Moorside High School

This half-terms REACH value is: Engage

28 March 2025

Message from the Head of School

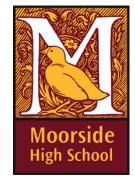
What a fantastic week it has been at Moorside!

First, a huge well done to our pupils and families for helping us achieve an impressive 95% attendance—a great reflection of our commitment to learning.

A special celebration was held this week for pupils who made the most progress in their attendance—our 'Come Dine with Attendance' event. They enjoyed a delicious treat of pizza, homemade scones, and brownies, recognizing their dedication and improvement. Well done to all!

This week, we also welcomed the SSAT for a visit on Tuesday. They observed lessons, spoke with staff and pupils, and explored how we adapt teaching to meet the needs of all learners, ensuring every child is challenged to progress further. Our innovative use of devices in lessons was also highlighted, and we've been invited to share our good practice with other schools—a fantastic recognition of our staff's hard work and commitment.

Thank you to everyone—staff, pupils, and parents—for making our school such a thriving and supportive place to learn. Have a wonderful weekend!



Follow us



Follow us on Facebook for updates and news for everyone!



Download the Arbor app to keep up to date with Attendance, House Points etc

Engage

Always engage and be postive.



The impact of school absence on lifetime earnings

A new study from the Department for Education highlights the significant impact of school attendance on children's future earnings and job prospects. It found that every missed day in secondary school could reduce a child's lifetime earnings by around £750.

Regular attendance is key to ensuring children develop the skills and qualifications they need for future success. The research shows that frequent absences can lead to lower earnings, a

greater chance of unemployment, and an increased likelihood of needing financial support later in life.

As parents, encouraging good attendance habits now can make a real difference to your child's future opportunities. Every school day matters!

House System

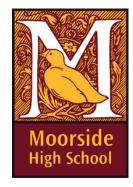
Our students have now earned an impressive 630,000+ house points! These points are awarded for demonstrating our school values and meeting expectations. Students can earn them throughout the day, including during morning and afternoon form time, as well as in every lesson.

Well done to everyone—let's keep striving for more!

Achieve

Aspire to be the best and be prepared to take risks along the way





Congratulations to our 'Remarkable Readers' Raffle winners

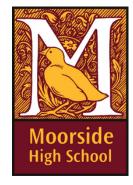
Rewards are central to the promotion of excellent work and behaviour at Moorside High School and contribute to the creation of a positive learning environment by motivating students and recognising success and achievement.

It is particularly important that you feel that there are real rewards for attendance, behaviour and academic progress which exceed expectations. Engagement points are issued by teachers for genuine achievement, and they are applied consistently and fairly in lessons to provide a true reflection of a pupil's individual Attitude to Learning.

Our reward system is linked with our school Vision and Values. Each reward achieved by a student is connected to the REACH values. (Respect, Enthusiasm, Achievement, Community and Hard work.)

Congratulations to Leyla, Willow, Halleday, Jack and Harrison!





Come Dine With Attendance!



We are thrilled to announce the launch of our very first 'Come Dine With Attendance' event, celebrating the students who have made outstanding improvements in their attendance, behaviour, and overall commitment to

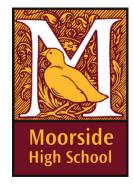
school life. This special occasion is our way of recognising and rewarding their hard work and dedication.

On Wednesday 26 March, selected students were being treated to an afternoon tea experience, filled with delicious treats, warm conversations, and a well-deserved moment of recognition.

Attendance and positive behaviour are key to success, and we want to continue encouraging our students to strive for excellence. By celebrating their progress in such a delightful way, we hope to inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

A huge congratulations to all the students who have earned their place at our first-ever 'Come Dine With Attendance' afternoon tea! We look forward to many more celebrations in the future.





Future Fair

Last week a number of our Year 10 students attended a Futures Fair (Careers Convention) arranged in by the PET in partnership with Alpha Academies at Fenton Manor Sports Centre. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to connect a range of employers, universities, and apprenticeship providers spanning a broad spectrum of sectors and industries. This is part of our commitment as a school and as trust to give students gain exposure to a rich tapestry of career possibilities and offer students chances to engage directly with professionals from various fields, providing insights, advice, and potential pathways for their future careers.

The students were really positive about the event and came away with lots of useful resources as well as some promotional goodies from the exhibitors!

For more information see the Alpha Academies Trust website: https://alphaacademiestrust.co.uk/alpha-pet-futures-fair/

Year 11 Photos

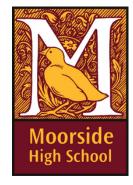
The Year 11 photos will be taken on **Tuesday, 8th April.**

Please ensure your child arrives in full school uniform, looking smart and presentable for the occasion. These photos are an important keepsake of their final year, so we appreciate your support in making sure they are well-prepared.

Spring has Sprung!



Well done to Molly in Year 10 for her lovely artwork



Spectacular Dancer!





Phoebe E is a spectacular dancer, and she has earned a place in the BBO finals this April. While she may be quiet in everyday life, she truly shines on stage, captivating audiences with her incredible talent and grace - well done!

GCSE Geography - Fieldtrip to Cotton Dell

We had two fantastic days with Year 10s at Cotton Dell in Oakamoor.

The weather was on our side, and the students had a great time collecting data for their Geography fieldwork. The Staffordshire Wildlife Trust had high praise for the students, commenting on their excellent manners and behavior over the past two days.

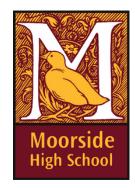
Mrs Raby is one proud teacher—well done, Year 10s!"

A Guide to Degree Apprenticeships

Please see link below to access a guide to degree apprenticeships.

The guide is aimed at 6th Form students so some sections will focus on this summer BUT many sections explain what a degree apprenticeship is and how they can be a good alternative to a full-time university course.

https://read.degreeapprenticeships.guide/view/548515636/



Help Us to Shape the Future of Our Parent Forum

We're currently reviewing how our Parent Forum operates to ensure it has the greatest impact on our school community.

The Parent Forum plays a vital role in fostering collaboration between parents, carers, and the school, and we want to make sure it meets the needs of everyone involved.

We'd love to hear your views on how the Parent Forum can best support our students, families, and school. Whether it's priorities, activities, or new ideas, your feedback is essential to shaping this group moving forward. Please take a few moments to complete our survey, using this link Parent Forum Consultation

Your input will help us create a Parent Forum that makes a positive difference in our school community.

The Survey will close on Friday 4th April.

Please copy and paste the link below to your web browser:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx? id=cNnvLYNqtU-6FgImLcdsIYR6reoSf9dPrUg3KxII6wFURDJXWFpQRjZWSFVaOFJ VWEFCUlFaOThWNy4u&route=shorturl



Mobile Phones

Mobile phones should be turned off and in school bogs, unless a member of staff allows them to use them. This is the policy and must be adhered too. If this policy is not followed the phone will be confiscated and handed into a safe place (student reception).

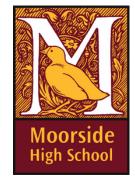
In the first instance students will be able to collect the phone at the end of the day from student reception.

If the phone is confiscated three times students will be placed on a phone ban with support from parents.

Finally, if the student continues to not follow the policy parents' will be asked to come and collect the phone everyday at the end of the day.

Thanks for your support with this.

Mr Goodwin



Electrical Apprenticeship Open Evenings

Rebus Training have announced details of their next few open evenings. The open evenings are an opportunity to look around their training centre, meet their apprenticeships team and find out more about how they could help you find an employer/apprenticeship.





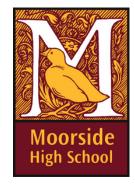












Army Open Day



COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

WHEN Saturday 5th April 11am - 3nm

11am - 3pm

FEATURING •

Army Careers Centre
Liverpool road, Newcastle under lyme,
ST5 9ED

Airsoft • Military weapons •
Military vehicles • Helicopter simulator •
Emergency service vehicles • refreshments

ALL AGES EVENT

FREE ENTRY

Your local Army careers office will be completing the Race across the world challenge to support the Army benevolent fund

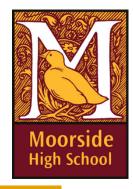
The Army would like to invite you to support them on their charity fundraiser on 5th April 2025.

The Recruiters and Careers advisors at the Army Careers office are going to attempt to cycle 5000km in order to raise funds for the Army Benevolent Fund.

On the same day, you will be able to join them for a British Army/Community Open day where you will get a chance to:

- *Meet Your Recruiter
- *Try their Airsoft Firing Range
- *Try Flying an Apache Helicopter on their Helicopter Simulator
- *See Some Modern Military Vehicles
- *Meet your local police and Fire Service
- *Offer your support to their team attempting this great act for Charity
- *Plus Much much more!!

Gates Open at 11am.....They hope to see you then!



...



HOUSE SYSTEM

THIS WEEKS HOUSE
LEAGUE TABLE

1st

132198



2nd

130092



3rd

127248



4th

123701



5th

121645

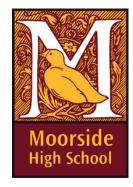










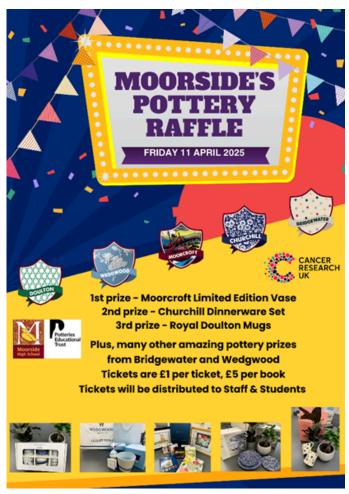


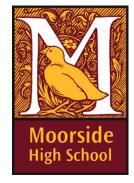
Moorside's Pottery Raffle - 7 school days left to sell!

As we approach the final days of the Moorside Pottery Raffle, we kindly ask parents and guardians to support their child in returning raffle ticket counterfoils and money to Miss Roberts. All tickets must be returned by **9th April** to ensure the draw can take place on **Friday, 11th April**.

Raffle booklets have been distributed to staff and students, and it is essential that these are returned on time.

We are eagerly looking forward to announcing the final total raised for Cancer Research UK—thank you for your support! Thank you!

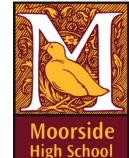




Period 6 Spring Term 2

No Week 4 - Parents Evening (Year 9)

Date	English - (Tuesday)	Maths - (Tuesday)	Science - (Thursday)
WB 24th February (Week B)	11K4 (EM – Hut 4) 11L5 (DAE – Hut 5)	11H1 (CM - Rm 6) 11I2 (BS - Rm 12) 11J3 (PY - Rm 17)	11H1 (MK) 11I2 (MJ) 11J3 (LYT) 11K4 (LBU) 11L5 (RM)
WB 3rd March (Week A)	11H1 (EM – Hut 4) 11I2 (MP – Hut 3) 11J3 (DAE – Hut 5)	11K4 (CM – Rm 6) 11L5 (PY – Rm 17)	11H1 (RM) Biology 11I2 (LYT) 11J3 (MK) 11K4 (MJ) 11L5 (LBU)
WB 10th March (Week B)	11K4 (EM – Hut 4) 11L5 (DAE – Hut 5)	11H1 (CM - Rm 6) 11I2 (BS - Rm 12) 11J3 (PY - Rm 17)	11H1 (LYT) 11I2 (LBU) 11J3 (RM) 11K4 (MJ) Physics 11L5 (MK)
WB 17th March (Week A)	11H1 (EM - Hut 4) 11I2 (MP - Hut 3) 11J3 (DAE - Hut 5)	11K4 (CM – Rm 6) 11L5 (PY – Rm 17)	No period 6 due to Year 9 Parents Evening
WB 24th March (Week B)	11K4 (EM – Hut 4) 11L5 (DAE – Hut 5)	11H1 (CM - Rm 6) 11I2 (BS - Rm 12) 11J3 (PY - Rm 17)	11H1 (MK) 11I2 (MJ) 11J3 (LYT) 11K4 (LBU) 11L5 (RM)
WB 31st March (Week A)	11H1 (EM – Hut 4) 11I2 (MP – Hut 3) 11J3 (DAE – Hut 5)	11K4 (CM – Rm 6) 11L5 (PY – Rm 17)	11H1 (RM) Biology 11I2 (LYT) 11J3 (MK) 11K4 (MJ) 11L5 (LBU)
WB 7th April (Week B)	11K4 (EM – Hut 4) 11L5 (DAE – Hut 5)	11H1 (CM - Rm 6) 11I2 (BS - Rm 12) 11J3 (PY - Rm 17	11H1 (LYT) 11I2 (LBU) 11J3 (RM) 11K4 (MJ) Physics 11L5 (MK)



ONLINE RELATIONSHIPS & DATING APPS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS? Dating apps are used to help people find new relationships – whether casual or more long term – matching users based on age, interests, gender and more. Some may consider dating apps harmless to under-18s because they aren't able to use them, but effective age verification measures are quite scarce, and it's been known for young people to end up on apps of this type.

EASE OF ACCESS

The relatively lax age verification process of many dating apps makes them incredibly accessible to children who really shouldn't be using them. This carries the obvious risk of exposing under-18s to a dating scene populated by adults – who may not even be aware of the young person's true age. This is concerning when we consider the hook-up culture' common on these apps – with many people using them to arrange casual sexual encounters.

CONTACT AND CONDUCT RISKS

Once someone is active on a dating app, their social media profiles can be linked to the app and might be accessed by others. This can lead to random users 'sliding into their DM's' (sending a direct message) without consent. Complete strangers could start bombarding a young person's inbox with pictures, messages

SCAMS AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Some young people may feel they've formed a real bond with someone through online dating, but there's always a risk that it's not genuine. Scammers on these apps often build romantic connections with their victims – then once they feel they have their victim's trust, they begin asking for money under false pretences (such as suggesting they meet in person and requesting a loan' to cover a train ticket).

UNVERIFIED ACCOUNTS

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As with all online interactions, you may not be talking to whom you think you are. Without paying a subscription, users of dating apps can often only view a certain number of profiles at a time. A Tikrok trend has advised young people to set their age limit to 80 years and over – putting them in a sparse and more 'exclusive' category to bypass the usual restrictions. Unfortunately, this can lead to matches with someone much older.

PEER PRESSURE

The pressure to be in a relationship can be huge, and many young people use online dating apps as a cost-effective way to meet others. Some users find it difficult to meet people organically due to their lifestyle, and may not have the time or money to go out and socialise. It's also common for young people to set up accounts for their single friends in the hope of finding a match for someone they know.

SKEWED PERSPECTIVES

Dating apps can promote an unrealistic view of what makes someone attractive. With such vast options, some users can become both picky and extremely harsh about others' appearance. Ultimately, all you see on these apps are pictures (with no insight into someone's personality), and some young people struggle with the fear of being judged. Even when someone does start dating, there's a persistent paranoia that their partner is only one swipe away from a potentially better match.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALK ABOUT DATING APPS

Let young people know that they can talk to you about anything, even something as private as their dating life. At school, the relationships, sex and health curriculum can assist with conversations around healthy relationships, consent and online safety. Emphasise the message that you want to help them make healthy, safe and informed choices. If they feel embarrassed talking to you, make sure they have a trusted adult who can help them.

ENCOURAGE DATA PROTECTION

Empower young people to protect their data and personal information.
Explain why including things like their school, age and surname in their profile could potentially be dangerous. Make sure they know never to give out personal details, and that there's no reason for other users to ask for them. If they feel uneasy about a situation online, they need to speak to someone that they can trust.

VERIFICATION STAMPS

Explain that someone using a dating app should only communicate with those who have gone through a verification process. Online dating apps use a variety of methods to ascertain a user's identity, including scanning valid documents (such as a driver's licence or passport). Verification can also involve users taking a selfie to ensure that the photos on their profile match it.

REPORT AND BLOCK

Remind young people that they can always report or block (or both) anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable on any platform. Ask if they know how to do this and offer to help them figure it out if they're unsure. Every app should have advice on how to report or block another user, so be sure young people are familiar with the settings.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings works at RAISE (www.raiseducation.org.uk) in the field of relationships, sex and health education, providing educational, age-appropriate workshops for pupils around the more sensitive areas of the curriculum – including online safely and healthy relationships.

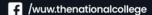




The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: https://nationalcollege.com/guides/online-relationships-dating-apps

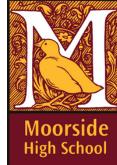


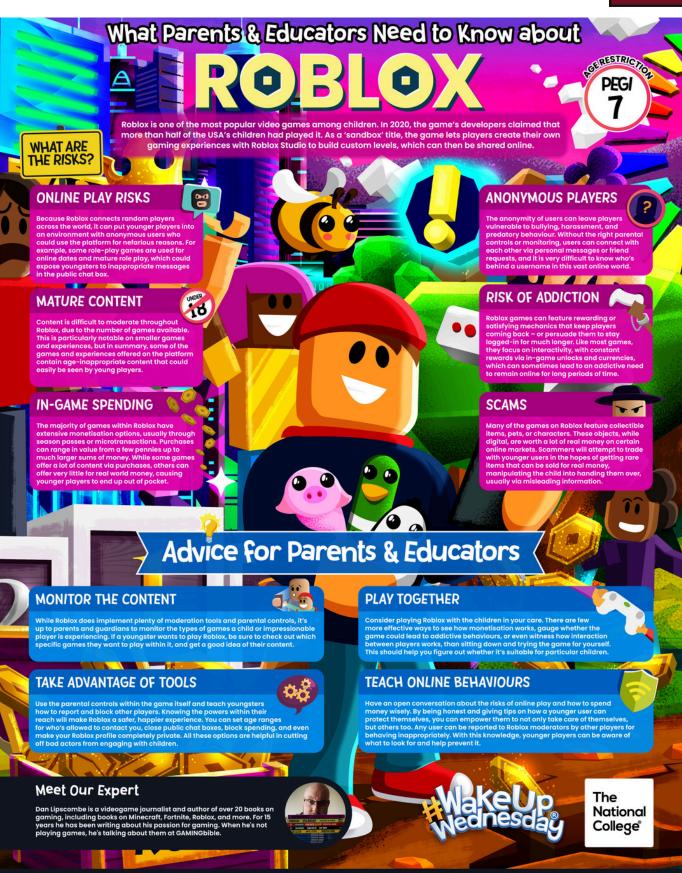






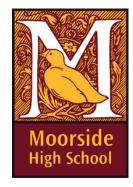
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Attendance

As we continue our journey through the school year, let's take a moment to talk about something that's crucial for your child's success: **ATTENDANCE!**

Every day your child spends in school is an opportunity to learn, grow, and connect with teachers and classmates.

Here's why showing up matters:

Unlock Your Potential: Each class builds on the last: By being present, you absorb knowledge, participate in discussions, and engage in activities that enrich your understanding. Every lesson is a step toward your goals!

Build Connections: School is not just about academics; it's also about friendships! Your peers are your support system. Being present allows you to forge connections that can last a lifetime.

Boost Your Confidence: Attending school consistently helps you stay on track, reduces stress, and boosts your confidence in your abilities. You've got this!

Prepare for the Future: Regular attendance cultivates responsibility and discipline—key traits for success in any career. Your future self will thank you for the effort you put in today!

Let's commit to making attendance a priority!

Remember, each day in school is a chance to learn something new and create lasting memories. Show up, shine bright, and make the most of every opportunity!

Congratulations to 488 Students for Reaching 100% Attendance in February!

We are incredibly proud to celebrate our students who have shown outstanding commitment by achieving 100% attendance! Their dedication to their education, resilience, and consistent efforts are truly inspiring. This accomplishment speaks volumes about their hard work and determination. Keep it up, and continue striving for excellence!



Well done, everyone!
The Attendance Team



Our Attendance Target is 95%



Why is it Important?

- Regular school attendance is vital for success, relationships and development
- Excellent attendance supports learning, reliability and prepares students for life beyond education

Absence Guide

- Phone the attendance line 01782 551200 (press 1)
 before 8 30 am
- Leave a message each morning your child is absent and/or if they are absent due to an appointment - this is a safeguarding requirement
- If we do not hear from you, then an absence email will be sent
- If no response is received, a phone call will be made and we may conduct a home visit
- Non-attendance to AM / PM form will result in an unauthorised mark which will affect your child's attendance
- We do NOT have a 24 / 48 hour sickness policy

Medical Appointments

- Make appointments, where possible, outside of school hours
- If this is not possible students should attend school for as much of that day as possible
- Email in the appointment card/letter so the absence can be authorised

Holidays

- Any holidays, during term time, will not be authorised unless it is an extreme circumstance
- A leave of absence request must be completed in advance.
 Forms can be obtained from the School website or Student Reception
- Parents / Carers may be issued with a penalty notice if your child is absent due to a holiday

10 days absent 180 - School days in each year = 100%

10 days 180 - Days in school = 95%

19 days absent 171 - Days in school = 90%

29 days absent 161 - Days in school = 85%

38 days absent 152 - Days in school = 80%

47 days 143 - Days in school = 75%

absent 143 - Days in school = 75%

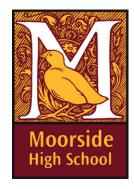
Late to school = lost learning

Minutes late	Impact on attendance in a year	
5 minutes late per day =	3 days lost each year	
5 minutes late per day =	9 days lost each year	
0 minutes late per day =	19 days lost each year	
5 minutes late per day =	28 days lost each year	
0 minutes late per day =	38 days lost each year	

Every school day counts BUT every minute is equally important!!



Empowering all to Thrive, Engage and Achieve





Be in school from January 2025 to July 2025!!

This is your chance to turn 100% attendance into an EPIC REWARD!

Perfect Attendance = Automatic Entry
Prize Draw Includes:

A brand-new Xbox Series X (KS3) Me The incredible Fire Max 11 Tablet (KS4)

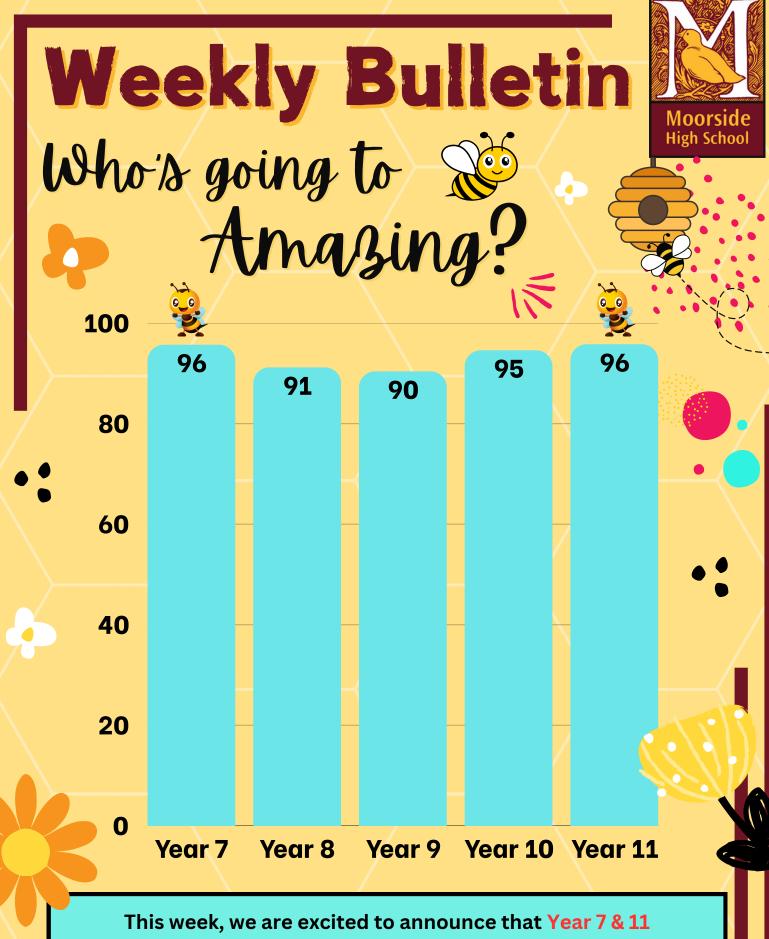
✓ Come to school every day✓ Stay committed✓ Get rewarded like never before!

™ Don't miss out - your perfect attendance could make you the lucky winner!

Are YOU up for the challenge? Let's make it happen! 💪



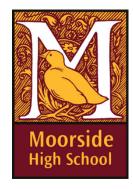




have achieved the highest attendance!

But the pressure is on! Who will rise to the challenge next week? Let's keep up the momentum and aim for those perfect attendance records! Remember, every presence counts!

Let's see who can be Queen Bee and take the crown next week!







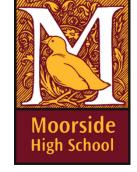
Year 7 Rewards Trip





Years 8 - 10 Rewards Trips

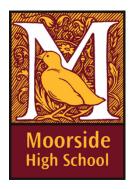




Attendance Competitions







Tell Us!

We want to hear from you!

Your Feedback Matters!

To improve our programs and support your child better, please take a moment to share your thoughts on:

- What's working well at our school?
- Areas where we could improve.
- Suggestions for workshops or resources you'd like to see.

You can provide your feedback by emailing us: office@mhs.potteries.ac.uk