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Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Laura Green

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace
1 Peter 4:10*

25th June 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Re: Sports Day

I have had several emails from parents who are questioning the reasons for parents not being able to attend Sports Day this year. So I am taking the opportunity to answer these questions here.

The large majority of schools across the country and in Norfolk have taken the decision not to invite parents to their sports days due to the onerous arrangements that head teachers are required to put in place to ensure compliance with COVID health and safety regulations.

To comply with the regulations, we would need to ensure a maximum of 30 spectators. We could have more than one group of 30 spectators but we would have to ensure that the groups do not mix. Controls would need to be in place to maintain distance and prevent mixing of groups and contact records must be in place. Toilet facilities would not be available for visitors.

As a small school, we do not have enough staff to ensure that we can manage this level of control. We know that our parents would do their best to comply with any safety arrangements but ultimate responsibility for a COVID outbreak in the school would rest with the head teacher.

We could have arranged for each class to have a separate sports session on different days and invited a limited number of 30 spectators to that. However, we took the view that it is far more beneficial, and fun for the children, to be able to compete with the whole school on a dedicated sports day. We will be doing all the usual things, with older children helping younger ones and gazebos and banners etc. We will also ensure that we take a photograph of your child to share with you.

I'm also aware of some schools delaying their sports day until the last couple of days of term in the hope that all restrictions will have been lifted. However, I don't want to take the risk that the event could be called off due to wet weather in those final days. I'm also not entirely convinced that all restrictions will be lifted by this time.

I fully understand the disappointment for parents when they have not been able to share in all the normal school events over the past two summers. I find it particularly galling that 60,000 spectators will be at Wembley for the semi-finals and final game and yet our children are still not allowed to sing indoors! However, at every turn, I have asked myself – 'How can I ensure that we are doing things for the benefit of the children?' Having a whole school sports day is for their benefit. Having mixed playtimes (when many schools are still keeping children separated at playtimes) is for their benefit.

The past eighteen months has been exhausting for all school staff and the burden of community safety for myself and all head teachers has been a heavy load to bear. Throughout this time, despite other schools closing around us, we have only closed one

class at Morley. This is testament to the fact that we have done our utmost to follow the COVID compliance code while also continuing to provide a safe, supportive and enjoyable school experience for your children.

Meeting New Teachers

We will be giving the children the opportunity to visit their new classrooms and meet their new teachers on Thursday 15th July

Year 6 Leavers

This year, our leavers will celebrate with a picnic, disco and games on our field on Tuesday 20th July in the afternoon. We will be holding a Leavers Assembly at 2pm on Wednesday 21st July. Unfortunately, we have to limit numbers of parents/carers to a bubble of 30.

Parent Forum

Unfortunately, under the continued COVID restrictions, we will not be able to hold our Parent Forum meeting on Friday 16th July. I hope that we can resume these meetings in the autumn term.

Summer reading Challenge – message from Norfolk Libraries

Visit your local library to register your children for the Summer Reading Challenge for children aged 5-11 and pick up their free packs. There is also a mini challenge for under 5s so younger siblings don't miss out. Every week there will be different activity sheet available throughout the summer holidays.

This year the theme of the challenge is World Wildlife Heroes and is running in partnership with the Reading Agency and the World Wildlife Fund. If your child loves nature, the environment, animals, bugs and slugs this challenge is the perfect opportunity to foster a love of reading.

Most importantly the Summer Reading Challenge is fun and engaging for children. It can support your child to keep up with their reading during the long summer holiday and nurture a life-long love of books with all the benefits that brings.

The Library and Information Service is also hosting some exciting children's author events on-line. Including award winning author, vet, and wildlife enthusiast Gill Lewis and children's TV presenter, author and vet Jess French. We have interactive story telling events visiting both the Rainforest and Antarctic. There is also a chance to find out more about the animals at Banham Zoo with Chloe the Senior Conservation Education Officer for the Zoological Society of East Anglia. What she doesn't know about sloths isn't worth knowing! Keep an eye out on the Libraries What's On page for details from 10th July and don't miss out.



borrow discover connect

Pine & Oak Class trip to West Runton 13/07/21

If you haven't already done so, please can I remind parents that payment for this trip should be made via our SchoolMoney portal? We also need to know your child's sandwich and ice cream/lolly choice as soon as possible as these need pre-ordering. Thank you.

Transition to High School webinars

A free parents' information event is available for those parents with children heading off to high School in September. All the details are at on the posters at the end of this newsletter. You will note they are running the same session twice at different times and days.

Menu Changes

Please note the following changes to the school menu:

Thursday, 1st July

Beefburger or Vegeburger in a bun
Chips
Rainbow Salad

Chocolate Oatcake

Wednesday, 7th July

Pizza or vegetable goujons
Potato wedges
Rainbow Salad

Cocoa Krispie Bar

Thursday, 8th July

Roast Chicken or vegetable sausage
Stuffing
Roast Potatoes
Carrots
Peas
Gravy

Flapjack

A jacket potato option will be available on Wednesday 7th July but not on Thursday 8th July.

Reminders

Surveys

Thank you to those parents who have completed the survey in last week's newsletter. For those who may have missed it, I have included the links below. Your opinions are important to us so we would be grateful if you would spend a couple of minutes letting us know what you think.

Every year we ask parents to complete a questionnaire with their thoughts about different aspects of the school. We have moved over to on-line surveys now which have proved a very successful form of communication. We would be very grateful if you would spend a minute or so completing the surveys below:

Survey for parents with children in Reception Class:

<https://forms.office.com/r/uF2iG5NPfr>

Survey for parents with children in Years 1 – 6:

<https://forms.office.com/r/mYizgmfuK4>

Another survey was sent out this week to find out which children would like to start / continue / finish music lessons. Here is the link again:

<https://forms.office.com/r/xj2c7PBJBP>

Parent App

You will have received an email before half term with details of our new Parent App. We are delighted that quite a few of you have downloaded it and notified us of data changes etc. It is certainly a useful tool to both school and parents for instant messaging and notifying us of a child's absence for example.

If you haven't downloaded the App yet, I would really encourage you to do so. Contact the office if you need a new link-up code.

School Uniform news

Orchard Clothing, our uniform providers, have confirmed that they can now supply Morley school fleeces in navy, purple, bottle green and red. These are available to order on their website.



Fomps News



Summer Fete

Because of the continuing government restrictions, we are unable to host the Summer fete. We are looking at options at the moment so watch this space! In the meantime, we shall still be grateful to receive second hand uniform and raffle prizes - see below.

Raffle prize request

If anyone has anything suitable as a raffle prize, we would be delighted to receive it! Please give any contribution to a FOMP member or drop it in to the school office.

Second hand uniform stall

If you have any unwanted clean and usable uniform, we would love to receive it! There will be a collection box under the covered way for your contributions. Thank you

Bag2School Collection - Monday 5th July

During the half term break, you may have had a good sort out of your cupboards. Before you take all your unwanted textiles to the local charity shop, we are pleased to announce that FOMPS has organised a clothes & shoe collection with Bag2School in order to raise funds for our children here at Morley Primary School.



Bag2School is the UK's leading textile recycler and fundraiser working with schools and since its inception in 2001 it has now paid out over £27 million.

As well as raising vitally needed funds for Morley Primary School, it also helps the environment by helping to divert unwanted textiles away from landfill. A recent DEFRA report has shown that textile collection schemes are helping to reduce the volume of textiles discarded as municipal solid

waste. However it is a fact that as a nation we still send 350,000 tonnes of textiles to landfill every year.

By getting involved in our **Bag2School** collection, you have an opportunity to sort through your cupboards and wardrobes and donate unwanted textiles in the bag which will be provided - this can include adults' and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, handbags and soft toys, (please refer to <http://uk.bag2school.com/> for full details). In addition to raising much needed funds it will also raise awareness amongst the children of the benefits of recycling and reuse.

If you fill the donation bag and still have more, you can use any other bag to donate your items and don't forget to ask grandparents, friends and neighbours to have a sort out as well!

Bag2School will be collecting from Morley Primary School on Monday 5th July at drop off. Please bring your bag (or bags!) to school and help us have a really good collection.

Many thanks indeed for helping us with this unique fundraising opportunity.

The Big PTA Summer Raffle 2021

Following on from the very successful Christmas Raffle 2020, we're excited to join The Big PTA Summer Raffle 2021. This has been a really tough year for everyone and this is an opportunity to have some fun and raise money for our school.

For every ticket you will have 12 chances to win up to £5,000! At the same time we will raise 50% from every ticket sold supporting FOMPS. It's a fantastic way to bring Parents, Carers, Teachers and the wider community together, in partnership with FOMPS, and at the same time give something back. We hope to raise funds that can support and enrich the education of our children - we aim to provide extra resources for the children and improve the school environment.

Please have a look at the attached poster for further details and a link to purchase tickets.

Your support is greatly appreciated and we wish you good luck!



The FOMPS

Safeguarding resources:

Use of Social Media

We recognise the dangers of children using social media apps and playing online games. It is becoming more and more difficult for parents/carers to fully understand what their children are able to access online and to ensure that what they are doing and looking at is age-appropriate. There are many very helpful sites where parents/carers can get information to help them navigate these issues:

- Think U Know (Parents Section) - www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/
- Childnet (Parents Section) - www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers
- Parentzone - <https://parentzone.org.uk/advice/parent-guides>
- NSPCC (Share Aware) - www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/
- Vodafone (Digital Parenting) - <https://www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/digital-parenting>
- Internet Matters - www.internetmatters.org

Parent Safe - Keeping Children Safe Online: <https://parentsafe.lgfl.net/>

Rowan
Harvey



Celebrations

Value Achievements	Pine	Oak	Sycamore	Rowan	Willow
Gold Book Award					
Reading Passports					
Going for Gold award					
KS1 Merit Badge	James Freddie	Jacob Edward			
Bronze (KS2)					
Silver (KS2)					Hannah
Gold (KS2)					Eva Freya
Platinum (KS2)					Anja- Faith
COURAGE					
TRUTHFULNESS					
RESPONSIBILITY		Ezra			
SERVICE					
TRUST					
SELF RESPECT					
FORGIVENESS					
GENEROSITY					
FRIENDSHIP	Imogen				
RESPECT	Eloisa	Frankie			
KOINONIA			Martha	Ebbany	
JUSTICE					
PERSEVERANCE					Anja- Faith
COMPASSION					

KINDNESS					
HELPFULNESS					
CREATIVITY					

Out of School Achievements:

Congratulations to Kiran and Yasemin who both completed a grading season in karate recently.

Kiran got his first belt (red) with a merit and Yasemin is now on her green belt – well done Kiran and Yasemin!

and finally...

Heavenly Father,

Remind us to use our gifts, to serve one another, as good stewards of your varied grace.

Amen

Kind regards



Head Teacher

Free parents' information event

Transitions to High School

Find out more about supporting your children to transition to new settings

- Recognising and talking about different emotions and feelings when moving to high school.
- Ways to problem solve and offer alternative thinking strategies with your child
- Relaxation exercises
- Building resilience and the Resilience rucksack activity

**Monday 28th June
7pm-8pm**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/parent-information-event-transition-into-high-school-tickets-154692855495>



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Thursday 1st July
4pm-5pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/parent-information-event-transition-into-high-school-tickets-154694355983>



The Coddiwomplers Willow crafts workshops



10am – 12pm
Parent and Child
workshop

£25 for one child and
one accompanying adult

1pm – 4pm
Adult workshop
£35 per participant

Saturday 10th July

Morley Village Hall, Norfolk, NR18 9SU

Parentkind

**That
summer
feeling is on
its way**

**WIN
UP TO £5,000**

£3 ticket enters you in all 12 draws

