



Parents' Weekly Newsletter

'Thriving to achieve our best - together'

Friday 17th June 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

Summer has arrived at last, with children enjoying the sunshine! This week, everyone enjoyed an outdoor picnic with their friends, celebrating all their hard work and efforts this term with end of term assessments. It has been great to see children wearing their sun hats and sun cream- thank you for all your support to keep our children safe outdoors in the heatwave we are experiencing.

Excitedly, I am proud to share that our Statement of Commitment has officially been accepted by the Arts Council which means that we have commenced our Artsmark Journey. Over the past year, we have focused on bringing Art, Drama, Music and Performing Arts to the fore and there is no better way than to celebrate in our end of year school production. With rehearsals well underway, we have been impressed with our children's talents, commitment and enthusiasm.

I was also incredibly proud to hear how well a number of Year 7 children got on at Ferndown Upper School's Festival of Sport, on Wednesday. Alongside children from other middle schools in Dorset, our children took part in a range of sports, including diamond cricket, netball, table tennis, basketball, badminton, rounders and football! They shared how much fun they had at this popular event and it is wonderful to see them engage in such sporting opportunities.

Over the past few days, we have had an invited photographer in, who came highly recommended by members of our PTFA, to take photos of the children's learning in action to frame and display around our school. We are currently in the process of updating our school's website so these photographs will be included on our updated website, which will be launched in the near future, with more details to follow.

We hope that you all have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Warmest Wishes,
Dr Craddock

Rights Respecting School Update

This week our focus has been on:

'Article 32 child labour' Governments must protect children from economic exploitation and work that is dangerous or might harm their health, development or education. Governments must set a minimum age for children to work and ensure that work conditions are safe and appropriate.

During our weekly assembly, we asked the children 'How many reasons can you think of why children should be protected from working, especially in dangerous conditions?'

The children came up with a range of excellent responses:

- Their family should have a good enough standard of living without them working
- Children should be in education
- Their health and safety should be protected
- It could lead to further exploitation or trafficking
- Children's views and best interests should be considered

Upcoming events:

World Refugee Day



West Moors Middle School, Heathfield Way, West Moors, Ferndown, Dorset. BH22 0DA

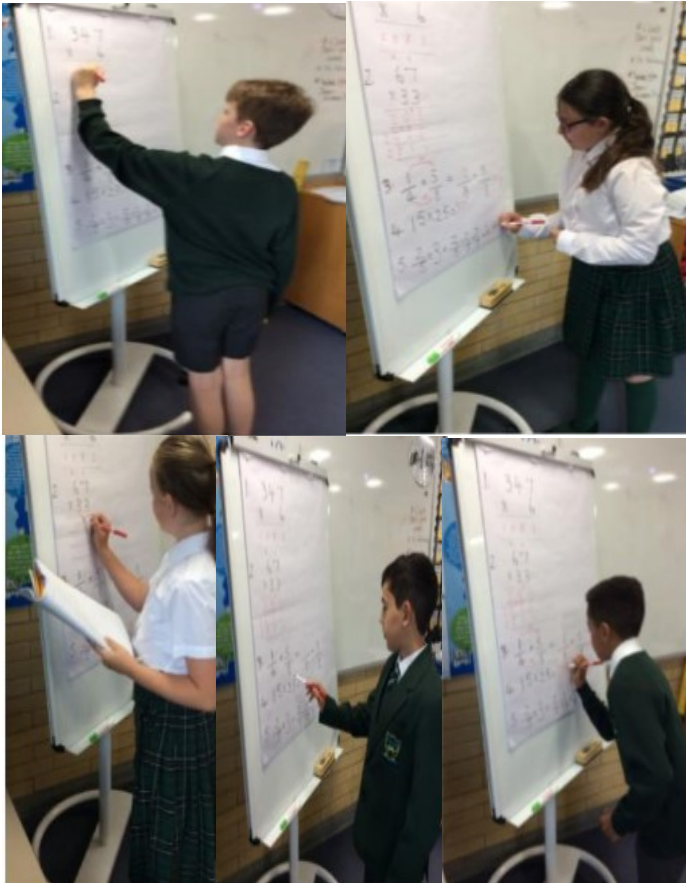
Phone: 01202 872474 Email: office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk

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This Week in Year 5

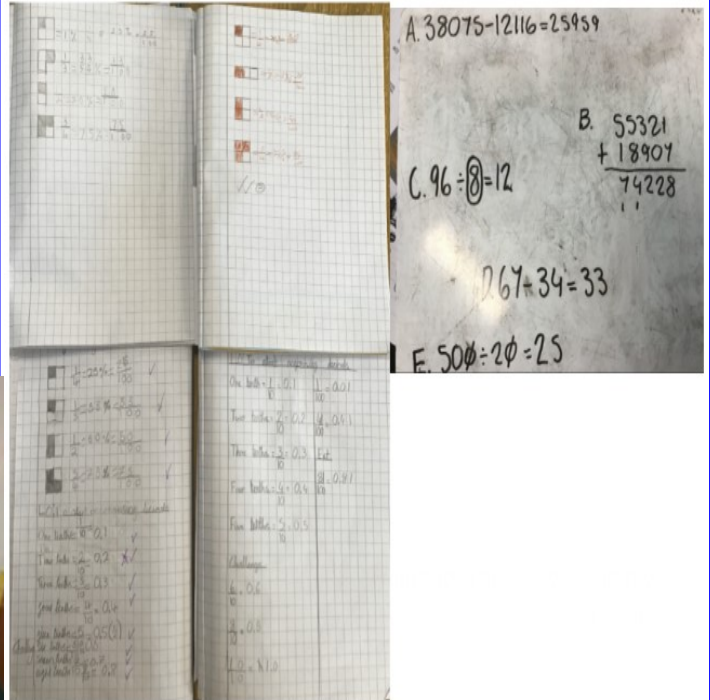
In Y5 this week, 5KW had fun demonstrating their Maths methods when completing their Fluent 5 daily questions. They demonstrated how to do mental and written methods for multiplication and how to add and multiply fractions. We also started our new Maths topic for this half term, exploring decimal numbers.



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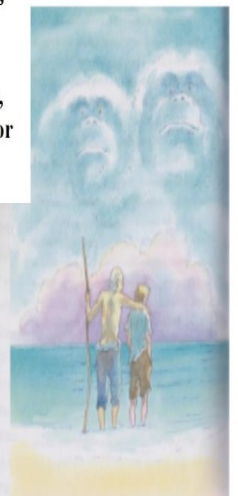
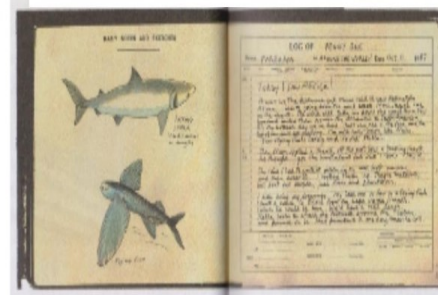


In Maths, 5PP have started our new topic of decimals, percentages and their relation to fractions. The children have been able to explore the relationship between the three concepts and are gaining a good foundation of understanding. Quotes from 5PP "We have learnt that the percentage sign means out of a hundred, so 13% is the same as 13 over 100" Mason 5PP. As always we start each lesson with a fluent in five practice, that the children are excelling at.



This Week in Year 6

Year 6 are thoroughly enjoying reading Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo and are particularly looking forward to rewriting events from a different character's perspective. However, whose will it be: Kensuke's, Stella the sheepdog's or possibly even an orang-utan's..?



This Week in Year 7



KS3 MATHS FINAL TOPICS AND ASSESSMENTS

As we approach the end of term we shall be starting are final topics in Maths this week; Year 7 will be looking at using and applying coordinates whilst Year 8 shall by tackling angles (which will also be their first topic at FUS in September). We also have end of year assessments for Year 7 next week and then Year 8 the week after, when all students shall undertake PUMA tests in class to see how much progress they have made since September. Thank you

A.Dér

Here is 7AD's mid-week Twitter report:

We have survived are first week return,
Glad we had a picnic lunch on Thursday as a reward.

We are now starting to look ahead!
Going to the Festival of Sport and planning
Summer Fair instead,
Then realising we have assessments to dread!

This week in Year 8

Year 8 have had another fantastic week. As we continue to explore our Shakespearean play of Macbeth, we have been focusing on themes of trust, betrayal and the supernatural.

We have also practiced our multi-sports skills ahead of sports day, including: rounders, cricket and athletics!

Also, as the production rehearsals increase, our Year 8 cast have been very active with singing, dancing and acting - the production is coming together amazingly.

Fun at Forest School

A lovely day at Forest School this week. I think the children enjoyed the better weather and were in good spirits.

Year 5 – Great concentration when practising their knots and listening out for the wren that visited the site today.

Year 8 – Keeping up their resilience while practising tool skills and learning how to put up the hammock for a mid-day relaxation.

Year 6 & 7 – Busy bees today, playing games, building dens and challenging themselves across the rope bridge.



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BE SAFE IN THE SUN

Sun cream: Just a reminder that as summer has arrived, and the weather is hotting up, please do apply sun cream to your child's exposed skin before coming to school. Please can you also remind them to bring a cap or sun hat and their water bottle, which they can access and fill with fresh water though out the school day.



Punctuality and Attendance

At West Moors our aim is to further improve punctuality and attendance at school. It is vital that all children arrive on time for registration each morning and prepare for the start of their school day. The school gates open at 8:20, 8:30 start time and registration closes at 8:40, after this time children will be marked as late. Punctuality is an important life skill and we appreciate your support. Thank you.



COMMUNICATION

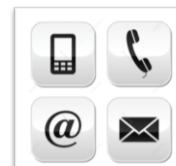
A reminder that at West Moors Middle School, we use our school website, email and our Twitter page to communicate and share information with you.

Email: office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk

School Website: <https://westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk>

Twitter page: https://twitter.com/west_moors

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WestMoorsMiddleSchool/>



Finally, please also look out for **all key information** to parents such as events information, newsletters, trips and special events using the **parent mail system**.

SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PLAN - PARENT CONSULTATION

It's that time of year when we are considering the improvements that we would like to make to the school in terms of learning and the whole school environment. Please let us know what you think we are doing well and if there's something you think we could improve - please let us know [HERE](#). We cannot promise to act on all suggestions - but we care, and do promise to LISTEN.

Dr Craddock and all at TEAM WEST MOORS MIDDLE SCHOOL

School Year: Term Dates & Holidays 2021/22

Summer Term 2022

Inset Day Friday 1st July

Term ends on Friday 22nd July

Inset Days:

Friday 1st July 2022

Please note school closes at 13.00 pm on the last day of term. (Friday 22nd July)



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Key dates for diaries: -

Thursday 30th June 2022	<p>This is Multi day in return for either £1 or a contribution to the tombola for our Summer Fair on the 17th July 2022. Items should be taken to the assembly hall before school. We would particularly appreciate the following kinds of gifts from these year groups:</p> <p>Year 5 Chocolates or sweets</p> <p>Year 6 and Year 7 Toiletries & Gifts</p> <p>Year 8 Bottles</p> <p>This special event will be outdoors on the school's field. Please come along and join us in these summer celebrations, enjoy a snack and/ or hot chocolate with cream, take part in our tombola, and play summer fair games!</p>
1st July 2022	School Inset Day and Transfer Day for Year 4 starting Year 5 in September 2022
Wednesday 6th July 2022	Formal Tutor Group and Whole School photo, Fraser Portraits
Friday 8th July 2022 (reserve date in the event of poor weather: 15.07.2022)	School Sports Day
Monday 11th July 2022	Children's Art Exhibition Gallery- assembly hall (15.30-16.30)
Tuesday 12th July 2022	KS2 School Disco- 17.30-19.00 KS3 School Disco- 19.15-20.45 <i>(organised by the school's PTFA)</i>
Wednesday 13th July 2022 and Thursday 14th July 2022	Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies <i>(School Production- doors will open at 18.00 with the show starting at 18.30)</i>
Sunday 17th July 2022	Summer Fair 11.00-15.00
Thursday 21st July 2022	Year 8 Leavers' Summer Prom 18.00-21.00
Friday 22nd July 2022	Last day of term- school closes at 13.00



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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TWITCH

Twitch is a livestreaming service which tends to focus on gaming. Users can publicly broadcast their gameplay and commentary online for other users to watch. It's a community-driven platform where viewers can support their favourite streamers' channels through PayPal donations, 'Bits' and more. Each streamer or group creates their own community for fans to interact with each other. Twitch has more than 15 million daily active users and includes non-gaming topics such as music, cooking and art. Anyone can create a channel to livestream or watch videos.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNCENSORED STREAMS

Uncensored content obviously carries a greater risk of inappropriate language and behaviour (streamers can, however, list their broadcast as unsuitable for children). Twitch has strict rules for streamers to follow, but requires viewers to report any streams which breach these guidelines. Each livestream is accompanied by a text chat which it is the streamer's responsibility to moderate.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most people are already aware that some video games feature adult content such as violence, sexual content, profanity and so on. Twitch does prevent certain games from being streamed on the platform, but most are still allowed. It is relatively simple, then, for a child to find livestreams of games that aren't suitable for them – including horror games.

HIDDEN COSTS

Twitch is free to use because it's supported by advertisers. Removing the ads requires a subscription to Twitch Turbo – or the Twitch Prime package (free for anyone with an Amazon Prime account), which blocks the ads and offers additional goodies such as bonus games. Streamers earn most of their income by asking users for direct donations or gifts of the virtual currency Twitch Bits.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

As well as streamers talking directly to their audience, Twitch enables viewers to use text chat to speak to the person they're watching. It's a social platform which also allows viewers to interact with each other via text while they are watching livestreams – including exchanging private messages. This raises the possibility of a child being approached and messaged online by total strangers.

WEBCAM SHARING

It's common for streamers to use their live webcam footage. This allows better interaction with their viewers, but also adds risk: the stream might include sponsored content or product placement that isn't child friendly. Using a webcam in livestreams increases the chance of malicious viewers finding out where the streamer lives and provides bullies with visual reactions to their hurtful behaviour.

PRIVATE CHAT ROOMS

Twitch encourages streamers to create their own communities, which extend beyond its platform. Many create a public Discord group, for example, for viewers to join and communicate with each other. Discord is a completely separate entity to Twitch and offers a higher risk of predators, grooming and cyberbullying if your child gets involved in the voice or video chat with strangers.

Advice for Parents & Carers

EXPLORE IT YOURSELF

Twitch doesn't have any parental controls, but it is possible to block troublesome users if it becomes necessary. The best solution is to watch some Twitch channels by yourself or with your child to find some that are suitable. Watching some streams by yourself is also a good route to understanding the sort of content that your child would be consuming regularly on Twitch.

WATCH WHAT THEY WATCH

Twitch does have a lot of child-friendly content; some streamers use a 'family friendly' tag to highlight material that's suitable for children. However, anyone can use this tag – including users who (accidentally or otherwise) stream games with less appropriate adult themes. The best way to counter this is to view different streams and follow suitable channels for your child to watch.

LEARN HOW TO BLOCK

'Security and Privacy' in Twitch's settings lets your child block messages from specific users. Teaching your child how this works will help them avoid online abuse. If they livestream, knowing how to block people in the chat also helps to prevent cyberbullying or harassment. Evading online interaction is impossible, of course, so talk to them in advance about boundaries and safe online communication.

LIMIT PAYMENT OPTIONS

Reduce the chance of accidental purchases by ensuring your bank card isn't saved on Twitch or the Amazon account that Twitch Prime could be linked to. Restricting access to your PayPal account is also wise if your child watches Twitch on the device you use to make purchases. Explain to your child that they don't need to subscribe to channels to watch them and that donating or gifting 'Bits' is optional.

Meet Our Expert

Care Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist for the magazine Tech Radar since 2018. www.nationalonlinesafety.com

National Online Safety



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- BUNGEE TRAMPOLINES
- OVER 40 STALLS
- FERRET RACING
- LIVE MUSIC
- WHEELS DISPLAY
- FOOTBALL ACTIVITIES



- JAMIE JIGSAW
- RAFFLE
- WATER ZORBING
- INFLATABLES
- BAR & FOOD (vegan incl)
- KRAZY KEV

THE WEST MOORS BIG EVENT



COMMUNITY EVENT

Fryer Field

Saturday 9th July 2022

12:00noon - 16:00pm

**FREE
ENTRY**



For further details please
contact Amie Fawcett
on 01202 861044
or visit the office at
4 Park Way, West Moors.

Car Parking via the Memorial Hall Car Park



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DORSET TEEN PROJECT



FREE FOR 11 - 15 YEAR OLDS ELIGIBLE
FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

| GRAFFITI ART | POTTERY | CIRCUS SKILLS |
| STEM | MEDIA PRODUCTION | MARTIAL ARTS |

WEEKS COMMENCING
JULY 25TH | AUGUST 1ST | AUGUST 8TH | AUGUST 15TH

TIME: 10:00 - 15:00
FOOD: HOT LUNCH INCLUDED

FREE FOR STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS
£30 PER DAY FOR PAYING CUSTOMERS - EXCLUDES HOT LUNCH



Department
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LOCATIONS



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