

# Morton Newsletter

Welcome to a new school year! I hope that you all had a great summer and had lots of opportunities to make amazing memories with friends and families.

The beginning of the autumn term is always busy and exciting with children and staff settling into new routines and making new relationships with those around them.

This first newsletter has a lot of information that some of you will already know, however, as we are doing with the children, it is a reminder for all!



Miss Jackson



## New Classes

Many things in school remain the same from year to year but whether your child is in the same class or has moved to a different class, some things will be different for them. Adapting to change is tricky and it sometimes it takes a while for children to adjust to these changes. We do everything that we can in school to support children through these changes. If your child is struggling, please talk to your class teacher. Equally, if they loving their new class, please let us know!

## Diary Dates

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Sept – School starts

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Sept – Rockstar Day

Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> Sept – Phonics session for Willow parents

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Sept – MacMillan Coffee Morning

Fri 10<sup>th</sup> Oct – Hello Yellow (wear something yellow)

Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct – Harvest Festival (2pm)

Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Oct – School closes

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov – School starts

11<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> Nov – Parents Evening

Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Nov – Children in Need day

Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Nov – School photos



## Curriculum

This year we will be teaching Cycle A of our curriculum for the second time. We will be looking carefully at what worked well the last time we taught these themes and adapting lessons and activities as needed.

This term, the themes that we are covering are:

**Willow Class** – will start the year with 'All About Me'. They will be thinking about who they are, their families and friends as well as learning about things that happen in Autumn.

**Sycamore Class** – *How Are we Unique?* This is a geography theme in which the children will be learning about our school, the village in which they live and it's surrounding area.

**Maple Class** – *Memories of Morton*. This theme has a geography focus with children learning about Morton's past and how it has evolved into the village we now know.

**Hazel Class** – *City of Discovery*. This is a History unit in which the children will be learning about the Golden Age of Baghdad and how this influenced the world in which we live today.

See the class pages on the website for more information.

### Communication with school

Good communication between home and school is vital. We have a number of ways in which you can communicate with staff at school:

**Come in and see us in person** – staff are outside school from 8.40 in the morning if you have quick questions or messages to pass on. Staff need to be in class with the children at 8.50am but we are happy to make appointments to discuss queries in more detail. Mrs Ward is available in the office for all administration queries – afterschool club, appointments, passing on medicine etc.

**Phonecalls** – please phone school to report absences – if possible before 9.00am. Also phone for more urgent messages such as changes in pick up arrangements. If you are phoning about afterschool care or pick up, please make sure that you speak to someone – we are not always able to pick up messages straight away.

**Dojo** – please use Dojo to pass on quick, non-urgent messages. Staff are not able to check or respond to messages during the school day, evenings or weekends. Dojo is great to showcase what children are doing in class or what is going on at school. Please remember that posts can be seen by all members of the school community.

**Email** – You can email the office at [admin@morton.djanogly.org](mailto:admin@morton.djanogly.org)

### Priorities

As a school we strive to offer the very best education and experiences at school that we can. Each year we have a number of priorities that we work on as a school, this year our priorities are:

1. To ensure that all children, including those who are Pupil Premium or SEND, make good progress across the curriculum and that attainment is at least in line with national figures.
2. To develop subject leadership across school so that leaders are able to lead and discuss their subjects with confidence.
3. Ensure that children in the Early Years make good progress and that they are well prepared for the next stage of their learning.
4. Embed OPAL principles across school and develop more opportunities for children to be leaders within school.
5. To embed safeguarding within the curriculum with a particular focus on mental health

### Uniform

All children at Morton wear school uniform. Our school colour is blue and we consider ourselves a team, so we expect all children to wear their uniform with pride.

- Grey or black school style skirt, trousers or shorts
- White shirt or white / light blue polo shirt
- Dark blue sweatshirt/cardigan (with or without logo)
- Shoes that are comfortable and safe for running around in. I am happy for these to be smart black or white trainer style shoes.
- No jewellery apart from stud earrings and a watch

PE uniform

Children are asked to wear their PE uniform on PE days.

Indoor PE : coloured team T-shirt, blue or black shorts, plimsolls

Outdoor PE : black, blue or grey leggings/joggers and sweatshirt, coloured team T-shirt, trainers

### Residentials

We believe that a variety of experiences, trips and visits enhance the learning that we do in class. Last year we made some changes to residentials so that we could offer more experiences to children throughout school:

	Year 1/2	Year 3/4	Year 5/6
Cycle A (This year)			2 night adventure/activity residential
Cycle B (Next year)	Overnight stay in school	2 night residential (Whitby area to link to curriculum)	

The cost of trips and residentials continue to rise, mainly due to transport. We hope that by planning residentials in this way it is easier for families to manage expenses.