



"The World for our Children, our Children for the World"

Headteacher: Mrs C. Sánchez

Family Newsletter

3rd October 2025

Dear Families,

What a wonderful time we all had at the Colour Run last week! Thanks to the PTA for their super organisation to make the event a success!

*You will be aware that building resilience is a key part of pupils' learning every day - it's something we prioritise at South Moreton, as foundational knowledge for the future (more information below). We are thrilled that the PTA, with funds raised from your generous donations, have booked the return of Skate Day! Team Rubicon will visit the school on **Tuesday 21st October**, offering children the opportunity to apply their developing Growth Mindsets to this exciting but challenging sport. We know from last year that scooting and skating are such a fab demonstration of what you can achieve with some practice!*

All equipment, helmets and pads provided. Children will need to dress appropriately for active learning and are invited to come to school in skate clothing (Tshirts, trousers, caps, flat-bottomed trainers). Children must have trainers to take part - even better if they have flat bottoms.

Also this week, please book your parent teacher meetings at the link below. We are looking forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's start to the year and how we can continue to support them together.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Sanchez



Parent-Teacher Meetings, Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd October

Teachers are looking forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's progress. [Please see the letter here with more information and the booking link](#). We will confirm appointment times by the end of next week.

"The World for our Children, our Children for the World"

Academic Excellence

Mental Health and
Resilience

Global Citizenship

Focus on: Mental Health and Resilience

- We explicitly teach children how to look after their mental health at South Moreton. How we do that is broad and varied. We teach this right from the start of school in Reception, as a key part of foundational knowledge for future learning.
- We have a weekly assembly focused on mental health teaching, and aspects of our Keeping Safe Curriculum.
- So far this year, learning in class and assemblies have covered social skills and navigating relationships, developing a Growth Mindset, staying safe and well.
- We deliver Zones of Regulation teaching, supporting children to identify their emotions, and to use strategies to adapt these where necessary to best cope with the situation they are in.
- Being a small school, we know our children inside-out, and target all teaching to benefit each and every child. Our focus on supporting mental health and resilience is visible all day, every day!
- Where children need additional support, we offer 1:1 Emotional Literacy support sessions, covering a range of teaching and skills. These can vary from supporting bereavement, to managing trauma, to building confidence.
- All staff have received mental health training. We also have staff trained in mental health first aid.
- We encourage all children to identify 5 people (count on their fingers) that they could speak to if they need help for anything at all. It would be helpful to check with your child who those people are, and encourage them to speak up if they need anything.
- Parents are encouraged to contact school if you feel your child needs support. We are always very happy to help.

Harvest Collection in partnership with South Moreton Church

South Moreton Church is celebrating Harvest Festival at 10.30 on Sunday 12th October, with a Harvest Funday planned from 2pm - 5pm. All families are welcome to join the fun!

We will once again be supporting the Harvest celebrations. We welcome donations from families of non-perishable food items that will be collected for Didcot Food Bank. Please bring items into school any day next week.

The Church will also be displaying harvest-themed artwork, poems and stories from children from the school and the village. We would love families to join us in contributing to this - please hand artwork to teachers next week.



Reading Nights

The Reading Nights award was won by Hufflepuff this week, who enjoyed extra playtime together as a reward for their hard work. Well done to all those children reading each evening to earn their reading point! If your child isn't reading at home, they will be falling behind in their learning so please do speak to us if you need support with this.

READING NIGHTS AT SOUTH MORETON

**We don't set homework at South Moreton
(research says it's not impactful for Primary pupils, and
parents told us they agree)**

BUT - we do expect children to read at home.

1 night of Reading = 1 "Reading Night"

15 minutes R / KS1, 20 mins KS2

Recorded in their Reading Diary

4 nights = 1 point to win prizes

**Reading is the single biggest way parents can support their
child's academic success.**

HOW WE MEASURE

Engagement in reading at home forms part of our assessment of your child. Those that don't read, fall behind.

Children should read at home every day Monday - Thursday. Reading diaries are checked on a Friday.

Those with 4 Reading Nights will be entered to win prizes for their House and Class.



Dates for your diary:

Event	Date and time	Notes
Scoot 'n Skate Day Part II (We're all so excited!)	Tuesday 21st October	Children to come to school in skate-inspired clothing or comfortable tracksuit bottoms and trainers.
Parent Teacher Meetings and SEND reviews	Wednesday 22nd October and Thursday 23rd October 3.30 - 5.30pm	Send us your availability at the link above
Friday 24th October and Monday 3rd November	INSET days for pupils	School closed to pupils

*Your child needs these labelled things every day!
(We already have a lost property pile of soft, brand new, unlabelled sweatshirts...!)*

*Water bottle
Waterproof coat
Plimsolls (these remain in school)
Correct uniform*

Our cloakrooms are not large enough for each child to bring a school bag, and these are not necessary.



* RAFFLE * BAR * FOOD *

SOUTH MORETON PRIMARY PTA'S FIRST

FAMILY RACE NIGHT

FRIDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2025
6PM - 10PM (FIRST RACE AT 6.30PM)
NORTH MORETON VILLAGE HALL, OX11 9AT

*** TICKETS ***
ADULTS £5 / KIDS £1
INCLUDES FREE SOFT DRINK & RACE PROGRAMME

*** CONTACT ***
VICKY - 07760 888227 OR DANIELLE - 07712 253707
EMAIL:
SOUTHMORETONPRIMARY.SCHOOLPTA@GMAIL.COM

Pupil Premium eligibility - help us to support your child

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals and a variety of other financial supports, and school receives additional funding to support your child's teaching and learning. Please help us to claim this funding by contacting the Office if you are in receipt of one of the following benefits.

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

Don't forget to join our **@SouthMoretonPrimary** Facebook page!
We welcome you to search and 'like' so that you get the best insight
into the school day to discuss and celebrate with your child.
www.facebook.com/SouthMoretonPrimary



Part of our Privacy & Security Series



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What you need to know about...

WEBCAMS



LIVE



What are they?

'Webcams'

Most commonly found embedded in laptop screens and smartphones, webcams are tiny video/still cameras designed to let you participate in video calls on services such as Skype and Zoom. They have become hugely popular since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, allowing homeworkers to chat with remote colleagues and helping friends and families stay in touch. However, there are many security and privacy risks associated with webcams that owners should be aware of.

Know the Risks

Hackers

Webcams are a prime target for hackers as they give attackers a highly intrusive eye into the victim's home. There have been several high-profile breaches where integrated laptop webcams or dedicated webcams have been targeted.

Malware

Malware often targets webcams, secretly giving hackers access to your computer's webcam without any visible signs that the camera is switched on. Such malware can arrive in email attachments or by clicking on rogue links on websites, and it can often install itself in the background without the user being alerted.

Access to strangers

Children can be naïve to the dangers of allowing strangers to access the computer's webcam. They may click through warning messages that grant access to the camera or they may willingly share the camera with people they meet online who are pretending to be children.

Blackmail

Webcams can be used for blackmail, even when the webcam itself hasn't been hacked. Fraudsters will claim to have webcam footage or stills of the victim whilst naked or accessing pornography and threaten to post such footage on social media or send it to employers if the victim fails to pay up. The fraudsters normally don't have any footage at all, but the threat is often enough.

Look out for...

The indicator light

It can be difficult to tell if your webcam has been compromised or is secretly capturing footage. If the little indicator light (normally green) next to the webcam is lit when you don't expect it to be, this could be a sign.

Camera permissions

Check the camera permissions on your computer to ensure no rogue or unnecessary apps have been granted access to the camera. Switch off any apps that don't need access to the camera. If you never use the webcam, you can bar all access to the webcam. Better still, cover it when not in use.

Unexpected saved folders

Another telltale sign of a webcam compromise is folders containing videos or photos taken by your webcam appearing on your computer. Malware will often save videos/photos on your machine before attempting to upload them to the hackers, who will then use them for blackmail purposes. Check your Photos and Videos folders occasionally for any unexpected files.

User Safety Tips

Explain the dangers to children

Talk to your children about the dangers of talking with strangers via webcam and tell them not to accept any video chat requests from people they don't know in real life. Keep computers in family rooms, so that children can't covertly use the webcam in their bedrooms.

Refuse & report

Do not pay anyone claiming to have captured embarrassing webcam footage of you. It's highly likely they don't have footage in the first place, and even if they do, paying them may encourage them to demand more money. Report the matter to the police and keep a record of any evidence you can.

Unplug webcams & update firewalls

Unplug external (USB) webcams when they're not in use. Make sure your computer is running up-to-date security software and that the firewall is switched on. This can thwart attempts to access your webcam remotely.

Our Expert Barry Collins



Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as The Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and has written regularly about internet safety issues over the years.