



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

Headteacher: Mrs C. Sánchez

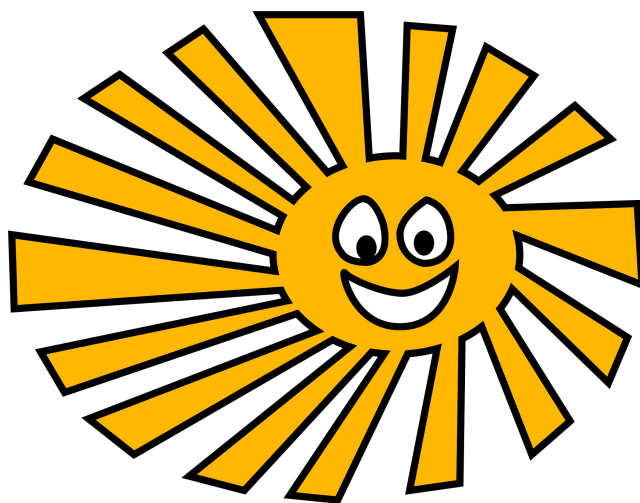
Family Newsletter

24th April 2026

Dear Families,

It's that time of year where we look ahead to glorious sunny days and to enjoying even more opportunities for play and learning on our amazing school site. Please can we ask parents to move to 'Summer mode' by ensuring that your child has the following in school every day:

- *Sunhat labelled with child's name*
- *Suncream (children need to apply this themselves, or you can apply a long-lasting one before school)*
- *Water bottle*
- *Waterproof coat (we can't pretend the rain won't make an appearance!)*



We look forward to seeing you at the PTA's Talent Show this afternoon to celebrate the many talents of South Moreton pupils - it promises to be lots of fun! Please collect your child as normal at the gate, and then bring them to the Sports Hall.

Dyslexia SEND Coffee Morning

We are pleased to invite parents and carers to our upcoming SEND Coffee Morning on **Wednesday 29th April at 8:45am**. The focus for this session is to look more closely at what dyslexia is and how parents and schools can support children with dyslexia, all while enjoying a hot drink! The session will also give families the opportunity to talk with the Educational Psychologist who supports schools around the Didcot Partnership. We hope to see lots of you there.

South Moreton's Got Talent – TODAY!

We're looking forward to a fun-filled afternoon celebrating the many talents of South Moreton pupils!

- * **When:** Friday 24th April, 3:30–4:30pm
- * **Where:** Sports Hall
- * **Entry:** £2 suggested donation – pay on the door.

Wrens and Swallows History workshop

Wrens and Swallows were transported back in time on Monday to kick start their unit on the History of Toys. We welcomed visitors from Oxfordshire Museums for a hand-on, high-energy exploration of how play has changed through the ages. Children then made a thaumatrope to take home.



SOUTH MORETON SCHOOL ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION!



In assembly, we have looked at the work of a very talented artist, David Bird, who makes 'Becorns'. *Becorns* are little characters made from natural materials, like acorns and sticks. David Bird then places these outside and takes photos of them in their environment. Sometimes, these Becorns are lucky enough to have visitors, like birds!

Your challenge...make a **mini-character** using **natural materials**, inspired by David Bird's *Becorns*.



1. **Create** your natural-material character.
2. Give it a **name** and a personality.
3. Take a clear **photo** of your creation.
4. Bring your photo to school or email it to the school office to be **shared** with Mrs Salmon.

**Prizes for the most successful
Becorns!**



Last Date for submissions: 18th May
(That is the last week of term)

Uniform reminder for Summer Term:

As the weather improves, please can we remind you of uniform expectations. Children are permitted to wear Summer dresses after the break if they wish. Shoes must be closed-toe and sturdy for outdoor play.

All shorts - girls and boys, for school or PE MUST be mid-thigh length or longer.

We will be contacting parents if uniform is not appropriate for school.

Important changes to booking and payment systems

All bookings and payments for school dinners, wraparound care, extra curricular clubs and trips are now managed within the MyChildAtSchool app or website. It will no longer be possible for the Office to make bookings for you.

Payment for wraparound care continues to be possible with childcare vouchers. Parents can select 'CV' in the MCAS checkout, which allows you to place the order while arranging the voucher transfer.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or need any help. We recognise that change can pose challenges and are very happy to support you.

If you are still catching up:

Please log in to 'My Child At School' via the online website or app using the login detail sent to your email address. You can alternatively add your email address and select 'forgot password' for a reset email to be sent to you.

The app can be downloaded from [Google Play](#) or [App Store](#) here.

The website is here www.mychildatschool.com

Term 6 Club bookings now open **within MCAS**

Please do ask if you need any help. Bookings for clubs can no longer be made with the Office.

Day	Club offered	Club offered	Cost (6 weeks)	Collect at
Monday (5 weeks, due to Bank holiday)	Hockey All <i>Build teamwork and stick skills in fast-paced, fun matches and drills.</i>	Curling All <i>Try this unique precision sport and develop strategy, control and teamwork.</i>	£42.50	5pm
Tuesday	Coding All <i>Create, problem-solve and bring ideas to life through exciting digital projects.</i>		£51.00	5pm
Wednesday	Lego Masters All <i>A creative wonderland of Lego and construction challenges designed to develop critical thinking, teamwork and technical skills!</i>	Chess and board games All <i>Challenge your thinking, strategy and decision-making in friendly competition.</i>	£51.00	5pm
Thursday	Soft Rounders KS1 <i>A fun introduction to batting and fielding with lots of teamwork in the fresh air</i>	Rounders KS2 <i>Develop skills, tactics and teamwork in this energetic and competitive game.</i>	£51.00	5pm

Moki Band fun!

Children at South Moreton continue to be active and busy every day, making the most of our beautiful site indoors and outdoors!

Our School total steps this week is 977,514 - equivalent to walking from South Moreton to Thurso!



House averages:

Gryffindor - 8632 Ravenclaw - 8539 Hufflepuff - 8214 Slytherin - 7790

Class averages:

Wrens - 11644 Swallows - 9008 Red Kites - 8474 Puffins - 8246 Herons - 7336

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





Personal data is a strange commodity. Cyber thieves can buy huge quantities of personal data on the black market for very little, yet your own personal data is hugely valuable to you. If your personal data falls into the wrong hands, it could lead to identity theft, bank fraud or something even more sinister such as stalking. The severity of that threat is multiplied when it comes to the personal data of children, when threats such as internet grooming begin to emerge. The bad news is that children aren't always great at safeguarding sensitive information, which is why they need parents' help and guidance. That's why we've created this guide to show you how you can protect your own and your family's personal data.



What parents need to know about PROTECTING PERSONAL DATA



EVERY DETAIL IS KEY

Which info should you be wary of sharing online? Aside from the obvious, such as full names, date of birth and address, think of the type of information you're asked for when answering security questions for services such as online banking. The name of your first school, your mother's maiden name, the names of your pets, your favourite band. Data thieves will harvest as much of this information as possible, so don't make it easy for them by publishing it anywhere online.



SOCIAL MEDIA VISIBILITY

Social media sites, such as Facebook, encourage us to share sensitive information in order to build our online profiles. Many people are lulled into thinking that only their friends can see such information, but that's rarely the case. Such information can easily be shared with 'friends of friends' or even anyone searching for you online because privacy settings are opaque. Keep social media profiles to the bare minimum. If you wouldn't be comfortable hanging a sign with that information on your front door, don't enter it into social media sites.



DANGEROUS GAMES

Online games are a particular risk for children. Many of the most popular games – such as Fortnite, Minecraft or Roblox – have voice or text chat facilities, allowing them to talk to fellow gamers. Or, sometimes, people pretending to be fellow gamers. It's very easy for children to be seduced into divulging personal data such as their address, birthday or school. It's critical parents both educate children on the dangers on online chat in games and take safeguards to protect children.



IMPOSTERS AND PHISHING ATTACKS

Even if you're scrupulous about keeping your data private on social media, it's easy to be lulled into handing it over to imposters. There are two golden rules for you and your children to follow: 1. Never divulge personal information to phone callers, unless you can be absolutely certain you know who they are. 2. Never click on links or open attachments in emails or social media, unless you're 100% certain they are genuine. So-called phishing emails are growing ever-more sophisticated, with fraudsters able to replicate the exact look of bank emails and even include details such as account numbers and IDs.



THE RISKS OF PASSWORD SHARING

Password sharing – using the same password for multiple sites – is one of the easiest ways to lose control of your personal data. Hacking of major websites, including usernames and passwords, is common. If you're using the same password for a hacked site as you do on your Gmail account, for example, you're handing data thieves an easy route into your inbox, where they will doubtless find all manner of sensitive information, such as bank emails and contacts. Your email account will often also let them reset the password on multiple other accounts. Don't share passwords; use password managers to create strong, unique passwords for every site.



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Safety Tips for Parents & Carers

LOOK OUT FOR LEAKS

Many security software packages have features that look for personal data leaks or prevent people from entering it into risky sites in the first place. For example, BullGuard Premium monitors dangerous sites for usage of data such as your email address, debit card numbers, passport number and more, and then sends you email alerts and details of how to take remedial action if it spots them being used. Such software also issues warnings if it sees personal data being entered into unprotected, high-risk sites.



KEEP DATA GUARDED

Don't give the thieves a head start by handing them pieces of sensitive information for free. For example, it's very common to see email address such as davesmith1976@gmail.com – an immediate clue that you were born in that year. If you have a less common name than Dave Smith, thieves could immediately start using that information to cross reference against public records or other database breaches, allowing them to start building a profile of information about you. Likewise, don't use your date of birth in a password. If that's hacked, you've handed the thieves another big clue.



DON'T OVERSHARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

The biggest threat to your child's privacy is you. Parents often overshare personal information on social media: full names, names of schools, children's birthdays, names of their friends. All of this can be easily gleaned to build profiles that could be used to groom your child in online games or in real life. Exercise extreme caution with social media posts concerning your children.



BE WARY OF SHARED NETWORKS/SYSTEMS

Avoid entering any personal data into a web browser when you're using public Wi-Fi (in a coffee shop or airport, for example) or when using shared computers. Shared Wi-Fi connections are much easier to eavesdrop on than your home network, especially if they are not password protected or the password is shared freely with customers. Don't do online shopping, banking or enter any logins/passwords when using shared Wi-Fi. Likewise, if you're using a shared computer at work, for example, as it's very easy for a browser to save logins that could be used by others.



PLAY SAFE IN ONLINE GAMES

Children must be taught to treat strangers in online games with the same caution as they would treat strangers in the street. Don't allow children to use their real name as their username in games to prevent imposters conning kids into thinking they are real-life friends, and only allow them to add friends in the game that they know in real life. Regularly ask to monitor your child's friends list in such games and ask them to identify who the players are. With younger children in particular, ask them to only use voice chat in family rooms, so that you can hear conversations.



Meet our expert

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.

