29th November 2022

From the Head Teacher

We held our second parent forum last week, thank you to those that were able to attend. This is a key part of the consultation process in driving improvement through the school. The session focused on what we want our students to achieve from their time at school, what the curriculum needs to look like to support that and what is needed from staff to support delivery. I will be sharing outcomes and actions that came from the meeting in a future bulletin.

We also consulted on the proposed changes to the school day. Thank you to everyone that responded, it really helped galvanise our thinking. Clarification on the structure of the school day from January is at the bottom of the newsletter.

On a final note, I would like to wish all of Year 11 the very best of luck in their mock exams which are now taking place. All students are asked to attend our 'Breakfast with a Boost' where we will be running a warm-up session for the morning exam.

Special Mentions

McKenzie's Motocross Result



McKenzie M (#555) competed in the MX Nationals Motocross Series. There were six weekend rounds up and down the country, and he was racing against the best in the country. At 14 years old, McKenzie was the youngest competitor in his Youth 250f class (14-18yrs).

Having not long recovered from a broken leg from the previous season, and being new to the 250cc machine, his fitness and strength was always going to be a challenge this season. McKenzie

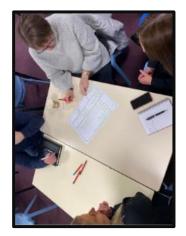
trains hard every week and dug deep on race days. He got stronger in each round, gaining many podium positions and finishing with his first race win in his class on the last round! He finished the National Championship in 4th position overall, which is an excellent result.



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School News

Parent Forum



Our Parent Forum continues to grow. Parents act as critical friends to challenge our thinking on the curriculum that we deliver and our expectations.

It was a productive and thought-provoking session. We meet as a group each half term from 5:00 -6:00pm. If you would like to join the forum, please email office@moorside.staffs.sch.uk with the subject title Parent Forum.



Book Corner



Morgan J in Year 11 has started reading the first instalment of JRR Tolkien's "The Lord of The Rings" trilogy. Morgan is enjoying the book but finds it

quite difficult to follow at times because it is exceptionally long and complex. He is making it

a habit of reading before he goes to bed and enjoys that it has been turned into a film. He would recommend this to people who enjoy the fantasy genre and people who like complex and in-depth story telling.



Prom Fundraising

Year 11 will be selling raffle tickets in the canteen at break and lunch for the next two weeks for a chance to win a sweet hamper. This is to raise money for their prom. It costs £1 per strip of tickets.



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Engage

Cybersecurity Event

Computer Science students from Moorside and across the Potteries Educational Trust took part in a webinar hosted by Jake Moore, a cyber security specialist from one of the world's leading online security companies – ESET. Students were taught how weaknesses in security systems, and people's bad habits, are making it increasingly easy for accounts to be hacked.

With cyber-criminals increasingly taking control over accounts around the world, Jake detailed how the hackers exploit social engineering

techniques to gain access and control of accounts; it certainly left students with an increased awareness of the most common scams, and most importantly, how to spot and avoid them. Jake concluded the webinar with a Q&A session, with several questions being asked by Moorside students. Staff and students left the session with a greater appreciation of how we should secure our accounts, as well as students thinking about pursuing a career in cybersecurity... apparently it is very well paid!

Space Centre Trip

5,4,3,2,1...Year 8 blasted off to The National Space Centre in Leicester last Wednesday to explore the universe we all share!



From moon rocks to the smells of space; explosive rocket science to eclipses; and finishing with astronaut training in the Sir Patrick Moore Planetarium. The Year 8s were a credit to the school! An out-of-this-world experience was had by all!



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Sports

World Cup 5-a-Side

Moorside's World Cup themed 5-a-side tournament kicked off last week and is now in full swing. Students organised themselves into teams and paid £2 to enter the competition. They then had to find themselves a member of staff to act as their manager.



All proceeds will be going to charity. Fixtures have been taking place at lunchtime over the last week, and it has been fantastic to see so many students get involved through playing or supporting. Below are the teams and their captains. Thanks to everyone who has got involved and to all staff who have volunteered as managers. Check back next week to find out which teams were victorious!



Year 7 and 8 Teams

Harry D	England	
Kaelem M	Portugal	
Harry J	France	
Evie J	Spain	
Anna H	Argentina	
Ashton M	Mexico	
Nelson Z	Netherlands	
Oliver N	Japan	
Owen W	Brazil	
Ollie M	Qatar	

Year 9, 10 and 11 Teams

Riley B	Senegal	
Dylan M	Wales	
Logan B	Germany	
Ben S	USA	
Finlay G	Switzerland	
Alex K	Cameroon	
Leo J	Iran	

Achieve

Curated by J Day

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Head Teacher Awards

Congratulations to the following students who were nominated for a Head Teacher Award last week. Keep up the excellent work upholding our REACH values.

Olivia K	Finley S	Noah C
Tom H	Will H	Lakisha Y
Owen M	Lakeisha C	Brooke B
Maisy J	Bea T	Brandon B
Joe H	George M	Freya W

Changes to the School Day

In addition to the changes to the school day demonstrated in the table below, **Period 6** will be taking place from January. All Year 11 students will be expected to attend each session. These will focus on the gaps identified in the mocks to ensure students have the best possible chance of success in their final exams.

8:45 - 9:10	Registration (Assemblies, Tutor Time)
9:10 – 10:10	Period 1
10:10 – 11:10	Period 2
11:10 - 11:25	Break
11:25 – 12:25	Period 3
12:25 - 13:15	Lunch
13:15 - 13:35	Reading
13:35 – 14:30	Period 4
14:30 – 15:25	Period 5