



“The World for our Children, our Children for the World”

Headteacher: Mrs C. Sánchez

Family Newsletter 28th November 2025

Dear Families,

This week we've been celebrating one of our Keys to Happiness within our Inside Out mental health project:

Be Curious.

Across the school, children have been encouraged to notice, explore and ask questions—whether that's investigating a new idea in class, trying out a different activity in the playground, or taking a moment to look more closely at the world around them. Curiosity helps children build confidence, grow their sense of independence and develop a positive mindset towards learning and life.

We see 'Be Curious' playing out in so many moments each day: pupils experimenting in science, diving into new books, asking thoughtful questions during assemblies, or discovering new ways to solve problems together. By nurturing curiosity, we also strengthen emotional wellbeing—curious minds are more open, resilient and able to find joy in small discoveries.

As always, it has been a pleasure watching the children embrace this key so naturally, showing us every day how curiosity leads to deeper learning and happier, more connected school experiences.

Don't forget to get photo entries in over the weekend - judging will take place on Monday!

*Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Sánchez*

Sportshall Athletics

Congratulations to our Year 3 and 4 athletics squad who represented South Moreton at the Didcot Schools' Sportshall Athletics championships this week!

The event was fast-paced and full of energy, giving the children a brilliant opportunity to put their developing skills into action in a competitive but friendly environment.

Throughout the afternoon they took part in a range of field and track activities—including sprints, relays and throwing events—showing great determination, teamwork and resilience. It was wonderful to see them supporting one another, celebrating each success and pushing themselves to do their very best.

**HAPPY
CHILDREN
LEARN
BETTER**



'Be Curious' House Photography Competition!

Last chance to take those photos over the weekend! All entries win house points!

What makes you curious in your world?

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!

The 5 Keys to Happiness



Look Inside



Move Outside



Share More



Be Curious



Be Kind

INSIDE OUT

Christmas event dates

We're having lots of fun preparing our end-of-term events and we hope you can join us for our performances - all here to keep you organised!

By Wednesday 3rd December	Donations for Christmas Fete welcomed in school	See PTA newsletter for information
Friday 5th December	Non-uniform day as a thank you for fete donations received by 3rd December	See PTA newsletter for information
Friday 5th December 3.15pm	PTA Christmas Fayre	3.15 - 5.30. All welcome! See PTA newsletter for information
Monday 8th Dec - Friday 12th Dec	Autumn assessments	<i>Managed in class</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. Children to wear usual uniform (not PE kit) with a Xmas jumper or Xmas colour top please</i>
Wednesday 17th December, 2.15pm	Wrens and Swallows Christmas Performance	<i>All Wrens and Swallows families welcome. Please collect preschool children after the performance. Preschool will watch our dress rehearsal.</i>
Thursday 18th December	School Christmas Dinner	<i>Children are invited to wear Christmas jumpers for the day.</i>
Friday 19th December, 1.30pm	Term ends 1.30pm	<i>Buses will leave at this time. After-school Kingfishers club available for booking until 3.15pm</i>

We're delighted to announce the launch of our brand-new PTA Facebook Group!

👉 Join by the link here:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/17XgkNdbk8/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

👉 Facebook search us:

South Moreton Primary Parent Teacher Association



This group has been created as a friendly, informative space where families can stay up to date with upcoming events, fundraising activities, reminders, and all the exciting things happening within our school community.

We'd love for you to join us so we can keep you informed and share news, updates, and ways to get involved. Your support helps make a real difference — and this is a great way to stay connected!

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.



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



10 Top Tips for Respect Online: A DIGITAL WORLD FOR EVERYONE

Even before lockdowns inflamed the situation, one in every five 10- to 15-year-olds was experiencing bullying online: abusive messages, having rumours spread about them or being excluded from group chats, for example. Through smartphones and tablets, we're used to being able to communicate from anywhere, at any time – but digital devices became commonplace so quickly that it caused a problem: as a society, we haven't properly adjusted to how different they've made life. Our tips can help you to build positive relationships online and avoid some of the potential issues.

WHAT IS NETIQUETTE?

Etiquette is a set of rules to help us interact with others: like a code of respect. People follow this code every day (mostly without even thinking about it) and it can help us decide how to act in certain situations. 'Netiquette' (etiquette on the net – we see what they did there!) is the same, except it's designed to help us interact with others online, which is sometimes a whole different ball game.

1 SEE THE OTHER SIDE

Usually when we're online, we can't use the other person's body language or tone of voice to give us clues about what we can say to them, or how to say it. Try to think what the situation might be like for them, how they're feeling and whether we'd say the same thing if they were actually there with us.

2 HIT THE PAUSE BUTTON

Without a person physically there in front of us, it's easy to send something quickly – before we've really thought about whether it's helpful or kind. Just because we can do things quickly doesn't mean we should; it's better to pause for a second and think it through, instead of simply reacting.

3 MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

People have invented loads of different ways to communicate online (emojis, abbreviations like LOL, TBH and so on). Some of these can be triggering to other people (such as USING CAPS SO IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE SHOUTING!), so it's important to stay aware of the style of language you're using.

4 BE SURE BEFORE YOU POST

On social networks like Instagram or Facebook, vast numbers of people might see what you've posted. So if that's something negative about a person, it can feel hugely painful for them. If you're ever tempted to post something like that, ask yourself "do I really need to go public with this?"

5 PROTECT YOURSELF

Always think very carefully before sharing any personal information with someone else or in a group. Once something's been put online, the sender loses any control over where it goes and who might see it. If you've got any uncertainty at all, it's a good idea to talk to a trusted adult about this first.

6 KINDNESS IS CATCHING

Negative communication can spread rapidly online, but so can being kind and helpful (this happened quite a lot during lockdowns, for instance). A friendly, positive message can make a big difference to someone as well as helping us feel good about ourselves – so share the love!

7 WAITING CAN BE HARD

When we've sent a message or posted something online, waiting for a reply or for someone to respond can make us anxious. It could be helpful to think whether you really have to message or post right now – or if you could wait until a better time when it will cause you less anxiety.

8 THE NET LOVES ATTENTION

Most apps, games and sites use sophisticated technology that's designed to keep us coming back for more. It's important to keep this in mind when you feel the need to reach for your phone, tablet or console – once we understand this fact, it becomes easier to control how we use our digital devices.

9 REPLY WISELY

Sometimes it's tempting to fire back an instant response to a post or message we don't like. How we respond is important, however – whether we reply privately to the person or on a platform where lots of people will see it, for example, makes a big difference to how whoever is receiving the message will deal with it.

10 FORGIVE AND FORGET

Even though we try to avoid them, mistakes can – and do – happen online. They can sometimes feel like a bigger deal than they actually are. It's important to remember that we're all only human, and sometimes we mess up. Learn to forgive others and – just as importantly – to forgive yourself.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Carole Francis-Smith is an experienced counselling psychologist who, through her research, specialises in promoting safe and ethical online communications. She consults with businesses and organisations to support positive and effective communication online, often by considering some of the more hidden aspects of the mediums.



Sources: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/people/populationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/ukthe/onlinebullyinginenglandandwales/warningmarch2020>
<https://businesspublishing.com/psychology/broadcasting.html> | https://www.researchgate.net/publication/3456443_the_online_dominion_effect



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