



# NEWSLETTER

## Diary Dates - Week 3

### Monday 20th January

- Practice-A-Thon

### Tuesday 21st January

- Practice-A-Thon
- Year 3 Assembly in Chapel 8.50am
- U8/9 Girls v The Downs Malvern (H)
- Year 4-8 Parents' Forum Old Library 5.00pm

### Wednesday 22nd January

- Practice-A-Thon
- 1st & 2nd Boys v Elms (A)
- Colts A & B Boys v King's St Albans (A)

### Thursday 23rd January

- Practice-A-Thon

### Friday 24th January

- Practice-A-Thon
- MPPA Meeting 8.30am

### Saturday 25th January

- Moor Park Community Morning
- U13A & B Girls v HCS (A)



## Lent Term - Week 2

Goodness me, what a week! A week full of welcomes and goodbyes.

We welcomed a lovely new immersion group from Beijing, eight visiting sports teams, five school inspectors, a new member of our admin team, a visiting speaker from our chosen charity Hope House, and many, many more. It struck me how often people comment on the warm welcome they receive here. No matter who greets you at the front door, you are met with the warmth and kindness that our inspectors so clearly found throughout the entire school community this week. 'Work hard and be kind' really did shine through.

To say I am proud of how the staff and children have navigated this week would be an understatement. It is a gruelling process for all involved, but our inspectors did a thorough job and truly got to know our amazing school. I will not share the findings of the report until it is officially published. However, I was particularly pleased with the positive feedback regarding our teaching staff. Your children are in extremely good and caring hands.

The goodbye was for the wonderful Andrea, the voice with whom many of you will have started your Moor Park journey. That reassuring tone on the phone - one might wonder if Andrea missed her calling as a continuity announcer on Radio 4! Ever helpful and dedicated, Andrea has always worked tirelessly to find the best pupils for Moor Park and the best schools for those pupils to move on to. Her commitment to the school is immeasurable. On a personal note, she has been an incredible guide during my first term as Head, and I will be forever grateful. Andrea has been a wonderful mix of colleague, confidante, mother, and friend. We've laughed (a lot!), celebrated, deliberated, discussed, and even shed a few tears together. Andrea, thank you. Have a wonderful time at home with the sheep!

Just one week to go until our Community Project Morning, and I hope to see many of you here next Saturday, where we can make a real difference to the fabric of the school.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend, and I look forward to catching up with some of you on the touchline or over some Polish cake!



## Workers of the Week:

Year 4: Dexter M  
Year 5: Julia S



Breaktime fun with new friends



House chat

## Pre-Prep Awards:

Reception: Leo O  
Year 1: Magnus C  
Year 2: Tom M  
Year 3: Nico D



All smiles in Caterpillar Room

## Good Egg Award:

This week's Good Egg is Ellie V who is consistently a good friend, helpful member of our school community and well-mannered pupil.

Sometimes it isn't about the big gestures but the everyday kindnesses that throws the spotlight on a Good Egg, and Ellie is a shining example of this.



Year 6 work on electricity circuits together

# IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

## Mindsetters of the Week:



**Curiosity** – Henry M for sharing his video footage of his sheep on his new night camera!

**Critical thinking** – William T/Marcel W-C/Steph P for brilliantly showing the Language Immersion pupils how to build and draw circuits without touching equipment or writing anything.

**Creativity** – Cosima C on her delivery of information about Charles Darwin.

**Independence** – Huwie C for going beyond expectations in his Darwin project to get extra information about evolution.



What a beautiful morning



Year 3 act out the sun and wind fable



Thursday Arithmetic Club



MATCHES & SPORT

**1st & 2nd Boys v Christ College Brecon (H)**

1st Boys lost 0-3  
2nd Boys lost 0-2

**U11A & B Girls v Winterfold (H)**

U11A Girls lost 3-13  
U11B Girls lost 3-10

**U13A & B Girls v Winterfold (A)**

U13A won 14-20  
U13B lost 5-3

**U8/9 Boys v Winterfold (H)**

U8/9 A Boys lost 0-2  
U8/9 B Boys lost 0-3

**Colts A Boys v Winterfold Tournament (A)**

Colts A Boys fought brilliantly during this football tournament - a great way to start the season. The boys defended really well but were less successful in attack - plenty to work on over the next term.





It is wonderful to have our boarders back in the house, enjoying catching up after their fun-filled Christmas holidays. We have welcomed new boarders to the house this term, including a number of Year 3s, who have started to board on a Wednesday night. Could it be the lure of the Tuck Shop, which now features a beautiful neon sign to really advertise its presence? I had no idea that sweets were so popular with children!

The Full Boarders enjoyed a trip out to the cinema at the weekend to see a film that is being classed as 'a new classic'... Sonic The Hedgehog 3! They also visited Ludlow for a chance to show Angela the town and to get off site into the surrounding area for a bit. They were, of course, wonderful company and really enjoyed themselves.

It really has been a lovely start to the term, and it was brilliant to have the ISI inspectors in school to find out more about boarding life. The children showed our visitors around the wings, projecting a real love and passion for their boarding 'home from home'. Boarding at Moor Park is a little family of its own, and it is really clear that this feeling isn't just felt by the adults but by the children as well. It is going to be a wonderful term with lots of exciting things to look forward to.

Remember, to book places for Big Boarding Week between the 24th-28th February, please contact the school office on [office@moorpark.org.uk](mailto:office@moorpark.org.uk). We've got some great activities lined up, and we hope to realise our dream of owning a set of VR headsets as a result.

Toby Dunham

The Big Boarding Week activities this term are:

- Monday – The Great Space Escape Room
- Tuesday – Balloon Stomp
- Wednesday – Tuck and Old Library Fun
- Thursday – Hobby Horse Championship
- Friday – Nerf Carnage

# BOARDING





# LANGUAGE IMMERSION



**We wanted to share the responses to Mrs Stevens' question - 'What is your school like?' - from a small group of our Year 5 visitors from Beijing.**

**The children were given five minutes to write and then pupils and teacher improved the sentences together.**

- *In China we always stand up to answer questions.*
- *Children do not move from one lesson to another except for the sports and practical lessons and computer lessons.*
- *We have 40 minute long lessons with a ten minute break between lessons. As the school is so much bigger and the building is on four floors, we don't have time to get downstairs and back again in time for lessons. We play on the corridors.*
- *There are six grades or year groups. There are sixteen classes in each year so that means 96 classes with 30 - 33 in each class. That is around 3,000 in the Primary School.*
- *The class teacher moves up the school with the children.*
- *There are regular classes in each grade and one Sports class and International class and a class for the non boarders.*
- *After this Primary School we go to a Middle School for years 7, 8 and 9 and then on to the High School. On the school campus there are over 300 teachers and 5000 children.*
- *After lunch we sleep in the classrooms for an hour in the Primary School. I mean the curtains are closed, the lights are switched off and we have to be silent.*
- *We drink warm water from a big bottle in the classroom.*
- *For our lunch we have a lot of vegetables and spices on our food and use chopsticks. The food at Moor Park is great and really tasty!*
- *In England we call our teachers by their first name and say "Teacher Emma", "Teacher Sylvia" and "Teacher Jacky" to the staff who are here. We have all chosen English names - the teachers have too. In China we call the teachers by their surname after the title "Teacher."*



# NOTICE BOARD

## MAKE-UP HELP!

We are hoping that some kind parents might agree to help us with applying the cast make-up for the Shrek performances. This will likely begin at 4:30pm on the Thursday and Friday evenings and at 12:00pm on the Friday for the matinee performance.

If any parents would be willing to help with the make-up for these performances we would very much appreciate it. Please email: [tjd@moorpark.org.uk](mailto:tjd@moorpark.org.uk).

## MUSIC PRACTICE-A-THON

The week beginning 20th January will see the return of the Practice-a-Thon, a week where children will focus on completing 15 minutes of music practice every day for each instrument that they learn.

This year we are fundraising for the Sports Department, who have some wonderful ideas for ways to improve the resources available to the children.

Please encourage your child to take part!

## WHITE T-SHIRTS NEEDED RECEPTION - YEAR 8

Thank you to those who have supplied a white T-shirt. If you haven't done so yet, and your child is in Reception-Year 8, please could you send one into school with your child. It must be a T-shirt you don't mind being completely ruined!

These are for your children to design, stick things to, colour and cut up for our Hope House Fashion Show on Friday 14th March.

We will send out details closer to the time, but T-Shirts will be worked on from now up until the fashion show.

## SHREK TICKETS

The ticket system for the Year 6-8 production of Shrek Jr is now open!

Performances are on:

6:30pm Thursday 27th March

2:00pm & 6:30pm Friday 28th March

We are limiting each booking to 6 tickets.



## WATER BOTTLES

Even during the winter months the children will get thirsty - especially during games lessons and matches.

Water bottles frequently get separated from their owners, so equally important is that they are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Please could you help your children to remember their labelled water bottles each day.

## SATURDAY



This week, our lovely Smashers are going to do fun things with marbles. We'll be making marble runs in teams, playing games of marbles and having plenty of other marble-related fun.

Please be aware that the children may be bringing a few marbles home (if they win some)!

Please book your child's place by email: [office@moorpark.org.uk](mailto:office@moorpark.org.uk)