



Parents' Weekly Newsletter

'Thriving to achieve our best - together'

09th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, I was lucky enough to watch our children develop their catching and passing skills in our Rugby Afterschool Club. Excitingly, Mr Connolly, our rugby coach leading the session, raced some of our very talented athletes in Year 8- an incredible effort by our children however, Mr Connolly's winning crown simply could not be taken away.... at least, that is for today! It was great just watching them all have so much fun together.

Yesterday, some of our Year 7 children, who have completed the Jon Egging Trust's Blue Skies programme, went on a school trip to Bovington with Mrs Cope and Mrs Connolly. It was so good to finally see a coach waiting out the school again! A fabulous day was had by all, and I was incredibly proud to hear about the positive feedback they all received from those leading this event particularly in relation to their polite manners and high level of engagement throughout the day.

In gardening club yesterday, it was also wonderful to see the children picking the potatoes grown and taking some home to boil- there is nothing better than new potatoes with butter and I know that many children took some home to eat as part of their evening meal! I have been told today that they were delicious!

With the Government's recent announcement about the relaxing of all restrictions after 19th July 2021, despite the rapidly increasing number of infections, it is now perhaps more important than ever to remain vigilant. The Department for Education has updated their guidance about the impact of this on schools, especially around the closing of bubbles. However, we will be keeping our safety procedures in place until the end of term as we want to do everything we can to avoid sending any children home to isolate. Please can I ask for your continued support in the hope that we can keep all the children in school until the end of term.

Many thanks for your continued support and I hope that you have a great weekend with loved ones.

Deborah Craddock.

Rights Respecting News

Article of the Week



A child accused or guilty of breaking the law must be treated with dignity and respect. They have the right to legal assistance and a fair trial that takes account of their age.

Governments must set a minimum age for children to be tried in a criminal court and manage a justice system that enables children who have been in conflict with the law to reintegrate into society.

We discussed the importance of rules in school in order for everyone to feel safe. We also discussed our **'Telling School'** ethos with a reminder that if anyone sees anything that worries them, that they must tell an adult. During the assembly, we asked the key question, 'Are children's rights conditional?' As a school, we discussed that all children's rights are unconditional and apply to each and every child, regardless of who they are or where they live.



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Fun in the Sun at Forest School

Year 5 – Listening like owls. Taking time to feel relaxed, while listening out for different bird song and whether the birds sounded happy or cross. They also had to use all their skills to plan and negotiate roles in a game of Capture the Flag.



Year 6 – A calm quietness fell across the Forest School as the children became engrossed in learning and developing new skills. (flow state). They returned to making Forest School cookies, explaining how to be safe and helping each other to saw their cookies. Some children practiced whittling sticks, being mindful of only removing little pieces at a time.



Year 7 – Eagerly requested they played the new game from last week, and recapped all the rules. After a few rounds some people were bending the rules so the group agreed it was time to change activity. They split into two groups, one challenging themselves in Tug of War and another building a water tight den learning a few new knots to help them.

Year 5—PE lesson, warming up and keeping fit, before competitive team games in the school tennis courts. How lucky we are to have such fabulous, spacious school grounds.



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Green Fingers in Gardening Club

Last night the Gardening Club picked a lot of spinach that we have been growing and our first cucumber! The Gardening Club produce was given to Mrs Mein who will be giving the children the opportunity to eat the cucumber with our lunches today, and she will be using it to make the children a spinach and cheese quiche!



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Important Announcement

Next Thursday, is our Virtual Silver Accreditation! Each tutor will be selecting one or two children from their tutor group to participate in this. This will be for approximately 15 minutes per year group where the assessor will ask the children what impact being a Rights Respecting School has had on them. We can't wait to feedback the outcome of this to you, as we hope to be awarded the 'Silver: Rights Aware' award.

Maths

Year 7 and 8 pupils will be given their maths "brilliant" exercise books next Monday so that they can take them home. It will give you a chance at home to see what they have achieved throughout the year, I would have normally shown off their books during Parent Evenings! I hope you agree with me that their maths work is "brilliant", I know that I do – some are truly wonderful! Well done to all the pupils.

Year 8 pupils will also have access to 'MathsWatch' whilst in year 9 at their next school – this is an interactive subscription site that provides both mathematical tuition videos and interactive exercises to support them in their first year at their new school. Pupils have used the site extensively throughout their time at West Moors Middle School and I hope it will provide them with a "safety net" during their Year 9 when or if they encounter any difficulties in their mathematical studies. Their log on details are the same as their school email details. I hope they find it useful – perhaps they could do some Summer homework with it?



Careers - Amazing Apprenticeships

KS3 have been spending a great deal of time looking at the many options that they have when reaching the age of 16. We are devoted to making sure that our mature young learners are equipped with as much knowledge as possible in order to make educated choices about what they would like to pursue when faced with that big decision at the tender age of 16! It is usually very daunting at such a young age to decide in which direction to travel. We are dedicated to making sure our learners are aware of and fully understand their choices.

As a young person, working out what steps to take for your career can be a big choice as you think about what you enjoy doing and what you're good at. Furthermore, choosing the path you take after education is even more important.

Do I go to Uni? Do I attend a college? Do I get a part-time job? What are my options?

This term, we have been outlining some of the main reasons why you might want to consider an apprenticeship to positively impact your career and professional development. We have focused on the benefits of an apprenticeship and how it could be the right choice for you.



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TIME IN A BOTTLE WORKSHOP

A huge thanks to Paul Stevens who delivered a fabulous workshop, delivering alcohol education to Year 8s entitled 'Time in a Bottle'. Really important key messages to keep children safe delivered by a professional actor.



HOME GROWN BY THE ECO CLUB

Here at West Moors Middle the children have a chance to eat produce grown on the premises. They have cucumber to taste and a spinach and cheese quiche cooked by the wonderful Mrs Mein.



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

School Year: Term Dates & Holidays

Summer Term 2021:

Term ends on Friday 23rd July 2021

Summer Holidays Monday 26th July -
Monday 6th September 2021

Autumn Term 2021:

September Inset Days Thursday 2nd &
Friday 3rd September 2021

First day of Term Monday 6th September

October half term Monday 25th - 29th
October 2021



Finally.....For the latest news and updates and to see more photos of our children learning, please follow us on twitter at: [@westmoors](https://twitter.com/westmoors)



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