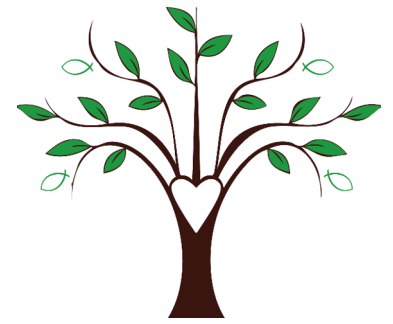




# Moorlands Primary Academy

# NEWSLETTER

Term: Summer | Issue 3 | Date: July 24th 2018



Diocese of Norwich  
Education and  
Academies Trust

## Message from Mr Lee

As the academic year draws to a close, I want to take a moment to pay tribute to those who are leaving us, both pupils and staff. Moorlands is very much like a family, a family that has a strong identity and purpose, shared values and high aspirations for our children. Later in this newsletter, you will see a piece entitled 'The Long View,' written by Dave Park, our departing Chair of Governors. I like to think this captures the school well. I hope that you all have a wonderful summer, we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on 5th September (Y1-6) and 6th September (reception and nursery).

## Summer Fair

It has been fantastic to have an active parents and friends association again, The Friends of Moorlands. Thanks to Alex, the committee and all of the other volunteers. There have been a wide variety of activities this year culminating in the Summer Fair on Saturday 30th June. It was a hugely successful event which was well supported, raising a brilliant £1500!

The Friends have got a clear plan for spending the money that has been raised this year on an activity trail for the children. Watch this space to see how this develops in September.

The Friends are also always looking for more volunteers, in any capacity. Please contact Alex Hemp via the school if you are interested.



## Talk 4 Writing



The school has become part of the Talk 4 Writing programme this year which initially involved training for all staff.

Hopefully your child has noticed a change in the way writing is structured in the school, with initially greater emphasis placed on telling a story verbally and the use of story maps.

Once the children are familiar with a story they are then able to adapt it and create a version of their own with their setting, characters and story arc.

We have seen a real impact of this approach with children writing enthusiastically across all of the year groups

## Sports Days



We had several very successful Sports Days this term and are very grateful to Miss Rapa and Premier Sport for all their hard work in ensuring they ran smoothly.

Our reception children had a lovely picnic with their parents and carers before heading out to take part. Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 had separate events where everyone took part. The parents' races were a particular highlight! Rosen were the victorious house in both competitions this year.

Thanks also must go to The Friends of Moorlands who provided snacks and refreshments on both days.

Thanks to everyone who supported these events.



## School Visits



We again have had a good range of visits and visitors this term with all of our children having the opportunity to take part in at least one visit.

Our Nursery children enjoyed their very first visit to the Sealife Centre in Great Yarmouth whilst Reception continued the wildlife theme with a visit to Wroxham Barns.

Years 1 and 2 learned all about the history of the seaside at the Time and Tide museum, which was also the destination for years 4 and 5. They also spent time on the only surviving steam powered herring drifter, The Lydia Eve.

Years 3 and 4 had a fantastic outdoor experience at Ringsfield, building dens, climbing and sitting around the camp fire.

Finally year 6 had a very busy activities week, visiting Gorleston Cinema, the beach and Pleasurewood Hills. Their week culminated with a fabulous day at The Latitude Festival where they very much got into the festival spirit, making pom poms, beat boxing and taking part in Bollywood dancing!

This is just a selection of some of the things we have done this year. Find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter to keep up to date with all of our events.

## The Long View by Dave Park

20 years is a long time!

It's over 20 years ago that I arrived in Belton to take up a job in the area. With a family of three young children, one of the things that made us decide to live in Belton was the schools. At the time there were two: Waveney First School, on the site that is now the Compass Centre and Breydon Middle School, where Moorlands is now. I remember going to Belton Church on our first Sunday and meeting families with children the same ages as ours, who were at the schools; being made to feel welcome and feeling at home from that very first Sunday.

Our children grew and came through the schools, getting an education that prepared them for high school, college and university. Two of them graduated and studied for higher degrees but they haven't forgotten that it was at Waveney and Breydon where they first began their education: it was there that they learnt to read and write, to handle numbers; where they developed a love for learning and perhaps more importantly where they learned to care for others and to live in a diverse community. It was in a school with a Christian ethos and going to a church that really valued children, that they became the people they are now. Belton is a good place to bring up children and I am grateful for all those who made it possible.

And our middle child, Ben? – well that's a much sadder story. He also went to Waveney and Breydon but never made it to High School. In the summer holidays after his Year 6 SATs, he fell in an accident on holiday and died. It was then, when life seemed darkest, that the true character of the school and the church shone through. The care we received was generous and unstinting. The core values, which are part of Moorlands today, were more than words ... compassion, honesty, respect ... at the time we needed it most, we found the love and support we needed and the help to survive, to carry on and eventually to live life to the full. The courtyard at Moorlands today, was created by Ben's school friends in his memory.

With such a history – in good times and in bad - it's not surprising that Moorlands has a very special place in my heart and so in 2016, when I was asked to become a governor again, it was easy to say 'yes'. The school has been through difficult times itself and in some small way, I hope I've helped it become a happier place. I hope I've been able to support Mr Lee and his team as they have improved the school and provided a better education for the children in Belton and Browston.

In the summer, we are moving to the East Midlands, to begin a new chapter our lives. My hope and prayer for Moorlands is that it will grow from strength to strength; that the children in the school now, and the ones that will come through in the future, will get the education they deserve and become the very best they can. Good luck to you all.

David Park

Chair of Governors

## Notices

- The school is open again for pupils in years 1 - 6 on Wednesday 5th September
- Nursery and Reception children start back on Thursday 6th September, with Reception children having a staggered start
- Please note that Friday 1st February 2019 will be a PD Day, closed to pupils



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