



Parents' Weekly Newsletter

'Thriving to achieve our best - together'

17th October 2021

Message from Dr Craddock

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has only felt like a few days since I wrote my first letter to the West Moors Middle School community, but now here I am writing one as we near the end of our first half term. It has been great to see the school in full action with clubs, events, assemblies and the use of all the specialist facilities.

We had a very successful open evening and further open morning events this week where we met a lot of new families which we hope to welcome to our school in September. The children have really responded to the call of wearing the uniform with pride and to look after one another.

As a preventative measure, from next week we have stepped up our Covid-19 safety measures with children in KS3, and staff, wearing face coverings in communal spaces once again unless they are in the exempt group as specified by the Government. In a letter sent out on Friday 15th October 2021, I outlined the additional steps being taken and it is hoped that these will help prevent an increase in the number of cases within our school community. We have done so well this term and therefore we are keen to take further safety measures to ensure that we keep our children in school where they belong.

Thank you for all your kind words of support and appreciation– they really have meant the world to us.

Stay safe and well everybody.

Warmest Wishes,
Dr Deborah Craddock.



Rights Respecting News

Article of the Week

As it was World Mental Health Day on the 10th of October, this has been the focus of the article of the week this week.

World Mental Health Day is an international day for global mental health education, awareness and advocacy against social stigma. Each October, thousands of supporters come to celebrate this annual awareness program to bring attention to mental illness and its major effects on peoples' lives worldwide.

Article 24 provides a strong link to World Mental Health Day - 'Every child has the right to the best possible health.'

Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.



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Head Teacher: Dr Deborah Craddock Deputy Head Teacher: Deborah East



During our weekly assembly, we asked the children, 'How do you keep yourself mentally healthy?' The tutor groups came up with lots of super responses to this question. For example: getting enough sleep, having a healthy balanced diet, mindfulness, surrounding yourself with positive people, hugs, having a hobby, experiencing the outdoors, exercise, using zumos and helping others. It is also really important that our children talk to someone if they are feeling unhappy or unsafe.

OutRight Campaign 2021/22

We are very excited to announce that we have signed up to this year's OutRight. OutRight 2021/22 is all about children and young people's mental health. The topic of mental health and children's rights is relevant to every child and young person, and is a really important one that as a school, we are already working on.

Children and young people who take part in the campaign will:

- Learn about what mental health is, why it's important and how it links to their rights.
 - Find out how we can take care of our mental health, what services are available for children in the UK, and for children around the world.
 - Discuss how the culture around speaking out on mental health is changing and tackle stigma associated with the topic.
 - Campaign and speak up to local decision makers about what they need to have their mental health supported.
- We will keep you updated with the campaign over the next couple of months.

Event days coming up throughout the remainder of the month:

World Food Day - Date: 16 Oct

What is it: World Food Day is a day of action against hunger because when it comes to hunger, the only acceptable number in the world is zero. World Food Day celebrates the creation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on October 16, 1945 in Quebec, Canada.

Rights Link: Article 6: Life, survival and development; Article 24: Health and health services

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty -

Date: 17 Oct

What is it: This day aims to promote awareness of the need to eradicate poverty and destitution in all countries, particularly in developing countries – a need that has become a development priority.

Rights Link: Article 26: Social security

Anti-Slavery Day - Date: 18 Oct

What is it: Modern-day slavery as child trafficking, forced labour, domestic servitude and trafficking for sexual exploitation.

Rights Link: Article 35: Abduction, sale and trafficking

United Nations Day - Date: 24 Oct

What is it: United Nations Day is devoted to highlighting the aims and achievements of the United Nations.

Rights Link: Article 4: Implementation of the Convention

FUN IN FOREST SCHOOL

Year 6 – Tarzan of the Jungle! Lots of experiment with how to swing on the rope in style.

Year 7 – Busy bees – from, tying knots to playing hide-n-seek to den building to potion making and more!

Year 8 – Get ready, get set, go! A timed obstacle course was today's challenge – trying to beat our personal best.



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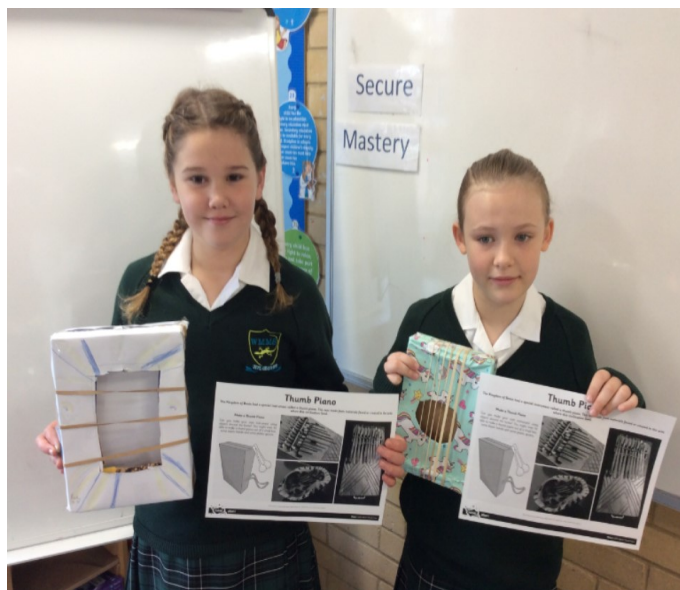
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FUN AT FOREST SCHOOL



In Year 5 we have been learning about Amazing Africa, studying the lives of people in Benin. We found out that they used finger pianos. For our Home Learning we have had a go at making our own instruments!



Harvest Festival Service

All donations gratefully received have been donated to the local food bank to support our local community and those in need. Thank you once again.



ONLINE SAFETY ALERT AND GUIDANCE

'Squid Game – Online Safety Alert & Guidance for Parents. 'The series is certified 15 and depicts sex scenes, nudity, extreme violence, self-harm, Suicide and bad language. [Click here.](#)



HEALTHY SCHOOLS JOURNEY

As part of our Healthy Schools journey, we are keen to develop a School Travel Plan for our school. A School Travel Plan is a document which will show how our school community can reduce car journeys to and from school, make journeys safer and encourage more active, sustainable modes of travel such as walking or cycling. The first step is to collate feedback on how our children are travelling to school. To do this, we would appreciate it if our parents and carers could fill out a short survey. This can be found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/>

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.

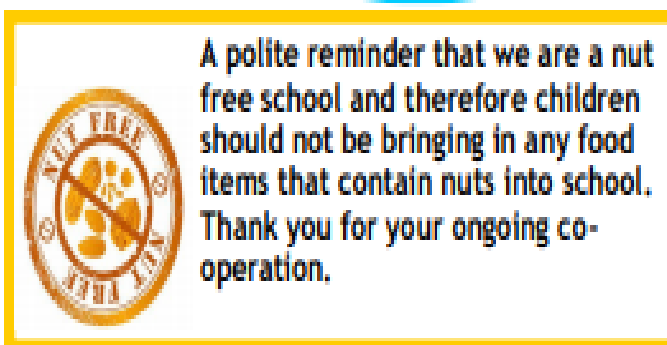
Email: office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk

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 Year: Term Dates & Holidays 2021/22

Autumn Term 2021

Term ends on Friday 22nd October

Term starts for Students on Monday 1st November

Inset Day Friday 3rd December

Term ends Friday 17th December

Spring Term 2022:

Term starts for students on Tuesday 4th January

Inset Day Monday 31st January

Term ends on Friday 18th February

Term starts for students on Monday 28th February

Term ends for students on Friday 8th April

Summer Term 2022

Term starts for students on Monday 25th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 2nd May – school closed

Term ends on Friday 27th May

Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday 6th June 2022

Term starts for students on Tuesday 7th June

Inset Day Friday 1st July

Term ends on Friday 22nd July

Inset Days:

Thursday 2nd September 2021

Friday 3rd September 2021

Friday 3rd December 2021

Monday 31st January 2022

Friday 1st July 2022



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