



MASON MOOR

PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEEKLY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Headteacher News | Friday 24th February 2023

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back again to school after what we hope has been a restful week's half-term. The building has once become a busy hive of smiling children and exciting learning.

Thank you to those parents who attended the Meet The Teacher evenings for all classes this week. We hope that you found these informative and useful in the school's drive to improve home-school links.

Our artist-in-residence Ms Sheales returned on Thursday to work with a group of Year 3 children to extend their Art curriculum of portraits. This is a 3-week project which will result in self-portraits based on Vermeer's "The Girl with a Pearl Earring". We look forward to seeing the end results!

Our Saturday School for Year 6 children will commence tomorrow (Saturday 25th February) for the next 5 weeks. This will take place from 9am to 11:30am. If your child is attending and you have not given school written permission for them to walk home alone, you agree to collect them from the school playground (Year 6 side) at 11:30am.

Next week is World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March however this also falls on National Teacher Strike Day. We are therefore moving this to Friday 3rd March. A special World Book Day lunch will be served and children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character.

We wish you all a happy weekend and look forward to seeing you again on Monday

[#teammasonmoor](#)

Ms A Brooks Deputy Headteacher

Dates for your diary:

[Tuesday 28th February](#) - Year 5 swimming weekly - Ongoing

[Thursday 2nd March](#) - Industrial Action day, school open as normal

[Friday 3rd March](#) - World Book Day - Dress up and special menu

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Weekly Attendance Monitoring - Our Target is 96%

Remember: we will not authorise ANY absence during term time. Please make sure your child attends school on-time every day.

WARNING

MASON MOOR ATTENDANCE: 93%

How do we reward GOOD attendance?



Every 12 weeks, we give away a bike in a raffle of each child with 96% and above attendance.



We also raffle off a scooter to those with 96% and above attendance over the 12 weeks.

What do all children with good attendance get?



- Attendance Award Certificate given in assembly.
- A choice of: Movie, Bouncy Castle or 100% Party

Whole School Attendance figures:

	%	Diff from last week
Year R	92%	(+5) %
Year 1	93.7%	(+6.7) %
Year 2	92%	(+9) %
Year 3	96.4%	(+6.4) %
Year 4	88.1%	(-1.9) %
Year 5	93.2%	(-0.8) %
Year 6	93.5%	(+1.5) %
TOTAL	93%	(+3.7) %



Year 3

Well done to Year children
- highest attendance for
this week

Please help us improve our school attendance by sending your child in every day. We are changing SO MUCH at Mason Moor to make our school the very best it can be!

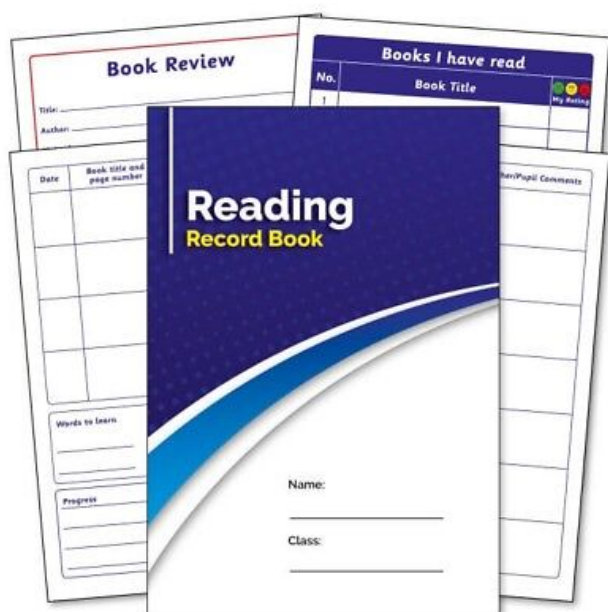
A reminder: the school does not authorise any holiday during term-time!

Reading Expectations - Every Child A Reader Every Day!



Top tips for encouraging reading:

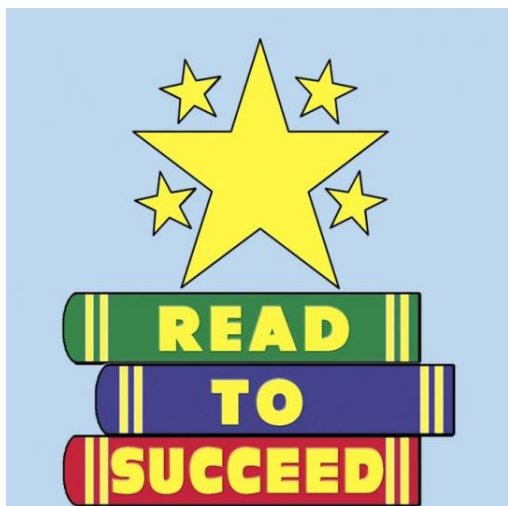
- **Read yourself!** It doesn't matter what it is – pick up a newspaper or magazine, take a look at a cookery book, read a computer manual, enjoy some poetry or dive into a romance or detective novel. And get your children to join in – if you're cooking, could they read the recipe?
- **Give books as gifts.** And encourage your children and their friends to swap books with each other – it'll give them a chance to read new stories, and get them all talking about what they're reading.
- **Visit the local library together.** It's always fun choosing new books to read, and keep an eye out for special author events at the library or local bookshops – children love meeting their favourite authors.



What should I write in my child's reading record?

Listed below are some comments which may help you when writing in your child's Reading Record Book to describe how your child has read at home. It is important to record both positive and developmental comments:

- Read familiar words independently
- Able to predict what happens next in the text
- Read with good expression
- Showed good understanding of the text
- Worked out new words independently
- Worked out new words by sounding them out
- Struggled to concentrate
- He/she made a number of errors because he/she was not looking carefully enough

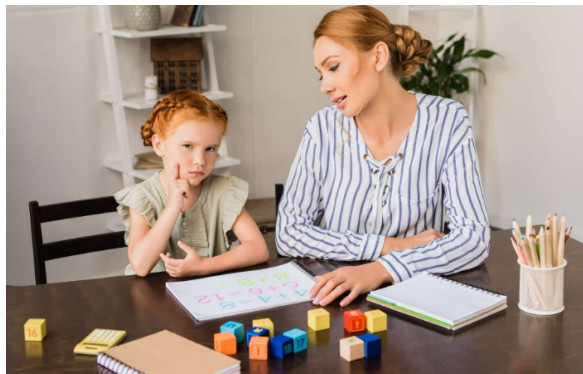


How often should my child read?

Your child should read every night as part of the home-school agreement and to ensure that they are developing their **fluency - which is their ability to read with speed, accuracy, expression and precision.**

We know that children who do not read every night do not develop a love of reading and this can prevent them from accessing the curriculum and achieving well in life. **We recommend that children read for 15-20 minutes each day.**

Helping your child with Maths:



Helping your child to succeed in maths - at home

- **Ask your child about what they have been learning in maths.** Can you help them practise this concept at home? Ideas could include: have your child count items as you put away the shopping; have them help you weigh/measure ingredients for recipes; give your child money to count out to pay for small purchases – older children could calculate the change; read dates on the calendar.
- **Online games and songs:** Help your child practise times tables through chanting, online songs and games. www.topmarks.co.uk have many maths games online for all ages. www.urbrainy.com is a brilliant website for Year 4 children to practise times tables ready for their end of year up to 12x12 MTC test.

Mason Moor Golden Book Assembly Winners



GOLDEN BOOK AWARD WINNERS

Every Friday children are chosen for the Golden Book - either by a teacher or by their peers.

Each week we will publish the names of the children in the school newsletter. **This week's children listed below, really are the PRIDE of Mason Moor!**

EYFS & Key Stage 1 Children

Homeclass	Winner
R Blue	Phoenix
1 Blue	Khiara
2 Blue	Faith
3 Blue	Mikey

Key Stage 2 Children

Homeclass	Winner
4 Blue	Jack
5 Blue	Livinia
6 Blue	Freddie
6 Green	Mason

Mason Moor Parent Notices

SCHOOL — KEEP — CLEAR



Show you care, park elsewhere!

At Mason Moor we ask that all of our community members pledge to help us by parking in a safe and legal manner when visiting our school – especially when dropping off and collecting your child.

At Helvellyn Road, we are constrained by the road around the front of our school. Please DO NOT double park in a morning. By doing so you create a block for our local residents and could stop a fire engine or ambulance from getting into school.

We work closely with Southampton City Police and the local authority. We will need to report any vehicle parked in a dangerous manner.

Parking near Mason Moor

Please help the school in our neighbourly relations with our community.

Your car should not be parked outside the school gates or double parked along Helvellyn Road. This is an emergency access route for the school and those living in the local housing.

If you're sick,
please stay HOME



Sickness and Diarrhoea

Whilst we continue to work really hard every day to improve attendance levels at Mason Moor, if your child is unwell with sickness and diarrhoea, they **must stay away from school for a 48 hour period.**

Please encourage your child to wash their hands regularly with soap and warm water to avoid spreading nasty germs and illnesses.

We have to check on all absences, please be aware.

Saturday

School



Saturday School for Year 6

We look forward to seeing all those children who have signed up to attend Saturday School, starting on 25th February

This is at no extra charge to parents and is an additional offering we wish to put in place to give children extra teaching in the run-up to the KS2 SATs tests in May. Refreshments will be available.

There are still places available so please contact the school if your child would like to attend.

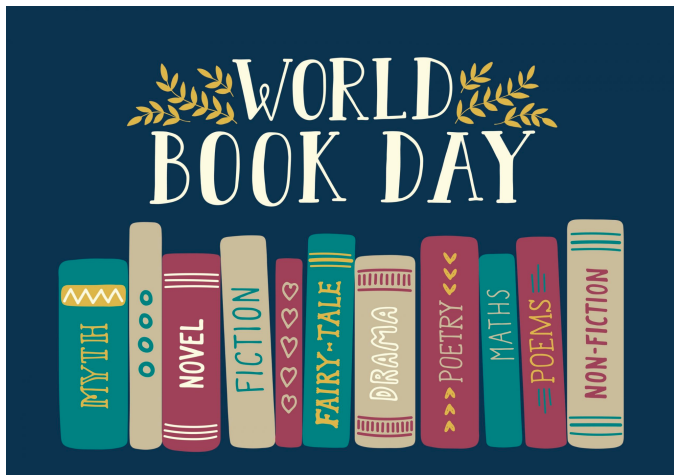
Online Safety - Learning



E-Safety is an important part of keeping children safe online. We have security measures in place in school, which are constantly monitored, to help safeguard children from potential dangers. E-Safety is taught to all children explaining and demonstrating how to stay safe and behave appropriately online.

In our world of increasing technology, children are accessing a greater amount of content online. Please can we remind parents that services like Facebook, YouTube, TikTok and Whatsapp have a minimum age of 13. If you choose to allow your children to have these accounts, you will want to discuss with them the boundaries you expect.

World Book Day 2023



Friday 3rd March is World Book Day. We will be celebrating this at Mason Moor - children can come dressed up as their favourite book character so please use half-term to talk to your child and think about a costume they would like to wear!

The kitchen will also be offering a special menu that day - details of the menu for the day are below. You can always add your child in for a hot dinner that day!

Learning at Mason Moor this week:

RECEPTION

We have started our new topic called 'Spring has Sprung' and begun by reading Jaspers Beanstalk. In Literacy we have been working on sequencing the story and matching the images to the days of the week. In Maths we have been exploring non standard units of measurement and looking at ordering different items by size, looking at height and length.

We have then used cubes to measure and explored our reasoning skills to say this one is 5 cubes and that one is 6 cubes, meaning 6 is the tallest as 6 is a bigger number than 5.

We have also explored Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday looking at them from a religious perspective.



In Science we are beginning to explore forces and how they shape what we see happen. We have been reading Gracie the Lighthouse Cat and exploring all the wonderful vocabulary in the book.

We are learning about lighthouses and what they are for. In maths we are learning and naming 2D and 3D shapes. We are beginning to explore Australia and how its Geography differs from our own.

In History we are learning about significant people and this week we learnt how James Cook mapped Australia and New Zealand.



We have just begun our writing journey with a brand new stimulus, Jack and the Beanstalk! Children have worked really hard this week on getting familiar with the text and ensuring they really have a firm understanding of the different characters. We have ventured into high level vocabulary such as 'manipulative' and 'naive' to try and describe the characters' personalities. Within maths we have just started to look at fractions and what each part of a fraction tells us as mathematicians. Children have begun to identify $\frac{1}{2}$ of a number and how this links to division. In reading we are really focussing on breaking a text down and really exploring the language used and why. Children have worked hard on being detectives and seeking out the clues vocabulary gives us about the story and its characters.



Our week began their writing journey by going on a quest to find some hidden treasure. Year 3 had to use their team building skills to crack the riddles to be able to unlock the next hidden clue. The following day we used the VR to look at different images of shipwrecks (tying in with our new book, 'The Diver's Daughter') building on our descriptive language to implement into our setting descriptions. In reading, we made predictions by observing the front cover of 'The Diver's Daughter', before selecting specific words we were unsure of and using a dictionary to write a clear definition. In maths, we have been focusing on identifying right angles and recognising the specific degrees in a right angle before comparing that angle with an acute and obtuse angle. In science we were discovering forces and the impact surfaces can have on a moving object. In history we began understanding what the black death was and the impact the disease had on the world.



We have been making a giant's necklace from pasta and string in writing this week, exploring bags of seashells and annotating pictures of a sea shore.

In Art we have been exploring how to create a collage with a foreground, midground and background.

In Maths we have been plotting negative coordinates and in PE we have started tag Rugby. Lastly, in reading we have been creating inferences about our book "The Giant's Necklace".



This week has been a great first week back after half term. The children have begun a series of workshops being delivered by Winchester Science centre. On Monday, they witnessed multiple experiments taking place about climate change within the world. The children thoroughly enjoyed watching and experiencing these, with lots of questions wanting to get asked. They then looked at how a UV light affects objects and the temperature of them after the heat passes through. We are all looking forward to our next workshop next Monday. We will be building our own satellite to test on the three weeks in between their visits. Winchester Science Centre will return to us for the last week of this term to test our satellites using different machines to see how efficient they are.



Year 6 jumped into their learning this week and have been finding out all about Charles Darwin and his Theory of Evolution. They are starting to build their knowledge of who Charles Darwin is and the impact he has had on Science. They will be using this knowledge to write a Biography in English. Ask your children to tell you about Charles Darwin and the book they are reading: 'Darwin's Dragons'.

Maths has been filled with fractions and finding the area of irregular shapes. Perhaps they can help you find the area of spaces in your home! We have also begun exploring South America and Rio and the life and times of the Inca people

Our Week At Mason Moor



