



# The Moorland Messenger

MOORLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL

5/5/2026

## MOORLAND CELEBRATES A YEAR OF GROWTH, ACHIEVEMENT AND COMMUNITY



Across the school, achievements of all kinds have been celebrated from academic success to personal milestones, and the quieter moments where children have shown courage, determination, and independence.

At the heart of this successful year are the relationships that make Moorland so special. From Reception through to Year 6, our children demonstrate genuine care and respect for one another, creating a school environment that is both supportive and joyful.

Equally, the strong relationships between staff and pupils ensure that every child feels valued, encouraged, and inspired to achieve their very best.

We would also like to thank our parents and carers for their continued support. The strength of our school community is built on this partnership, and it plays a vital role in everything we achieve together.

And the year is far from over. The final half term promises even more to look forward to, including school trips, Sports Day, leavers' celebrations, and our end-of-year assembly. Further details will be shared in the coming weeks.

With so much already accomplished and so much still to come, Moorland looks ahead to the final weeks of term with pride and excitement.

**A**s Moorland Junior School approaches the final half term of the 2025–2026 academic year, it is a moment to pause and reflect on what has been an exceptional year for our school community.

From inspiring lessons in the classroom to memorable trips and enriching experiences beyond it, the children have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and confidence. It has been a year defined not only by academic progress, but by personal growth, resilience, and a genuine love of learning. What is beginning to stand out is the increasing confidence of our children, their confidence in learning, their confidence as speakers and the confidence in taking on new opportunities.

Our school has continued to grow, with new families joining the Moorland community and quickly becoming part of its warm and welcoming environment. This year has also seen the introduction of our BELONG values, which are now firmly embedded in daily school life, helping develop our conversations and learning.

These values can be seen in the kindness, respect, and positivity shown by our children every day. Belong, Excellence, Learning, Opportunity and Growth. These values represent our vision and aims for all our children and are what we try to instil along with our academics.



# NEW BEGINNINGS AND FOND FAREWELLS AT MOORLAND

There is a strong sense of both excitement and reflection across Moorland Junior School this term, as we proudly welcome our youngest pupils while preparing to say goodbye to our Year 6 leavers.

In Early Years, our September Reception children have made a wonderful start. From their very first days, they have approached school life with confidence, curiosity, personality and enthusiasm. Classrooms have quickly filled with new friendships, growing independence, and the beginnings of a lifelong love of learning. It has been a pleasure to watch them settle so naturally into the rhythm of school life and become part of the Moorland community.

We are delighted to welcome these new children and their families, and remain committed to giving every child the strongest possible start. By focusing on learning behaviours, social and emotional development, and wellbeing, we ensure that our children build the secure foundations they need to thrive, not only during their time at Moorland, but as they continue their journey through education and beyond.

At the same time, we turn our attention to our Year 6 pupils, who are now preparing for their next chapter. Feeling emotional Mrs Ashleigh Brotherton, head teacher, said "This is the class I remember most from when I started. They helped me settle in, fall in love with Moorland and made me realise this was the place I needed to be. These children have developed, learnt, grown and matured in front of my very eyes, and I am very sad to see this particular cohort leave; tissues will be needed."

This cohort holds a truly special place within our school. Over the years, they have helped shape Moorland with their character, humour, and individuality, leaving a lasting impression on staff and younger pupils alike.

They will be greatly missed - as will their families, whom we are incredibly fond of, as our motto - see as an extension of our family. We are immensely proud of everything they have achieved. They leave us as confident, kind, and thoughtful young people, fully prepared to embrace the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

In the coming weeks, we look forward to a series of special events, including leavers' celebrations, which will give us the opportunity to recognise and celebrate their time at Moorland in a meaningful and memorable way. Letters will be sent out in due course and we have a full half term of learning and memories yet to be made.



We asked our older pupils to share their advice, memories and thoughts about their time at Moorland with our younger children. Here is what they said:

Frankie said, "Enjoy your time at Moorland, it goes by fast, I have learnt a lot and have so many happy memories."

Isaac explained, "I have always really liked and enjoyed the school. You should all enjoy your time here because you will make so many friends and memories. My favourite memory is the Disneyland trip because I enjoyed getting to know other parents and pushing myself out of my comfort zone."

Bradley said, "Have fun at school. I have loved Moorland Junior School, especially the trips. I have enjoyed so many lessons, but my favourite was our history lesson about mammoths. Don't worry about anything you are scared of, have a go and the teachers will help you."

Zakariya said, "Don't be nervous about school, there is nothing to worry about. I was nervous when I started, but I didn't need to be because everyone was so nice. I have loved my time at Moorland. Science has been my favourite subject and my favourite memories are all of the trips. When we went to PGL, we had so much fun."

We also asked our younger children what advice they would give to pupils moving on to senior school. Here is what they shared:

Ruby said, "Try your best."

Ralphie said, "Have fun."

Albie said, "Good luck and you need to work hard."

These reflections remind us just how special the Moorland journey is - filled with friendships, opportunities, memorable experiences and encouragement to always give things a go. There is much more to come for our leavers so watch this space.

# A WILD AND WONDERFUL VISIT TO PGL: KS2 RESIDENTIAL

What an absolutely unforgettable few days we have just enjoyed at PGL! A group of our wonderful KS2 pupils, accompanied by Mrs Redmayne and Mrs Simmonds, returned this week from their residential adventure with rosy cheeks, muddy trainers, and hearts full of stories they will be telling for years to come.

For many of our children, this trip marked their very first time away from home for several nights. There were a few nervous faces as we boarded the coach, but by the time we pulled into the PGL site, excitement had well and truly taken over.

The activity timetable was packed from start to finish, and our pupils threw themselves into every single challenge with courage and enthusiasm. We kicked off with the zip line, which proved to be one of the standout highlights of the entire trip. Climbing up to the platform was daunting for some, but with cheers of encouragement from friends below, every single child took the leap. The whoops and screams of delight as they zoomed through the air will stay with us for a very long time.

Orienteering tested the children's teamwork and map reading skills as they raced around the site searching for hidden markers. We were thoroughly impressed by their problem solving and the way they supported one another, even when a few groups took the scenic route! The trapeze pushed the children well beyond their comfort zones, climbing high before leaping off. The pride on their faces was truly something to behold.

Survival skills was a real favourite, with the children learning to build shelters, use their flint and steel to create a flame and work as a team to solve real world challenges. Many returned to the dorms talking excitedly about becoming wilderness experts.

Then came raft building, quite possibly the most talked about activity of the whole trip. Working in teams, the children lashed barrels and planks together with rope, planned their designs, and launched their creations onto the water. One raft sailed gracefully across the lake.



The other, however, had other ideas. Despite the children's best efforts, their raft began to come apart in the middle of the water, and before we knew it, several pupils were swimming for shore, life jackets bobbing as they made their way back. It was an unforgettable moment for all, and there were whoops of laughter from many of the children. The instructors were brilliant throughout and once warm clothes and kind words had been shared, the children were already retelling the story with a great deal of pride. It was a perfect example of resilience, courage, and looking after one another.

Problem solving and archery rounded out the daytime activities, with our pupils discovering hidden talents at the archery range and demonstrating impressive cooperation through a series of tricky group challenges.

Finally, the giant swing provided a thrilling finale. Strapped in pairs and hoisted high into the air, the children pulled the release cord themselves before swinging out across the fields. The screams of joy could probably be heard from the next county!

The evenings were every bit as memorable as the days. Balloon splash had the children racing around in fits of giggles, with water balloons bursting in the most unexpected places and absolutely nobody escaping unscathed. The classic PGL games evening was a wonderful way to wind down together, with team challenges, silly songs, and plenty of laughter shared between friends old and new.

Memories made for a lifetime.



# COVERED IN COLOUR, UNITED IN KINDNESS: MOORLAND COMMUNITY RAISES MONEY



Our school community came together in spectacular style on Friday 8th May for our Colour Run, raising an incredible £1,544 for Alder Hey Children's Hospital.

For a small school, this is a phenomenal amount and truly demonstrates the power, kindness and generosity of the Moorland community when we unite behind an important cause.

The event transformed our school field into a sea of colour, laughter and excitement as children took part in separate KS1 and KS2 runs, cheering each other on while being showered with bright paint powder along the route. By the end of the day, smiles were wide, clothes were colourful, and memories had been made to last a lifetime.

The atmosphere was filled with community spirit as parents joined in too, helping to cover children in paint and supporting the event with enthusiasm from start to finish. It was a joyful reminder of what makes Moorland so special - families, staff and children working together to make a difference.

The charity chosen this year held particular significance. Over recent years, one of our pupils, Hudson, has undergone major surgery and received outstanding care, compassion and support from Alder Hey. Throughout difficult times, the hospital provided not only exceptional medical care but also reassurance and kindness to Hudson and her family.

Hudson was diagnosed with hip dysplasia at just six years old and underwent surgery in July 2024, followed by nine challenging weeks in a Spica cast and intensive rehabilitation as she learned to walk again at nine years old.

Throughout her journey, Hudson showed extraordinary strength, courage and resilience, inspiring everyone around her.

Hudson's parents, Mike and Jen, shared: "Hudson's strength and resilience were nothing short of extraordinary. Day after day, she showed us what true courage looks like. It means the world to us that our lovely Moorland Junior School and community have chosen Alder Hey as the charity to support."

The remarkable amount raised will help Alder Hey continue supporting children and families during some of the most challenging moments in their lives.

We are incredibly proud of our children for embracing the event with such enthusiasm and kindness, and grateful to every parent, family member and supporter who donated, volunteered or took part. It was a great afternoon!

Thank you, Moorland community. Together, you have shown that even a small school can make an extraordinary difference.

# SCHOOL COUNCIL: PUPIL VOICE IN ACTION



Our School Council has been exceptionally busy this term, continuing to play a vital role in ensuring that pupil voice is not only heard, but genuinely acted upon across the school.

One of their most recent and significant projects has focused on improving the lunchtime experience for everyone. Working collaboratively, council members designed a detailed questionnaire for both pupils and staff, carefully considering the questions needed to gather meaningful feedback. The aim was to understand preferences around school meals and ensure future menus reflect the choices our school community enjoys most.

The questionnaire explored a range of lunchtime favourites, including main meals, fruits, puddings, and even drink preferences such as milk or water. School Council representatives demonstrated real confidence and responsibility as they distributed the questionnaires across school, encouraging participation and ensuring a wide range of voices were included.

Once collected, the results were carefully collated and analysed by the council. This process allowed pupils to develop important skills in organisation, teamwork, and data interpretation. The findings have now been clearly presented and can be viewed on the School Council notice board outside Miss Baron's classroom. Pupils, staff, and visitors are warmly encouraged to take a look and see the views of our school community. The results will also be shared with Mr Stephenson to help inform future menu planning and ensure school meals remain enjoyable and engaging for all.

More recently, the School Council has turned its attention to promoting positive relationships and celebrating friendships across the school. Following thoughtful discussions and idea-sharing sessions, one proposal stood out as a clear favourite, a teddy bears' picnic during lunchtime.

This exciting idea would invite children to bring a favourite teddy from home and enjoy a picnic lunch with friends on the school field. The aim is to encourage social interaction, strengthen friendships, and create a fun, relaxed experience that brings the whole school together.

The council is now working closely with Mrs Brotherton to explore how this event can be safely and successfully organised, considering important details such as space, timings, and inclusion for all pupils.

"I am really proud to be on the School Council because we get to make real changes that help everyone in school." -Eira

Parents have also been keen to hear about the work of the council, often asking about meetings and the kinds of decisions being made. Pupils have been proud to share updates at home, further reinforcing the importance of pupil voice within the wider school community.

We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, responsibility, and leadership shown by our School Council members. Their commitment to improving school life continues to make a genuine and lasting difference at Moorland.



# ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

## LEARNING, GROWING AND SUCCEEDING BEYOND THE SCHOOL WALLS

At Moorland Junior School, we are proud to say that children learn both inside and outside of the classroom. We know there are significant benefits to real-life experiences, outdoor learning, and taking education beyond the classroom environment. This is why we place such importance on school trips, enrichment opportunities, Forest School, and LAMDA, ensuring children have every chance to discover and develop their talents in different settings.

These experiences allow our pupils to build confidence, independence, teamwork skills, and resilience - all of which are just as important as academic achievement.

Over recent weeks, we have been delighted to celebrate a number of fantastic achievements from our children outside of school. From sporting successes to creative performances and personal accomplishments, it has been wonderful to see so many pupils excelling in their own time and passions beyond the classroom.

These achievements are a true reflection of the enthusiasm, dedication, and hard work of our children, as well as the support they receive from home. Whether it is in clubs, competitions, performances, or personal challenges, each success is something to be incredibly proud of.



A huge well done to our fabulous Albie, who has achieved his stage 3 in swimming this week - what a huge achievement! Learning to swim is a life saving skill. We love Albie's determination and enjoyment for learning new skills! Keep going Albie!



Mum said " This is Ruby's certificate from Ella Shaw Academy of Arts. They are preparing to perform a show in the summer & Ruby got star of the week for her singing. I believe Ruby's amongst the youngest of the class, if not the youngest. Her new friend Lola from Reception also attends. Ruby started in February after retiring from her 2 years of ballet & tap. She's very much enjoying her new career on stage. We are very proud of her." Well done Ruby, We are proud of you!!



Here is Tommy at his football presentation evening, where he received a medal and a trophy for his progress in the sport. Great Work Tommy , we are so proud of you!

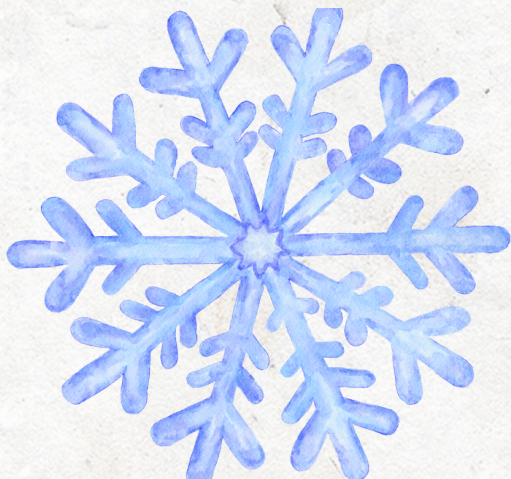
Our super talented Mabel, pictured below at her silks lesson. Mabel has had a passion for aerial silks for many years now and continues to amaze us all with her incredible performances, both on video and live on stage. Her dedication, commitment and determination to keep improving are truly inspiring.

The strength, agility and confidence needed for silks are remarkable, and Mabel demonstrates all of these qualities beautifully every time she performs. We are so proud of her hard work and the passion she brings to her talent. Maybe it is time for another talent show so we can all see Mabel in action once again!



Anaaya bravely got her ears pierced this week! She was scared of the pain but determined to have them done, Trying something new can feel scary, but she showed courage. We are so proud of her determination and love her new sparkles.





Eira goes into the French Ski School, ESF (Ecole du Ski Francais). She does 3.5 hours everyday with a qualified instructor and each year is tested during the week to pass and achieve certain objectives and if successful, she receives a medal. In her first 2 years, she achieved her Ourson (Teddy Bear) and Flocon (Snowflake) Medals and this year she was working for her Une Etoile (1 star), which she successfully did!

The outstanding medals she has to go are 2nd and 3rd star which are then followed by Bronze, Silver and Gold but if she continues at the rate she is going she will be passed through the whole system by the age of 11! WOW Eira, how impressive.

A huge well done to both Ezra and Aria for completing their very first Park Run! The Park Run is a hugely popular Saturday morning event in Clitheroe, bringing the community together through fitness, determination and fun.

We are incredibly proud of Ezra and Aria for taking part, embracing the fantastic community spirit and starting their weekend with such a brilliant challenge. Completing a Park Run takes perseverance, resilience and a positive attitude, and they should both feel extremely proud of their achievement. What a wonderful accomplishment - well done both!



Albie was in his first year of the ESF Ski School this year and was in the beginners Piou Piou Club, Albie earned the highest award possible for his age! Well Done Albie!



This little fish earned 4, yes 4 swimming awards and we couldn't be prouder of her! Hard work, determination and confidence in the water have paid off. What an amazing milestone.



Pippa walked up Pendle Hill for the first time at 4 years old. She didn't ask to be carried and was rewarded with an ice cream at the bottom!



Lachlan continues to impress us all weekly with his passion and skill on the football pitch. Lachlan trains incredibly hard showing his commitment - hard work truly does pay off! He currently trains in the advanced pre-academy groups at both Manchester City and Manchester United, training four times a week.

We would like to say a huge well done to all of the children who have shared their achievements with us. Your efforts and commitment both inside and outside the classroom continue to make Moorland proud every day.

# FROM FIRST STEPS TO FEARLESS SKIERS: PUPILS TAKE ON THE SLOPES



This term, pupils have been building confidence, resilience and determination during their exciting skiing enrichment sessions. From their very first lesson, children have been learning the key skills needed to stay balanced and in control, including skiing in parallel and mastering the “number 11” position keeping their skis straight and aligned as they glide down the slope. The progress from the very first session to now has been incredible to witness. What began with some pupils feeling unsure and a little nervous has quickly transformed into growing confidence and determination, with many now “smashing the slopes” with huge smiles on their faces. Each week, children have challenged themselves to go a little higher, using the ski tow to reach the top and showing real bravery as they make their way back down the slope independently.

Alongside confidence, pupils have been developing their coordination and concentration, carefully focusing on their footwork while also learning to look ahead and plan their route. These important skills have been strengthened further through fun challenges, including catching a beanbag while skiing downhill, an activity which tested balance, reactions and focus while adding an extra element of excitement and laughter to the sessions.

For many pupils, the sessions have also been about overcoming fears and stepping outside of their comfort zones. The children have shown fantastic perseverance, encouraging one another after falls and celebrating every achievement together, no matter how small. Staff have been particularly impressed with the way pupils have supported their friends, creating a positive and encouraging atmosphere on the slopes each week.

Izhan from Year 1 shared, “At first I was a bit scared and kept falling over but now I love going faster and higher!”

The skiing enrichment has not only developed physical skills such as balance, agility and coordination, but has also helped pupils grow in confidence and independence. Many children who were initially hesitant are now eagerly volunteering to take on new challenges and push themselves further each session.

Miss Davies is incredibly proud of every pupil and the progress they have made so far. She commented on the fantastic attitudes shown by the children, praising their resilience, teamwork and willingness to keep trying even when they found something difficult. With confidence continuing to grow week by week, she is excited to see what the children will achieve next as they continue their skiing journey



# EYES OFF TO A FLYING START

CONFIDENCE, CURIOSITY, AND NEW FRIENDSHIPS SHINE IN A STRONG START TO THEIR JOURNEY



There has been a fantastic start to the half term in Moorland's Hybrid Class, with children settling into school life with enthusiasm, confidence and a real sense of curiosity.

From their very first days, the children have embraced this new chapter with positivity, quickly building friendships and forming strong relationships with staff. Classrooms have been filled with energy and excitement as pupils become familiar with their new environment and routines.

The class has adapted impressively to daily school life, showing growing independence as they navigate their timetables, classroom expectations, and shared spaces. Their willingness to get involved, try new things, and support one another has already had a noticeable impact, creating a calm, happy, and purposeful learning environment.

A special thank you to our current reception children who have continued the tradition of welcoming, supporting and helping our new children. They continue to do an outstanding job, demonstrating values daily.

Ruby aged 4, after just two weeks in school said "I love school! I have made lots of friends and I like the swing on the park."

Alongside the strong relationships that are continuing to grow and will last long beyond this academic year, our children have also made an excellent start to their reading journeys. Books are now regularly coming home with pride, with children eager to share their learning with parents and carers. It has been wonderful to see families engaging in reading at home, discussing stories together, and talking about characters, events, and predictions with increasing confidence. Reading is taking place daily across the class, supporting fluency, comprehension, and a genuine love of books, with research consistently showing that children who read for just 20 minutes a day are exposed to over 1.8 million words per year.

A particular highlight of the half term has been two exciting school trips. A visit to the theatre sparked imagination and creativity, while a trip to the farm offered hands-on learning and unforgettable experiences. On both occasions, the children represented the school beautifully, demonstrating excellent behaviour and genuine engagement throughout.

Reception children have also stood out as fantastic role models, showing kindness, responsibility, and a wonderful attitude towards learning. Their example has helped to set the tone for the class, supporting a positive and respectful environment for all.

With such a strong start, the future looks bright for the Hybrid Class. As the term continues, there is great excitement about the progress, growth, and achievements still to come.



# A MAGICAL DAY AT THE THEATRE!

A recent school trip proved to be a truly magical experience for pupils, as they visited Lancaster Grand Theatre in Morecambe to watch a live performance of Zog. From the moment the journey began, excitement was high, and this enthusiasm continued throughout a memorable and thoroughly enjoyable day.

On arrival at the theatre, the children were immediately struck by the grandeur of the setting and the anticipation of seeing a live performance. Their behaviour throughout was exceptional. They listened carefully, followed instructions with maturity, and showed outstanding manners to staff and members of the public. They were a real credit to the school and represented Moorland brilliantly.

The performance of Zog was vibrant, energetic, and full of colour. The story follows Zog, a keen and determined young dragon who attends dragon school and works hard to master essential skills such as flying, roaring, and breathing fire. Although he often finds things challenging, Zog's perseverance and resilience shine through, supported by a kind and caring princess who helps him along the way.

Bringing the story to life, the production featured lively costumes, engaging characters, catchy songs, and plenty of humour. Interactive moments throughout the show encouraged audience participation, and our children responded brilliantly – clapping, laughing, and fully immersing themselves in the experience.

Following the performance, pupils enjoyed a relaxed picnic together. Sitting with friends, they shared their lunches and excitedly discussed their favourite moments from the show. Conversations flowed easily as they recalled funny scenes, memorable songs, and their favourite characters. It was a lovely opportunity for the children to unwind, socialise, and enjoy each other's company in a calm and happy setting.

"It was the best day ever - I loved when Zog learned to fly!"

– Moorland pupil

This trip was not only a fantastic cultural experience but also supported learning back in school, particularly in Literacy, as pupils were able to connect the live performance to stories, characters, and themes explored in the classroom.

Overall, it was a highly successful day filled with joy, learning, and exemplary behaviour. A trip that will undoubtedly be remembered by the children for a long time to come.



# LITERACY TAKES FLIGHT WITH A VERY SPECIAL CLASSROOM VISITOR

There has been a real buzz of excitement and curiosity in Literacy this half term, following the arrival of a very special new classmate – Harry the mouse.

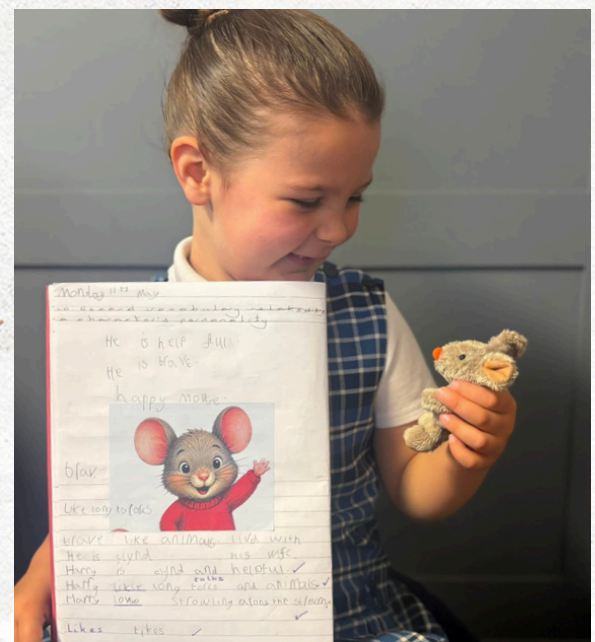
Over the Easter holidays, Harry quietly moved into the classroom and has quickly become a much-loved member of our learning community. His arrival has sparked enthusiasm not only within the class but across the wider school, with children eager to hear about his latest adventures and discoveries.

The children were thrilled to meet Harry and have fully embraced him as part of their daily learning. He has played a key role in supporting their Literacy work, particularly through their exploration of rhyming words. Pupils have shown great enthusiasm when identifying rhymes, generating their own examples, and experimenting with language in increasingly confident and creative ways.

One of the highlights of the half term has been the children rewriting their own versions of the well-known nursery rhyme Hickory Dickory Dock. They have used their imagination to change characters, settings, and events, before bringing their writing to life through actions and performances. Their confidence, expression, and creativity have truly shone as they shared their work with their peers.

Alongside this, the class text Harry the Happy Mouse has further deepened engagement and enjoyment in reading. Through the story, children have explored a rich range of vocabulary, developing their understanding of words such as nocturnal, rescuing, delighted, thrilled, relieved, and pleased. These words have been discussed, acted out, and used in sentences to strengthen both understanding and application.

We encourage families to continue these conversations at home – can your child explain these words or use them in their own sentences? It has been wonderful to see such enthusiasm for reading, writing, and spoken language, all inspired by our tiny but mighty classroom companion, Harry.



# A DAY TO GROW, EXPLORE AND DISCOVER AT INCREDIBLE FARM



Our pupils recently enjoyed a truly unforgettable visit to Incredible Farm, where they spent a full day immersed in nature, outdoor learning, and hands-on experiences. The trip provided a fantastic opportunity to take learning beyond the classroom, helping children develop a deeper understanding of where food comes from.

During the visit, Mike, who runs the farm, shared his knowledge and passion for growing fruits and vegetables. He explained how crops are planted, cared for, and harvested, bringing the journey from seed to plate to life. The children were fascinated to learn about seasonal growing and the work involved in producing fresh, healthy food.

One of the highlights of the day was tasting produce straight from the farm. The children bravely sampled garlic, lettuce, mint, and a variety of fresh herbs. There were plenty of surprised reactions to some of the stronger flavours, but the experience encouraged many to try new foods and think differently about what they eat. Pupils also had the opportunity to plant their own onion bulbs, carefully placing them into the soil and learning how they will grow over time. They then helped to water crops around the farm, reinforcing the importance of caring for plants and the environment. Meeting the animals was another memorable part of the visit. Rodney the emu quickly became a firm favourite, capturing everyone's attention with his unique personality. The children also enjoyed meeting Jake the friendly dog, along with a range of birds including turkeys, chickens, and quails, learning more about how they are cared for on the farm.

Alongside the structured activities, there was plenty of time for play, exploration, and creativity. The den area encouraged teamwork and imaginative play, while the mud kitchen proved extremely popular as children created their own 'recipes' using natural materials. The tree swings were also a highlight, allowing pupils to build confidence, have fun, and enjoy the outdoor environment.

Throughout the day, the children demonstrated excellent behaviour, curiosity, and enthusiasm. They asked thoughtful questions, listened carefully, and made the most of every opportunity. The visit to Incredible Farm was a perfect blend of education and enjoyment – a day full of meaningful, hands-on learning that will be remembered for a long time.



# YOUNG GEOGRAPHERS DIVE INTO LEARNING!



Children from Year 1/ 2 class have been making waves in their Geography lessons this term as they explored the fascinating world of coasts, oceans, and the United Kingdom. From catchy songs to a real-life beach visit, the topic has truly come to life in exciting and memorable ways.

The journey began with children learning about the United Kingdom, discovering the four of the countries that make it up and confidently naming their capitals. Through fun activities and memorable songs, pupils quickly built their knowledge and enthusiasm. Ayesha Year 2 shared, "The songs really helped me remember all the countries in the UK" As their confidence grew, the class explored the seas surrounding the UK and began investigating what a coast is. Using digital tools like Google Earth, children zoomed in on coastlines, identifying where land meets the sea and discussing places, they may have visited themselves.

The excitement continued with an unforgettable trip to Fylde Beach School, where learning moved from the classroom to the coast. Here, pupils explored real coastal features, building on their prior knowledge of physical and human features as they identified cliffs, rocks, and the shoreline. They were especially fascinated by learning about tides and why it is so important to check them for safety.

Tommy from Year 1 explained, "I didn't know the sea moves two times a day"

Taylor - Year 2 "It's important to check the tides so you stay safe!"

The children also discovered different types of waves and how they shape the coastline, deepening their understanding of how the natural world is constantly changing.

## **FUN FACT!**

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

THERE ARE DIFFERENT TYPES OF WAVES AT THE COAST! SPILLING WAVES ARE SMALLER, GENTLE WAVES THAT SLOWLY ROLL ONTO THE BEACH, WHILE PLUNGING WAVES ARE BIGGER AND MORE POWERFUL, CRASHING DOWN WITH A SPLASH. THE STRONGEST ARE SURGING WAVES, WHICH RUSH UP THE BEACH QUICKLY AND CAN BE QUITE DRAMATIC! WITH A MIX OF SONGS, TECHNOLOGY, AND HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES, THIS GEOGRAPHY UNIT HAS TRULY INSPIRED CURIOSITY AND EXCITEMENT.

AS WINNIE FROM YEAR 1 PROUDLY SAID, "NOW WHEN I GO TO THE BEACH, I KNOW WHAT EVERYTHING IS—AND I CAN EXPLAIN IT TO MY FAMILY!"





# STORYTELLING IN THE SUNSHINE: CHILDREN BRING “THE SCARECROW’S WEDDING” TO LIFE!

Year 1/ 2 Pupils have been fully immersed in their English learning this term, inspired by the much-loved story The Scarecrow’s Wedding. From the very first day, excitement was in the air as learning began outdoors in the sunshine, where children worked together to crack riddles all about the environment around them. They impressed Miss Davies with their enthusiasm and teamwork, before heading back into the classroom to transform their ideas into fantastic sentences.

Throughout the topic, all children have shown great determination and creativity, diving deep into their learning and taking real pride in their work. A key focus has been on using conjunctions and suffixes, helping pupils understand how and when to use them effectively in their writing. This has made a big difference, with children becoming more confident in building detailed, extended sentences and adding extra information to make their writing more engaging for the reader.

Following the structure of The Scarecrow’s Wedding, pupils explored storytelling using a clear sequence—first, next, then—to help organise their ideas.

Jenson shared “First, the scarecrows met and planned a wedding. Next, they made a list of all the things they need. Then they had the best wedding yet!”

Using sequencing like this has really supported the children’s understanding of story structure and has helped them when planning and writing their own stories.

They then created their own imaginative versions of the story, introducing brand-new characters and beautiful outdoor settings but keeping to the structure.

The classroom was filled with creativity as the children truly became mini authors, taking ownership of their ideas and developing confidence in their storytelling.

Eira Year 1 shared, “I loved making my own story because I could change the characters and make it my own adventure!”

To help bring their writing to life, children took their learning outside once again, sitting quietly and observing the world around them. They thought carefully about what they could see, hear, and feel, using this to write rich and detailed setting descriptions by using brilliant adjectives. From rustling leaves to bright flowers swaying in the breeze, their writing captured the magic of the outdoors and showed a clear improvement in their descriptive language.



# GROWING MINDS: YOUNG SCIENTISTS DIG INTO THE WORLD OF PLANTS!

*by Mollie Davies*



This experience has helped pupils take their learning beyond the classroom, encouraging responsibility and a real connection with nature. As they continue to look after their plants at home, they will remember the key things plants need to grow and flourish.

This Science topic has truly inspired curiosity, responsibility, and a love of the natural world. Anna summed it up perfectly, saying, "I loved watching our plant grow everyday!"

This term in Science, KS1 pupils have been getting their hands dirty and their minds growing as they explored the fascinating world of plants. The topic began with an exciting investigation into beans, where children learned how to plant both broad beans and runner beans, carefully setting up their own experiments to see how plants grow.

To begin their investigation, pupils planted one bean in soil and another in damp paper, making predictions about which one would grow the quickest. With great patience and care, they watered their beans regularly and observed changes over time, watching in amazement as shoots began to appear.

Taylor proudly shared, "I now know that plants need sunlight, air and water to grow." This hands-on experience helped children truly understand what plants need to survive and thrive.

As the days passed, excitement grew alongside the plants, with pupils eagerly checking to see if their predictions were correct. The classroom was filled with curiosity as children discussed their findings and noticed how quickly nature can work when given the right conditions.

The learning didn't stop there. Pupils then became plant detectives, closely examining flowers using magnifying glasses. They carefully observed each part of a plant and were able to confidently label them, from roots to stems to petals. More importantly, they developed an understanding of the role each part plays. Children explained how roots anchor the plant and absorb water, while stems transport water and nutrients, showing a deepening understanding of plant life.

The class also explored different types of plants, comparing wild flowers with garden flowers, and learning about evergreen and deciduous leaves. They discovered how some trees keep their leaves all year round, while others lose them depending on the season. This helped children see how plants adapt to their environment in different ways.

A highlight of the term was the exciting trip to a garden centre, where pupils were able to see a wide variety of plants up close. They explored carefully, looking at different colours, shapes, and sizes, and thinking about everything they had learned in class. The children were especially excited to choose the perfect flower for their own flower pot, which they will continue to care for at home



# HARMONY, RHYTHM AND RIVERS: YEAR 3 & 4 MAKE MUSIC COME ALIVE



Music lessons in Year 3 and 4 have been filled with joyful singing, careful listening and exciting musical discoveries this term. Pupils have been developing both their performing skills and their understanding of orchestral music through a range of creative and engaging activities.

One of the main focuses this term has been learning to sing in canon. A canon is a piece of music where one group begins a melody and another group joins in a few beats later with exactly the same tune, creating a layered and overlapping effect. The children explored well-known songs such as Frère Jacques, London's Burning and Row, Row, Row Your Boat. Although these songs may sound simple, singing in canon requires a great deal of concentration, confidence and teamwork.


The children first practised the songs together in unison, making sure they were secure with both the melody and lyrics before splitting into groups. Once the second group entered later in the song, pupils quickly discovered just how challenging it can be to hold their own part while hearing another group singing something different at the same time! Through perseverance, practice and lots of encouragement, the classes made fantastic progress and produced some truly beautiful canon performances

Alongside their singing work, pupils have also been exploring orchestral music through Vltava, also known as The Moldau, by Bedřich Smetana. This famous piece of music tells the story of a river flowing through the Czech Republic, and the children were fascinated by how music can paint vivid pictures and tell a story without any words at all.

During listening activities, pupils closed their eyes and imagined the scenes created by the music. Many described trickling streams, rushing waterfalls, peaceful countryside and bustling towns – exactly the kinds of images Smetana intended listeners to picture. The piece provided a wonderful opportunity to introduce important musical vocabulary, including tempo, dynamics, pitch and timbre. Children learned to identify how changes in speed and volume represented different stages of the river's journey. They could hear gentle flutes portraying the river's source and powerful brass instruments suggesting the river growing wider and stronger as it travelled towards the city.

Inspired by this learning, pupils then worked collaboratively in small groups to compose their own river-themed music using percussion instruments. The results were imaginative and thoughtful, with children carefully using dynamics and tempo to represent different moods and movements within their compositions.

It has been wonderful to see the children's musical confidence continue to grow throughout the term. From singing independently in canon to discussing orchestral music using technical vocabulary, pupils have shown fantastic enthusiasm, creativity and resilience in every lesson

**DID YOU KNOW?**   
 VLTAVA WAS WRITTEN BY  
 BEDŘICH SMETANA IN 1874 AND  
 IS PART OF A LARGER  
 COLLECTION OF MUSIC CALLED  
 MÁ VLAST, WHICH MEANS MY  
 HOMETLAND. THE MUSIC  
 FOLLOWS THE JOURNEY OF THE  
 RIVER VLTAVA AS IT FLOWS  
 THROUGH FORESTS,  
 COUNTRYSIDE AND THE CITY  
 OF PRAGUE. AMAZINGLY,  
 SMETANA COMPOSED MUCH OF  
 THIS FAMOUS PIECE AFTER HE  
 HAD BECOME COMPLETELY  
 DEAF!

# CLIMBING INTO ADVENTURE: YEAR 3 & 4 EXPLORE THE MAGIC FARAWAY TREE

What a magical few weeks it has been in Year 3 and 4 English lessons! This term, pupils have been completely captivated by *The Magic Faraway Tree*, the much-loved classic by Enid Blyton. The children have thoroughly enjoyed stepping into the enchanting world of Moon-Face, Silky, the Saucepan Man and the ever-changing lands at the top of the Faraway Tree.

The highlight of the term was undoubtedly the children's exciting trip to the theatre to watch a live stage adaptation of the story. From the moment the curtain rose, pupils were completely absorbed in the magical performance. Clever set designs transformed the stage into wonderful lands including the Land of Goodies, the Land of Topsy-Turvy and the Land of Birthdays, bringing the much-loved story vividly to life before their eyes.

There were laughs, gasps and even whispered warnings to the characters during some of the more dramatic moments! The children's enthusiasm and excitement were wonderful to see, and their behaviour throughout the trip was impeccable. Theatre staff commented on how engaged, respectful and enthusiastic the pupils were during the performance.

Back in the classroom, the trip inspired a fantastic burst of creativity in English lessons. Pupils began writing their own mini adventure stories inspired by *The Magic Faraway Tree*. Each child invented a magical new land at the top of the tree, complete with imaginative settings, unusual rules, exciting characters and a problem that had to be solved before the land moved on.

The creativity on display has been extraordinary. Stories included adventures in the Land of Endless Pizza, where even the floor could be eaten; the Land of Backwards Time, where children grew younger every hour; and the Land of Forgotten Toys, where every missing teddy and puzzle piece eventually appeared. Familiar characters from the original story featured throughout, alongside the children's own brave adventurers.

Throughout the writing process, pupils focused carefully on developing important Year 3 and 4 writing skills. They worked hard to include fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and correctly punctuated direct speech to make their stories exciting and engaging for the reader. Children also explored the full writing process, planning, drafting, editing and publishing their work, helping them understand how authors improve their writing through careful revision.

One of the most rewarding moments came during peer review sessions, when pupils shared their stories and offered thoughtful feedback to one another. Hearing children suggest ideas such as, "You could add a simile here," or "What does the land smell like?" showed just how much their confidence and understanding as young writers has grown.

The finished stories have now been beautifully bound together into a class anthology, which will be proudly displayed in the reading corner for everyone to enjoy. Parents and carers are warmly invited to come and have a read – the imagination, effort and creativity shown by the children is truly outstanding.

A huge thank you goes to all the families who supported the theatre trip, and an enormous well done to our talented young authors for their hard work, imagination and enthusiasm throughout this magical topic.



# Stepping Back in Time to the Anglo Saxons

This term, our Year 3 and 4 historians have been transported back more than a thousand years to explore the fascinating world of Anglo-Saxon Britain. From the moment we unrolled our first map of early medieval England, the children have been gripped by stories of warriors, settlers, kings, and craftspeople who shaped the country we know today.

We began our journey by setting the historical scene. Pupils learned that the Anglo-Saxons arrived in Britain from around 410 AD, after the Roman legions had departed. They came from regions we now call Germany, Denmark, and the Netherlands, and they were not a single group but rather a mix of peoples- the Angles, the Saxons, and the Jutes. The children enjoyed discovering that the very name "England" comes from the Angles, and that many of our days of the week are named after Anglo-Saxon gods. Wednesday, for example, comes from Woden, while Thursday is named after Thunor, the god of thunder.

We then explored what daily life was like in an Anglo-Saxon village. The children were surprised to learn that most settlements were small, perhaps just a handful of wooden longhouses surrounded by farmland. We examined photographs of reconstructions and discussed the roles of different villagers, from the thane who owned the land to the ceorls who farmed it and the slaves who served the household. The children designed their own Anglo-Saxon villages, carefully placing buildings near rivers for water, woods for fuel, and open land for crops and animals.

Our learning then turned to one of the most exciting archaeological discoveries in British history: the Sutton Hoo ship burial.

The children were enthralled by the story of how, in 1939, archaeologist Basil Brown uncovered a vast ship buried beneath a mound in Suffolk, containing the treasures of what is believed to be an Anglo-Saxon king. We studied images of the famous helmet, the ornate belt buckle, and the beautifully crafted shoulder clasps. The pupils had thoughtful discussions about what these objects tell us about Anglo-Saxon beliefs, craftsmanship, and the importance placed on the afterlife.

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# YEARS 5 & 6 BECOME ECO WARRIORS AT ECO TOWN!

Years 5 and 6 had an unforgettable trip to Eco Town in Leyland, where they became real-life eco warriors for the day!

The visit was all about sustainability-learning how we can protect our planet through recycling and the choices we make every day. But this was no ordinary lesson... the children got to see recycling in action! They watched incredible machines and robots scanning and sorting items at high speed, which was definitely a highlight of the trip.

The children got to use their own control pads to take a closer look at the rubbish being processed like real scientists investigating the journey of waste!

There was plenty of creativity too. The children worked together to create beautiful artwork to leave behind for the Eco Town art gallery. From a Helping Hand Earth to colourful cardboard tube pictures, their pieces showed powerful messages about caring for our planet.

Frankie Stollard said "The trip was great fun considering it was a place where everyone's rubbish goes to. The day after the trip I thought more carefully about what rubbish goes into which bin." Whilst Bradley Harrison said "It was a good trip, I enjoyed seeing all the rubbish being loaded into the different machines because it was interesting seeing the machinery and lasers.

It was a fun, fascinating, and inspiring day that has encouraged everyone to think more carefully about how we can all make a difference. Well done, Years 5 and 6!



## MAKING WAVES FOR OUR PLANET: PUPILS LEARN HOW TO PROTECT THE OCEANS

Year 5 and 6 have been diving headfirst into an exciting topic all about protecting our oceans and discovering just how important the ocean is for life on Earth. Throughout the lessons, pupils have been amazed by the huge role our seas play in keeping our planet healthy, from producing oxygen to supporting marine life across the world. One of the highlights of the topic was learning about the incredible Great Barrier Reef, which fascinated the children with its colourful coral and unique sea creatures.

To take their learning even further, some children chose to complete a fantastic home learning project – and the results were absolutely brilliant! Pupils were challenged to show the difference between a protected ocean and an unprotected ocean, and they certainly impressed everyone with their creativity, imagination and effort.

The projects were packed with thoughtful ideas and important messages. Children used real-life objects to represent sea creatures, pollution and clean environments, carefully arranging and labelling their work to demonstrate their understanding. Some pupils even went the extra mile by including fascinating facts they had researched independently at home – a very impressive effort!

There was a wonderful buzz around the classroom as children proudly shared their creations with one another. From colourful displays to detailed models, every piece of work told an important story about the impact humans can have on the oceans and the importance of protecting marine environments for future generations.

It was fantastic to see the classroom filled with such enthusiasm for home learning. The children clearly loved the opportunity to be creative, think carefully about environmental issues and present their learning in their own unique way. The topic has inspired many pupils to think more deeply about how we can all play a part in protecting our oceans and caring for our planet.



# Outdoor Learning Inspires Creative World Views

Taking their learning outdoors, the children made the most of the sunshine, using the natural environment to inspire their ideas and creativity. Exploring Religious Education through art, pupils created their own "World View" drawings using chalks and oil pastels, with bright colours and varied textures helping to bring their thoughts and beliefs to life.

What was particularly wonderful was seeing children from a range of backgrounds, values and beliefs engage in thoughtful discussions with maturity, respect and curiosity to learn from each other. Pupils confidently shared the meanings behind their artwork, demonstrating deep reflection and understanding.

The results were both meaningful and imaginative. Some children focused on Planet Earth, exploring the idea that we all share one world and have a collective responsibility to care for it. Others reflected on themes of teamwork, kindness, and helping one another, considering how we can protect and support the people around us.

Learning outdoors sparked creativity and encouraged pupils to express themselves freely. The change in environment provided an opportunity for reflection, allowing ideas to develop in unique and personal ways.

It has been inspiring to see such powerful thoughts captured through art, with every piece reflecting individuality, imagination, and a thoughtful understanding of the world around us.



## EXPLORING VARIATION AND INHERITANCE: SCIENCE FULL OF DISCOVERY!

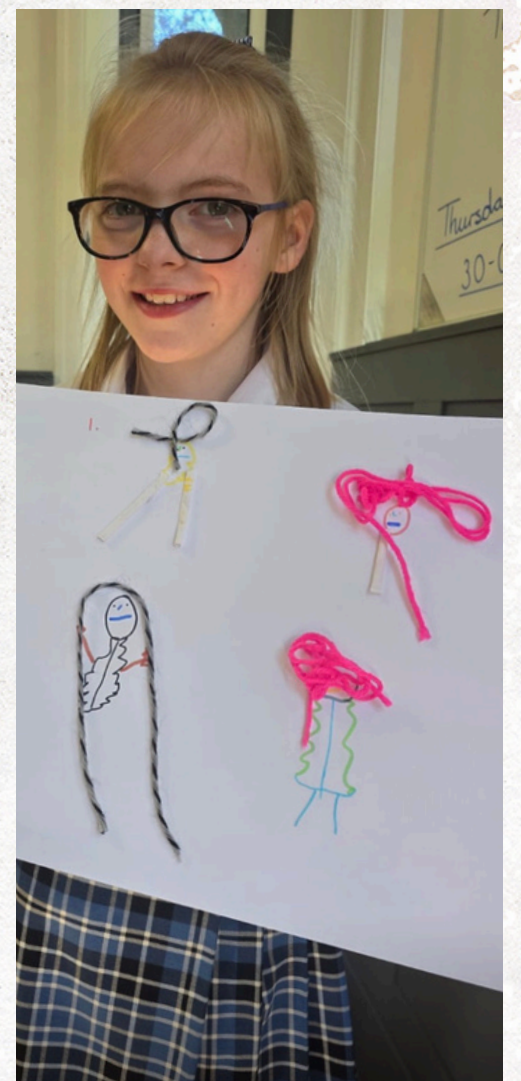
Years 5 and 6 have been having a fantastic time exploring variation and inheritance in science, with lessons packed full of creativity, curiosity, and plenty of "wow" moments!

One of the most exciting activities saw pupils designing their very own creatures. From extra-long tails to brightly coloured wings, each creation was completely unique. The children enjoyed imagining how their creatures' characteristics could be passed on to future offspring and how these features might change over time. It was a brilliant way to bring important scientific concepts to life in a fun and engaging way.

The excitement continued as pupils became plant detectives, carefully observing flowers and plants. They were fascinated to discover how even the same type of plant can vary in appearance, spotting differences in colour, size, and shape. Enthusiastic discussions filled the classroom as children compared their findings and shared their observations.

Through these activities, pupils explored inherited traits, characteristics passed down from parents, as well as acquired traits, which can develop and change through experiences and environments over time.

It has been wonderful to see such enthusiasm, curiosity, and creativity during science lessons. The thoughtful questions, imaginative ideas, and excitement for learning suggest there may well be some future scientists in the making!





As we come to the end of another truly successful year, we pause with pride in all that has been achieved and with excitement for what lies ahead.

It is always bittersweet to say goodbye to our Year 6 children. They leave us as confident, capable and character-filled young people who have made a lasting impact on our school community.

They are full of personality, kindness, humour and individuality, and the school will feel very different without them.

They have contributed so much to school life and we are incredibly proud of each and every one of them as they take their next steps forward.

Mrs Ashleigh Brotherton said:

"As always, I couldn't be prouder to lead this school. We see exceptional examples of teaching and learning throughout every part of school life. Our teachers consistently support children while going beyond the textbook, curriculum and worksheets to bring learning to life in meaningful and memorable ways. I would like to thank them for all they do at Moorland to make it such a special place."

My heart lies with the children in this school - kind, funny, confident, respectful and hard-working; everything we could ask for. They truly embody our values, whilst injecting our beautiful building with personality, humour, effort and fun."

At Moorland School, this ethos is felt in every classroom, every corridor and every interaction. It is a school where relationships matter deeply, where children are known as individuals, and where learning is not confined to pages in a book but brought vividly to life through creativity, challenge and curiosity.

This year has seen continued growth across the school, not only in academic achievement but also in confidence, independence and aspiration. Our children have been encouraged to think critically, ask questions, and take ownership of their learning. They have been given opportunities to explore ideas beyond the curriculum, to collaborate, to lead, and to develop resilience in the face of challenge.

Our staff remain at the heart of this success. Their dedication, professionalism and creativity ensure that every child is supported and stretched in equal measure. They consistently go above and beyond, adapting teaching to meet individual needs while maintaining the highest expectations. It is this balance of care and ambition that defines our school.

We are equally proud of the wider experiences offered throughout the year from trips and enrichment days to performances, sports, and outdoor learning. These moments matter just as much as academic progress; they shape character, build confidence, and create lasting memories.

Looking ahead, we do so with real optimism. The foundations we have built are strong, and we are excited to continue developing as a school that embraces innovation while holding firmly to its values. We will continue to refine our curriculum, deepen our approach to teaching and learning, and ensure that every child leaves us not only academically prepared, but also socially confident, emotionally resilient and ready for the wider world.

While it is always hard to say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils, we do so with pride in who they are and excitement for who they will become. They leave behind a legacy of laughter and warmth that will not be forgotten.

The year ahead is one of possibility, progress and promise and we look forward to embracing it together.

