. After a brief introduction, we learnt about the world-famous, almost unstoppable fighting force which was the Roman army; we took part in a quiz to see if we were Roman soldier ready! We practised some of the famous Roman fighting formations using whiteboards and rulers as shields and swords. We could be heard marching down the corridors, chanting, "Dex - Sin." We also made our own miniature Roman soldier and created laurel leaf crowns to commemorate the emperors of the age.



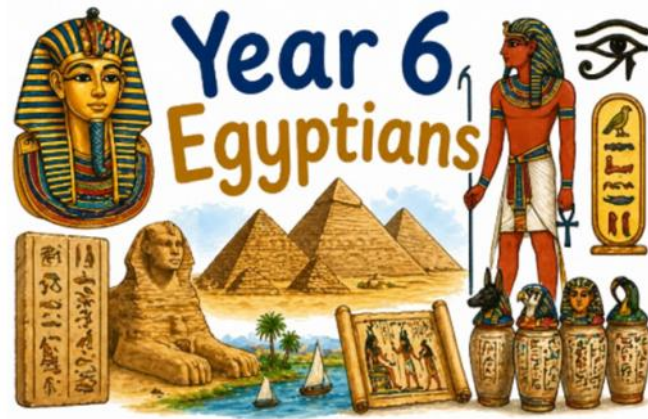
We are really looking forward to our trip to the Roman Baths in a couple of weeks' time to see first-hand how the Romans shaped our city.

In D.T., we are learning mechanical systems, specifically mechanical cars. So far, we have learnt about the history of the automobile and made a very simple prototype of a car chassis. We will develop the prototypes over the remainder of the term to design and make a car capable of travelling for a greater distance.



Miss Mandziuk, Mr Carr-Jones and the Year 4 Team

Year 6



Bathed in warm sunshine, we took our maths lesson outdoors, turning the world around us into a living classroom. Armed with metre sticks, trundle wheels and plenty of enthusiasm, we explored perimeter and area in a hands-on way: measuring spaces, comparing shapes, and seeing maths come alive right before our eyes. Being outside made everything more exciting, helping everyone engage deeply while building confidence in applying their skills to real-world situations. Our immersion lessons into our ancient Egypt topic were just as thrilling! We crafted our own shabti dolls, just like those placed in tombs to serve in the afterlife and carefully drew detailed portraits of King Tutankhamun. Creativity and curiosity flowed as we then moved into design and construction, making nets and transforming them into 3D pyramids.



Miss Bone, Mrs Ponsford and the Year 6 Team

Reminder - CHANGE OF SPORTS DAY DATE



As we reported in the Fed Times in February, due to an unforeseen clash of school events, we have had to change our Sports Day date. Wednesday 17 June will be our Sports Day at Moorlands.

More information will be coming soon; in the meantime, please do add the date to your diaries.

Look out for more sports updates in the next Fed Times (the last of this term), when we will update you with some of the sporting successes Moorlands has enjoyed this term.

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

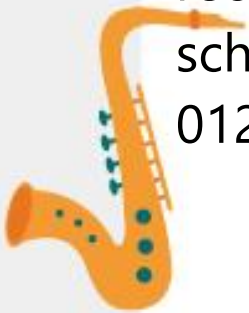
Moorlands Orchestra

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>



Celebrating Heroes at Moorlands

Last term, our EYFS children had an unforgettable experience as they celebrated "Heroes" at school. The term was filled with excitement, learning, and special visitors who helped bring the idea of real-life heroes to life.

We were delighted to welcome a range of professionals who play vital roles in keeping our communities safe and healthy. The children had the opportunity to meet doctors, nurses, firefighters, ambulance crew members, and even members of the Royal Navy. Each visitor shared their experiences, showed their equipment, and explained how they help people every day. The children were fascinated and asked many thoughtful questions, showing great curiosity and enthusiasm.

The highlight of the term was undoubtedly the incredible visit from the Royal Navy Wildcat helicopter, which landed right on the school premises. This was a truly spectacular moment that the children (and staff!) will never forget. Seeing the helicopter up close was an exciting and rare experience, sparking awe and wonder across the entire school.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to all the professionals who took the time to visit us and share their important work. Your kindness and dedication made this week so special and inspiring for our children.

Heroes term was a fantastic success, leaving our young learners with lasting memories and a deeper appreciation for the people who help us every day.



PTA News

Hello from the PTA!

We have 3 events coming up before the end of the school year – please save the dates:

Thursday 21 May – the **PTA picnic**. This will be an opportunity to spend time at school with other families at the end of the day. You are invited to bring your own picnic things, although the Y6 leavers team will be doing some fundraising for their end of the year party by selling sweet treats! The school choir will be performing songs they have been learning at school and we will be treated to performances by the children. More info soon.

Friday 5 June – the legendary **campout**. Info has already been circulated about this; see also the flyers at the school gates. Tickets will go on sale soon.

Sunday 12 July (am) – **sponsored cycle ride** at the Odd Down cycle track. Children are invited to raise money for the PTA by cycling round the track at Odd Down, which we have reserved for our exclusive use. More details will be circulated in due course!

Meanwhile, as you will see from the picture, the pond is nearly finished! The team have made amazing progress. Once again, we are very grateful to them for all the time they have committed to this project.

We always appreciate your involvement and feedback, so do get in touch with us at any time – our email address is moorlandsschoolpta@gmail.com.



Kit Brown PTA-Chair

Moorlands PTA Campout



**THE MOORLANDS CAMP OUT IS BACK
AND WE WANT YOU TO COME ALONG AND CELEBRATE!**

On Friday 5th June, from 4pm, you're invited to bring your tent and camp in our wonderful school grounds.

IF CAMPING ISN'T YOUR THING, YOU CAN JOIN IN THE EVENING FUN THEN GO HOME TO BED!



**GREAT FOOD · OPEN MIC' EVENT · TUCK SHOP · LICENSED BAR · REAL ALE
PIMMS · LIVE MUSIC AND DJ · RAFFLE WITH FANTASTIC PRIZES**

**WIN A
GLAMPING
PACKAGE**

Grab your chance to win a glamping package for the whole family by entering our 2026 Glamping Raffle! Tickets can be bought at the same time as you buy your Campout tickets on the PTA events page.

This year, not only will you arrive to a luxurious, fully kitted out bell tent, but the prize also includes food for your whole family and one free drink each.

The winning family (up to 2 adults and 3 children) will be announced on 29th May 2026.

**TICKETS MUST BE BOUGHT IN ADVANCE AND
ALWAYS SELL OUT QUICKLY - SO DON'T DELAY!**

HOW TO BUY TICKETS

Adult tickets are £4 and child tickets are £1. If you want to camp, you will also need to buy a tent ticket for £12 which gets you a pitch, hot drinks and breakfast on Saturday morning. Tickets can be purchased from Friday 8th May 2026 from the Moorlands School Federation PTA Events Platform.

www.pta-events.co.uk/msf



SCAN TO BUY TICKETS

DON'T FORGET: VOLUNTEERS WILL BE GIVEN EARLY ACCESS TO BUY TICKETS.



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

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