

Weekly Bulletin



Curated by J Day

5th May 2023

From the Head Teacher

Last week, students had their first input into building our school development plan. During tutor sessions, students participated in an analysis of how we are performing. They completed an analysis of what they felt were strengths and areas for the school to develop. The work they completed then fed into our very first student conference, in which students set out what they felt should be our school priorities for 2023 - 2024.

The input from students was outstanding. This has set the platform for years to come and we are already planning a much larger event for next year. Targets set in the conference have now been included in the school development plan for next year. This has given our students an active voice in the strategic direction of the school, something we should celebrate.

This forms part of a wider consultation on how we are moving forward as a community. As part of our REACH values, we choose to actively engage and listen through our parent surveys, parent forums, staff, and student surveys, and now our student conference. I would like to thank all students that offered a voice last week and acknowledge the mature way they have approached this process. They have given valuable and insightful feedback.

Special Mentions

Garden

The Dylan Day Memorial Garden is looking fantastic in the recent sunny weather. We are in the process of getting some fitting signage for the garden, with a tribute to Dylan so that our community can continue to remember such a cherished student.

Gardening Club has started this week with Mrs Buckley, Ms Day, and Mr Alcock, and will continue to run every Thursday lunchtime to ensure that the garden is brimming with produce and looking its best (and checking that the fish and their babies are fed!).



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School News

Book Corner



Mason R is reading 'The Hunger Games: Catching Fire' by Suzanne Collins. He thinks the story is good because there is lots of action as the country is at war with its

government, which Mason finds interesting. He is enjoying the details and the developing story. He is reading the second book, which is part of a trilogy. He would recommend the book to his friends, as he thinks they would enjoy the action too.



House Leader Board

RANK	HOUSE	POINTS
1	Doulton	1255
2	Bridgewater	924
3	Wedgwood	871
4	Churchill	859
5	Moorcroft	714

Since we launched our House system, our students have been awarded a total of 4,130 points. Students are fully engaged with the school's house system and are constantly achieving.

Gardening Club

The first Gardening Club meeting yesterday was great! Students had lunch in the garden and were then given a tour.

Afterwards, they set some seeds which will eventually be planted out. The club finished with caring for the koi carp. Next week, students will prepare and sow a wildflower bed.



Coming up soon is the Leek and District School Allotment show. We will be entering some classes and hope win our first prizes with our school-grown produce.

Devices

The ordering portal for our one-to-one device scheme is now open for students in Years 8 – 10 (from Sept 2023). They will be able to bring the device into school to supplement their learning, however, **there is no requirement to take up this offer.**

Payment options of up to 36 months are available to cover the cost of an Acer B3 Spin 11.6" 2-in-1 device (a laptop and a tablet in one).

Information, FAQs, and ordering link are on the school website. You will receive an email from the school with the log in details for the portal if you wish to order. Orders must be placed by 10th June. If you have any additional questions, please contact devices@moorside.staffs.sch.uk

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Engage

Student Voice

A whole school student voice activity took place last Friday with Mrs Plant and Mr Robinson; valuable opportunity for students to engage in the process of school development. During form time last week students analysed the strengths, weaknesses, and future opportunities of the school. They were encouraged to think critically and share perspectives on what makes the school great, and areas that could be improved. Form representatives selected the top 5 strengths and weaknesses to discuss at the student forum. They used the weaknesses to think about future opportunities of the school, which is then used to directly inform the school development plan.



Lots of changes have already been made to improve student experience on the back of February's student voice. This includes more staff on duty at break and lunchtime; staff allocated outside the toilets to ensure they are a safe space for all to use; more clubs at lunchtime (including board games club, reading club, cooking club and new this week - gardening club!) For all updates, please check out the 'You Said, We Did' board near to DT1.

Liverpool Trip

Year 9 Art and Music GCSE students went to Liverpool last week. They visited The British Musical Experience; this museum houses iconic collections of music and fashion from post-war Britain. The music students completed a workshop looking at Euro Pop ahead of the Eurovision Song competition which is to be hosted in Liverpool this year, whilst the artists looked at fashions and trends associated with different musical styles.

In the afternoon, the artists enjoyed a whistle stop introduction to some of the works of art housed in The Tate and then had some free time to explore the galleries themselves. The musicians headed over to The Beatles Story – a museum dedicated to exploring the pop icons' rise to fame. Students represented the school impeccably and all enjoyed a fabulous day extending learning beyond the classroom.



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Achieve

The Big Help Out

Year 8 are taking part in The Big Help Out (part of the Coronation celebrations) by carrying out their own charity work here in school and would love as much support as possible. Here is what has been going on and is still to come:

- 8A's charity cake sale was held today, at breaktime in reception in aid of Cancer Research.
- 8B are hosting a charity bike ride, and you can use [this link to JustGiving](#) to donate in aid of Douglas Macmillan.
- 8C hosted a film showing today during lunchtime and afternoon reading. Tickets were £3, which got students entry to the film, popcorn, sweets, and a fizzy drink. This is to raise money for the Children's Ward at The Royal Stoke.
- 8D are asking for donations to guess the number of sweets in a jar. It is 30p per guess, or £1 for four guesses. Correct (or nearest) answer wins the jar of sweets! This is in aid of Shelter
- 8E and 8F are asking you to guess the name of the teddy, for 50p to support Mind. Correct guess wins the teddy.

Bunting Competition

Doulton submitted the most bunting, followed in second place by Moorcroft, and Bridgewater in third place.

In first place for individual design is Gabriella Z, in second place is Faith E and in third place is- Olivia Amy L. These students have been presented with a prize from Mrs Stones, along with house points.

Well done to all the students who took part in the competition, the bunting has now been displayed in the dining hall and we think it looks fantastic!

