



# MASON MOOR

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



## Headteacher News | Friday 4 November 2022

We are now over three-quarters of the way through our complete redecoration of Mason Moor. We know our pupils are really proud of their school and how it looks. This is particularly evidenced by how well behaved they've been and how lovely they have been treating their environment.

Just before half term, we had a visit from the Local Authority's School Improvement Team - who advise me and the senior staff on how to make Mason Moor the best it can be. It was a brilliant visit - and the lady leading the visit (Gehane Gordelier) commented on how 'fast the transformation of the school' has been. Here are some of the highlights of the improvements we have made:

- The Executive Headteacher provides outstanding leadership.
- The school is now a calm, peaceful and happy learning and working environment.
- A highly ambitious and exciting curriculum has been introduced.
- There are lots of opportunities for experiential learning; extracurricular activities significantly enhance the curriculum. Free access to extracurricular activities promotes greater commitment to equality of opportunity within the school.

I am really proud to tell you that behaviour at the school is now considered to be 'good' - the children at Mason Moor are now committed to their learning, respectful and safe! They show great resilience to want to improve and I am proud of EVERY SINGLE child.

**#teammasonmoor**

**Mr Constable-Phelps | Executive Headteacher**

## Dates for your diary:

**Monday 10 November - KS1 Disco.** 3:30-4:30pm - KS1 children to bring change of clothes to school (free)

**Monday 10 November - KS2 Disco.** 4:45-5:45pm - KS2 children (free)

**Friday 18 November - Parent Forum.** 9:00-9:45am - Meet the Headteacher

**Monday 23 November - Mason Moor Parent's Evening.** In-person - more details to follow.

**Friday 25 November - 2023 Year R - School Tours** 9am at the Main Reception.

## 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: 92%

### 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	89%	(-1) %
Year 1	98%	(+5) %
Year 2	89%	(-1) %
Year 3	94%	(+1) %
Year 4	84%	(-5) %
Year 5	95%	(-1) %
Year 6	94%	(-1) %
TOTAL	93%	(+2) %



## Year 1

Well done to Year 1 children - a brilliant 98%. All on track!

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!

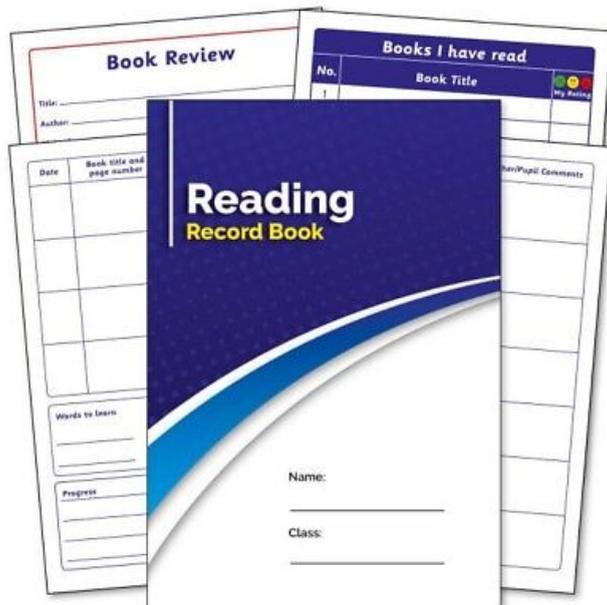
A reminder: the school does not authorise any holiday during term-time!

## Reading Expectations - Please help your child!



### Top tips for encouraging reading:

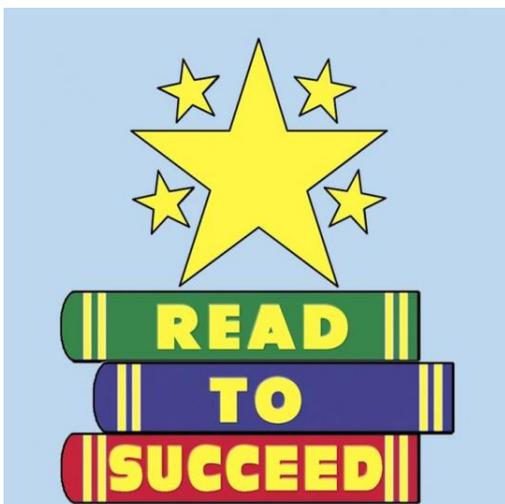
- Read yourself!** It doesn't matter what it is – pick up a newspaper or magazine, take a look at a cookery book, read a computer manual, enjoy some poetry or dive into a romance or detective novel. And get your children to join in – if you're cooking, could they read the recipe?
- Give books as gifts.** 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



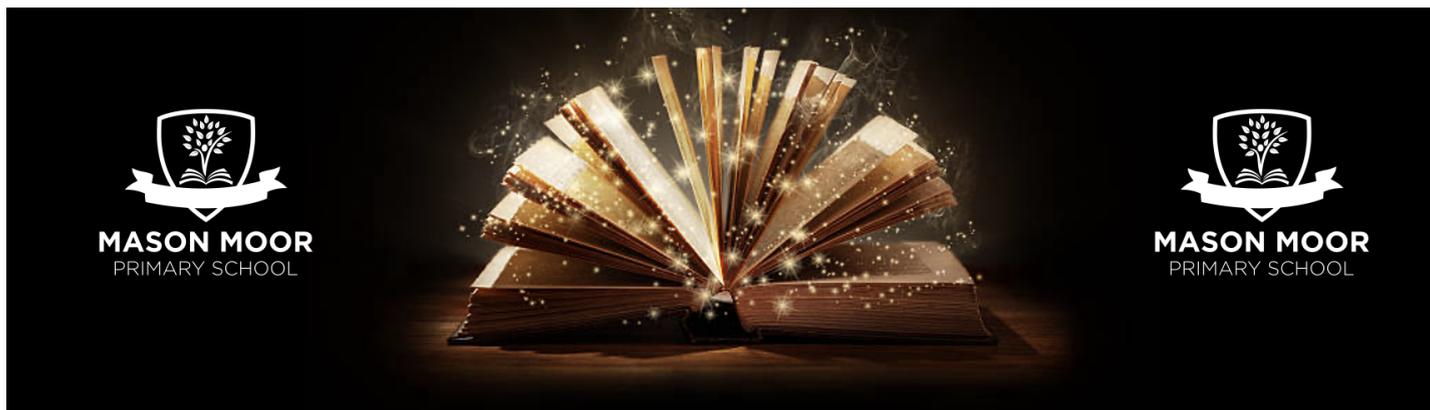
### How often should my child read?

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.**

## 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. We hold an assembly at the end of the day where children are awarded the Golden Book Certificate for excellent work or demonstrating a Mason Moor value!

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	Mehek
1 Blue	Bonnie
2 Blue	Maya
3 Blue	Roshaan

### Key Stage 2 Children

Homeclass	Winner
4 Blue	Izook
5 Blue	Mikol
6 Blue	Connor
6 Green	Katie

## Mason Moor Parent Notices



### Lateness Fines

We have seen a growing number of children turning up to school LATE this term.

Whilst the dark mornings do make children more reluctant to get up early, it is important that you get your child into school.

Remember, the register records your child's attendance daily - including lateness. If your child is late more than 7 times in the term, you will be issued a fixed penalty notice for this. This is a £60 fine, payable to Southampton City Council.

**Make sure they come in on time!**

## Mason Moor Parent Notices



### Christmas Carols

To get us into the festive spirit, children have received their Christmas Carol booklet this week.

Singing assembly, which takes place each week, will be used to help practise a mixture of traditional and modern Christmas carols. If you listen carefully on Wednesday afternoons at home time - you may hear 'Silent Night' echoing from our School Hall.

We have a list of the songs:

- **Away in a Manger**
- **12 days of Christmas**
- **Silent Night**
- **Little Donkey**
- **It was on a Starry Night**



### Nativity Year R and Year 1

As part of their Science learning, Year 2 had an arrival of eggs in an incubator a week ago. They have been learning about animals and their development.

I spoke to a child in Year 2 who told me: "It's mad, they just broke out of the shells and now they are massive!"

The chicks will stay with us for another week before they go to a farm to live out their lives. What an exciting week for every one in Year 2 class!



### Pupil Safety - new doors!

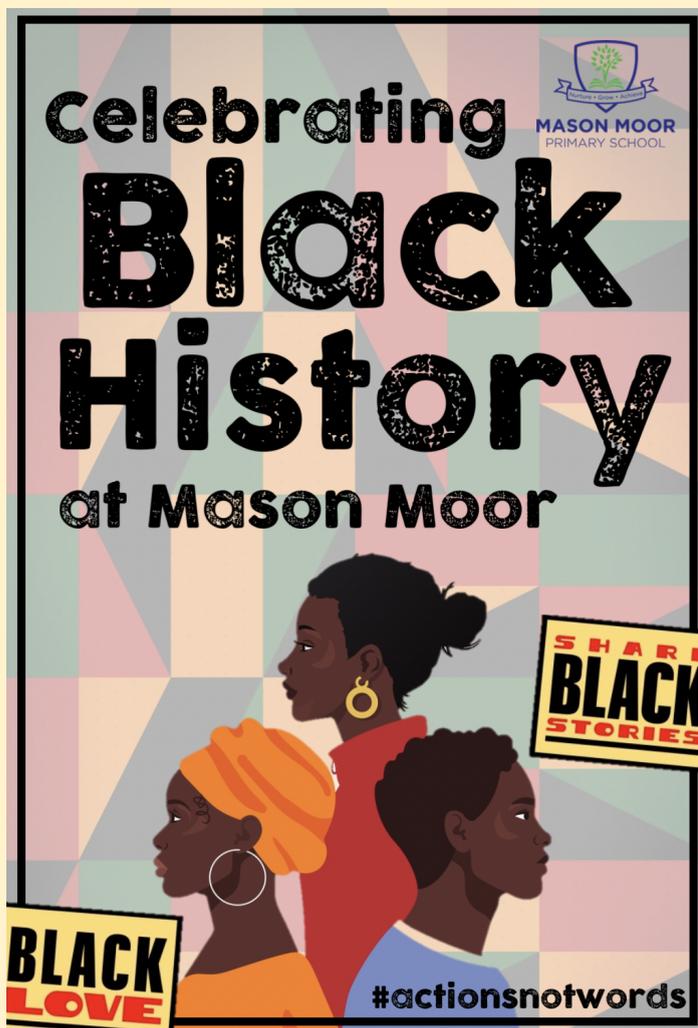
Back in Summer, I wrote to you to allay some parents/carers fears about safety in the school. This, after some of you contacted me to tell me about the danger of the classroom doors.

The good news is - we have now had all of our external doors changed and you will have noticed that there are electronic door fobs too!

Children told me, and external visitors, that they 'feel much safer now - knowing that people can't run around and school feels more secure'. This makes me feel very happy! Next week our new front gates go live too - which means no more locks and chains! I've had the intercoms sorted so you will be able to get in and out.

# Black History Curriculum Week

## #actionsnotwords



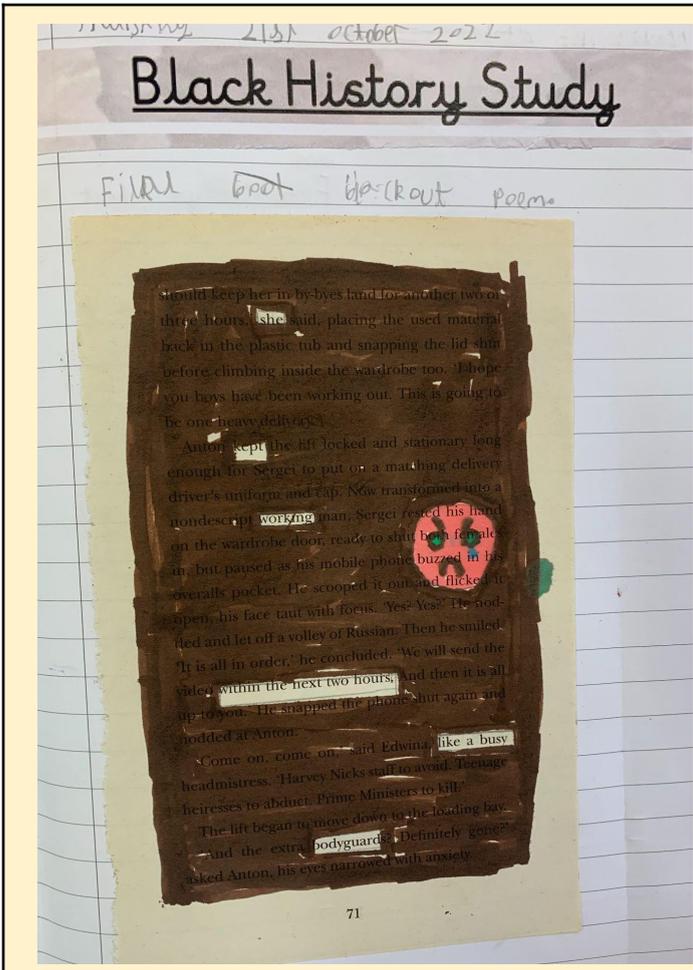
### Actions Not Words

To celebrate Black History - we stopped our curriculum just before half term - to enable all pupils to engage in different activities to celebrate the diversity of Black Britons and culture.

Across the school pupils were involved in different activities including:

Year R	Reception children made KENTE patterns and learned about different fruits.
Year 1	Year 1 made statues of Black Britons.
Year 2	Year 2 learned about djembe drumming.
Year 3	Created art work inspired by the Black British artist: Lubaina Himid!
Year 4	Created 'black out' poems.
Year 5	Wrote stories inspired by the travels of the Windrush generation!
Year 6	Created podcasts - learning about Black British history and if Southampton has a race issue.





## Mason Moor Curriculum Celebration



### Y3 Art Gallery - Sculpture

In Year 3, our children visited Southampton's Art Gallery - where they further explored their study of Ancient Greece - learning about creating wire facial sculptures and designing Medusa-style head drawings.

Pupils thoroughly enjoyed their time. One child said: "It's cool that we get to use the adult tools to make the sculptures and to use wire instead of drawing".

In the photos - you can see the process that the children undertook - from drawing to creating the final piece. Well done Year 3!



### Year R - Diwali Celebration

To celebrate the 'Festival of Lights' for Diwali - children in Reception were immersed in understanding the cultural and religious traditions.

Some pupils had henna patterns drawn onto their hands. They were really excited - giggling and eager to show off their beautifully decorated skin!

Other pupils made tea light holders (Diva Lamps) - a key symbol of the season. These were made through salt dough and then painted.



Look how proud they are!

