



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

Headteacher: Mrs C. Sánchez

Family Newsletter 14th November 2025

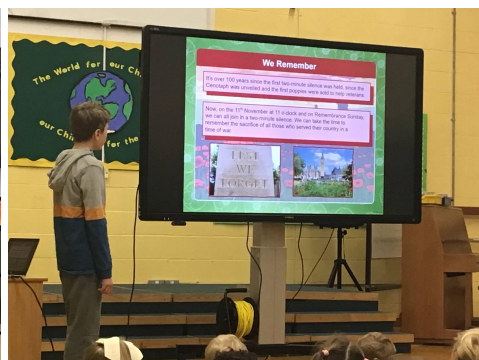
Dear Families,

*It has been a thoughtful and reflective week in school as we marked both **Anti-Bullying Week** and **Remembrance**. The children have shown great empathy and maturity — exploring what kindness looks like in action and taking time to reflect on the importance of respect. Our **School Councillors** led a moving Remembrance assembly and guided the whole school in a two-minute silence to honour those who have served and sacrificed.*

*Alongside these reflective moments, we've enjoyed some exciting enrichment opportunities. Classes across the school took part in brilliant **cricket workshops led by the Oxfordshire Cricket Board**, developing skills, teamwork and confidence. We were also delighted to welcome the **Royal Navy** for their third visit, who delivered hands-on **STEM workshops**, sparking curiosity and problem-solving across the year groups.*

*And of course, we are still basking in the joy of last Friday's **school disco**! The children had a fantastic time, and we are very grateful to Danielle, Vicky, Clemmie, Laura and our wonderful **PTA Team** for organising such a fun and memorable event.*

Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Sánchez



Class Letters and Learning Webs

A letter from your child's class teacher is on their class page of the [school website](#), explaining arrangements for the term ahead, plus a learning web outlining children's learning this half term. Please take a look to ensure you are organised and so that you can support your child's learning as much as possible at home.

Parent Project

It was wonderful to have so many parents in school for this week's Parent Project with Wrens Class! The Parent Project helps to give parents a greater understanding of the skills their children will be learning across Key Stage 1. Upcoming sessions are as follows - we hope you are able to join us!

Year 1 parents/carers - Monday 17th November at 2:15

Year 2 parents/carers - Tuesday 18th November at 2:15



Term dates 2026-27

These are now available on the [school website](#). Please remember that the Government has strict attendance expectations that your child is in school every day, and term time holidays lead to penalty notices and further attendance support. We hope that releasing the information this far in advance allows you to plan your family breaks within a period of school closure. Thank you for your support.

Personal Development at South Moreton

Aside from the huge amounts of personal development opportunities across the school each week, we continue to teach wellbeing principles weekly as an important part of our vision work. This week we have been discussing the 5 Keys to Wellbeing from the Inside Out project, on which we base key learning throughout the year.



'Be Curious' House Competition!

House Captains launched exciting **House Photography Competition** in assembly today, focused on the Wellbeing Key '**Be Curious**'. They hope that this will encourage families to consider the keys at home.

Children are invited to take a photo of anything that inspires their curiosity, using a camera or a parent device. Photo entries should be emailed through to the School Office, along with your child's name and house by **Monday 1st December**. Every entry wins house points, and House Captains will award prizes for overall winners. Think about an interesting angle or composition to make your photo stand out. Good luck to all!

Statutory assessments

Children in Year 1, Year 4 and Year 6 will be taking part in Government assessments this year - please see the parent [information published by the DfE here](#) to understand more about dates, content and expectations.

Xmas dates

Friday 5th December 3.15pm	PTA Christmas Fayre	<i>See poster below. All welcome!</i>
Wednesday 10th December, 1.45pm	Pantomime in school!	<i>PTA funded for pupils - further info to follow</i>
Friday 12th December, 2.15pm	KS2 Concert (Puffins, Herons, Red Kites)	<i>All KS2 families welcome.</i>
Wednesday 17th December, 2.15pm	Wrens and Swallows Christmas Performance	<i>All KS1 families welcome. Please collect preschool children after the performance. Preschool will watch our dress rehearsal.</i>
Thursday 18th December	School Christmas Dinner	



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





Online Grooming is when someone befriends and builds an emotional relationship with a child and communicates with them through the internet with the intent to commit a sexual offence. This type of victimisation can take place across any platform; from social media and messaging apps to online gaming and live streaming. Often it involves young people being tricked, forced or pressured into doing something they wouldn't normally do (coercion) and often the groomer's goal is to meet the victim in a controlled setting to sexually or physically abuse them. In some cases children may be abducted or have long-lasting psychological damage.



What parents need to know about

ONLINE GROOMING



CHILDREN ARE MOST VULNERABLE

Unsurprisingly children are often most at risk as they are easy to target and unlikely to question the person who is engaging in conversation with them. Groomers will use psychological tricks and methods to try and isolate them from their families and friends and will often choose to target more vulnerable children who may be easier to manipulate. Predators will stalk apps and websites that are popular with young people and will use a 'scattergun' approach to find victims, contacting hundreds online to increase their chances of success.



LIVE STREAMING CONCERNS

Predators may use live video to target children in real-time using tricks, dares or built-in gifts to manipulate them. Grooming often takes the form of a game where children receive 'likes' or even money for performing sexual acts. Social media channels, such as YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat, all have live streaming capabilities, but there are many apps which children can use to live stream, including Omegle, Live.me, BIGO Live, YouNow and many more.



ANYONE CAN BE A PREDATOR

The internet has made the ability to interact with strangers online easy. Many sites and apps are reliant on individual users entering their own information when signing up. However individuals can remain anonymous if they choose to enter inaccurate information and many online predator cases are due to groomers using impersonation techniques. However, often the greater threat comes from adults who 'hide in plain sight', choosing to befriend young children without hiding their real identity.



CAN BE DIFFICULT TO DETECT

Unfortunately most children find the grooming process (before any meeting) an enjoyable one as the predator will compliment, encourage, and flatter them to gain their trust, friendship and curiosity - a wolf in sheep's clothing scenario. This often means children fail to disclose or report what is happening. If the groomer is also previously known to the child, their family and their friends, then this can make detection even harder.



FROM OPEN TO CLOSED MESSAGING

Online predators may contact their victims using any number of ways including social media, forums, chat rooms, gaming communities or live streaming apps. Sometimes there is little need to develop a 'friendship / rapport stage', as the victim has already shared personal information online and is communicating openly with others. Children may also be prepared to add other online users they don't know so well to gain 'online credibility' through increasing their friends list. Predators will often seize this opportunity to slowly build a relationship and then move their conversation with the child to a more secure and private area, such as through direct messaging.

EMOTIONAL ATTACHMENTS

Online predators will use emotive language and aim to form close, trusted bonds with their victims through showering them with compliments and making them feel good about themselves. Often victims will refer to them as their 'boyfriends' or 'girlfriends' and it can be difficult to convince some young people that they have been groomed, often leading to lasting psychological effects.



Safety Tips for Parents & Carers



IT'S GOOD TO TALK

It's unlikely that you can stop your child using the internet, nor can you constantly monitor their online activities, but you can talk to your child on a regular basis about what they do online. By talking openly with them about online relationships, they can quickly ascertain the kind of behaviour which is appropriate or inappropriate. Ask them whether they have any online friends or if they play online games with people they haven't met. This could then open up conversations about the subject of grooming.



CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

In order to give your child a safer online experience, it is important to check privacy settings or parental controls on the networks, devices, apps, and websites they use. Disable location sharing if you can. If you use location-sharing apps to check where your child is, remember that these could always be used by strangers to follow your child without their knowledge. Ensure that you check options so that location information is never shared with anyone except those they have permission to share with.



MONITOR SOCIAL MEDIA & LIVE-STREAMING USE

It's important to be aware of what your child is sharing on social media and with whom. Create your own profile and become 'friends' with them or follow them so that you can monitor their activity. Similarly, always check on them if they are live streaming and implement privacy controls. Choose a generic screen name and profile picture that hides their identity. You may also feel more comfortable being present each time they live stream.



STICK TO 'TRUE FRIENDS'

Make it clear to your child that they should not accept friend requests from people they don't know and to verify friend requests with people who they do know. Encourage them to only interact and engage with 'true friends' i.e. those friends who don't ask personal questions such as close family and friends. Remind them to never agree to chat privately with a stranger or someone they don't really know and to never divulge personal information, such as mobile phone numbers, addresses, passwords or the name of their school.



DISCUSS HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Talk to your child about what a healthy relationship looks like and how to detect someone who might not be who they claim to be. Explain that groomers will pay your child compliments and engage in conversations about personal information, such as hobbies and relationships. They may admire how well they play an online game or how they look in a photo. Groomers will also try and isolate a child from people close to them, such as parents and friends, in order to make their relationship feel special and unique.

BE SUPPORTIVE

Show your child that you will support them and make sure they understand they can come to you with any concerns they may have. They need to know they can talk to you if someone does something they are uncomfortable with, whether that is inappropriate comments, images, requests or sexual comments.



Meet our expert

Jonathan Taylor is an online safety expert and former Covert Internet Investigator for the Metropolitan Police. He is a specialist in online grooming and exploitation and has worked extensively with both UK and international schools in delivering training and guidance around the latest online dangers, social media apps and platforms.



LOOK OUT FOR WARNING SIGNS

Child safety experts have identified key grooming patterns and advise parents to look out for:

- Secretive online behaviour.
- Late night internet or smartphone usage.
- Meeting new friends in unusual places.
- Becoming clingy, develop sleeping or eating problems or even bedwetting.
- Lack of interest in extra-curricular activities.
- Having new items, such as clothes or phones, unexplainably.
- Seem withdrawn, anxious, depressed or aggressive.
- Having older boyfriends or girlfriends.

