

24/03/2023



MOAT FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

WHERE WE PREPARE FOR TOMORROW BY ACHIEVING TODAY

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week saw lots of science activities going on in school, as it was British Science Week. Schools all around the country spent the week raising awareness of science in and simply enjoying it! Our whole school topic was time – we thought about the history of time and how it is used every day we are in school.

On Tuesday, we had a whole school challenge to find the most accurate way to measure 30 seconds without using a timer of any description. We had some amazing ideas that ranged from counting, to passing a ball around a class, to doing star jumps, to getting in and out of a chair a certain number of times and many more! Every class took part, the classes who were closest to exactly 30 seconds earned a reward – an extra break!

The winning classes were:

Year 3: Green 3 Year 4: Blue 4 Year 5: Green 5 Year 6: Green 6

In addition, all classes had other challenges. Years 3 and 4 estimated and counted the number of times they could do certain activities in one minute, Year 5 measured their own reaction times using their dominant hand, compared to their other hand, and Year 6 created a sundial.

There was also an activity to complete at home. The children who completed the activity were in with a chance to win a clock that they could construct at home! The winners were: Anyah and Sukhani! Super well done!

As much as we celebrated British Science Week, it is not just that week in which Science plays a key part in our school. Look at some of the other ways we try to regularly absorb our children in the subject and inspire our curious scientists:



**GREEN 3 -
29.1 SECONDS**



**GREEN 5 -
29.4 SECONDS**



Science on the playground – these are series of activities that the children can do at lunchtimes on the playground as part of their lunchtime provision. There is a new activity each half term.

Science Spotlight – fortnightly information slides are sent to teachers to share with their class. These range from information about science that may have been in the news recently, to questions pupils have asked about different aspects of science.

Science University – a group of Year 4 students created their own vehicles in the Autumn term and currently a group of Year 5 students are attending Oldbury Academy for a series of science lessons on Friday afternoons. There will be another group of Year 5 pupils going to Oldbury Academy during Summer half term.

Science visits or visitors to school – We further aim to immerse our children in the subject by planning trips that are linked to their science unit of work, as well as inviting visitors in to further enhance the children's learning. Below are some examples of past and future experiences for this academic year:

Year 3 – Trip to Sandwell Valley for the Rocks and Soils Unit of work in Autumn and a trip to Dudley Zoo (more details to follow) in the Summer to complement the Animals, including humans unit of work.

Year 4 – Like Year 3, Year 4 will also get the opportunity to visit Sandwell Valley in the Summer term (more details to follow) for the Living Things and their Habitats unit of work.

Year 5 – spent an exciting day at The National Space Centre in Leicester to support their Earth and Space unit of work. In addition to that, we were able to borrow space rocks and meteorites belonging to NASA! Our pupils absolutely loved investigating them!

Year 6 – had their 'Hands On Science' workshop to support their Animals, including humans unit. The children got the amazing opportunity to dissect a lamb's heart and see a real-life ox's heart. That day certainly inspired our future doctors!

As you can see, at Moat Farm Juniors we are always very busy with all the Science we have going on in school. I feel privileged to be able to see children and adults really enjoying science on a regular basis!

Many thanks, as always, for your continued support,

Mrs Rowley

Science Leader



Science Spotlight

The Northern lights visible in the UK - really?

What are the Northern Lights?

The northern lights (called the *aurora borealis*) and the southern lights (*aurora australis*) appear when tiny particles stream out from the Sun and hit Earth's atmosphere.



The particles are electrons from solar winds. They are attracted to the poles by the magnetic fields found there. They mix with gases in the atmosphere, causing the gases to glow. Solar flares can also cause the Northern Lights to appear.

What causes the Northern (or Southern) lights?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nHn5OO1H1yc>



If the aurora usually happens at the poles, how can it be seen in the UK?

On Sunday the 26th of February, the northern lights, or aurora borealis, were seen further south than usual, with glimpses even possible in Cornwall, in south-west England.

These displays of green and red flickering glows in the night sky, created by particles from the sun, are a wonder to behold. But if you missed them on Sunday, don't worry, there is still a chance to see them this week.



These are some of the videos recorded, in the UK, recently.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-64782372>

So where can I see the Northern Lights?

Get to a dark spot as far from any light pollution as possible. If you are unsure where to go, find somewhere dark and look towards the northern horizon. Then you need to wait and let your eyes adjust.

Don't expect aurora in the stunning, bright colours shown in photos. When you view them with the naked eye, the aurorae are much subtler and can be tricky to spot the first time you try.

If you have a camera with a digital display, looking through the display can help confirm that you are looking at aurorae, as sometimes they can appear greenish-white to the eye, but very green in the camera.

Keep an eye on the weather forecast, too, as you won't see any northern lights if you have a cloudy sky.

Let me know if there is anything scientific you are interested in, that you think other people might want to know more about.

Thanks, Mrs Rowley

What we've been up to



BOOK QUIZ



BOCCIA



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS



FOREST SCHOOL



BIG BIRD WATCH



COMIC RELIEF



Website: www.moatfarm-jun.sandwell.sch.uk

Tel: 0121 552 1215

Email: contact@moatfarm-jun.sandwell.sch.uk

Twitter: @MoatFarmJuniors

What we've been up to

ATHLETICS



ST HILDA'S CHURCH



ROMAN WORKSHOP



SWEET EXPERIMENT



EGYPT WORKSHOP



STAR PUPILS

STAR OF THE WEEK

LOWER SCHOOL

BLUE 3 - KHADIJAH H

GREEN 3 - ARNEZ J

RED 3 - ANIYAH M

YELLOW 3 - JAKE F

BLUE 4 - KARA B

GREEN 4 - ZANE G

RED 4 - VEER T

YELLOW 4 - TYLER M

UPPER SCHOOL

BLUE 5 - LEO C

GREEN 5 - KAI S

RED 5 - ESA A

YELLOW 5 - BAVLEEN K

BLUE 6 - AYANNA T

GREEN 6 - NATHAN D

RED 6 - MALAKIE B

YELLOW 6 - ALI H

HEADTEACHER AWARD

PUNEET J B3

|

SKYE K R5

SPORTS SUPERSTARS

LOWER SCHOOL

BLUE 3 - FREDDIE S

GREEN 3 - KELVIN L

RED 3 - REMIAH H

YELLOW 3 - ISAAC P

BLUE 4 - AMREETA M

GREEN 4 - SIENNA R

RED 4 - JASKIRAT P

YELLOW 4 - ZAKARIYA A

UPPER SCHOOL

BLUE 5 - BETTY W

GREEN 5 - SCARLETT M

RED 5 - YUVRAJ S

YELLOW 5 - JAKE S

BLUE 6 - ALEX H

GREEN 6 - FINNEAS D

RED 6 - ETHAN D

YELLOW 6 - MAKALA S



BATTLE OF THE READERS

POSITION	CLASS	READ 3 TIMES OR MORE	PERCENTAGE	FULL CLASS NUMBER
#1	GREEN 6	30	100%	30
#1	YELLOW 6	30	100%	30
#2	BLUE 6	29	97%	30
#3	RED 5	25	83%	30
#4	YELLOW 3	24	80%	30
#4	RED 6	24	80%	30

SPECIAL MENTIONS

LOWER SCHOOL

BLUE 3 - KHADIJAH H
GREEN 3 - ASTON W
RED 3 - CALI C
YELLOW 3 - ISAAC P

BLUE 4 - AMREETA M
GREEN 4 - AVA L
RED 4 - FINNLEE S
YELLOW 4 - ORLAIGH P

UPPER SCHOOL

BLUE 5 - LEILA O
GREEN 5 - CONNOR R
RED 5 - KHUSHMAN K
YELLOW 5 - DOUGIE M

BLUE 6 - ALEX H
GREEN 6 - MYA D
RED 6 - GURLEEN R
YELLOW 6 - REGAN J

Teacher Training Dates

THURSDAY 29TH JUNE
FRIDAY 30TH JUNE

DIARY DATES

28.03.23

YEAR 3 & 5 DISCO
(MORE DETAILS TO
FOLLOW)

29.03.23

YELLOW 3 CLASS
ASSEMBLY - 9AM

30.03.23

YEAR 4 & 6 DISCO
(MORE DETAILS TO
FOLLOW)

30.03.23

PARENTS' EASTER
COFFEE MORNING

03.04.23

14.04.23

HALF TERM BREAK

17.04.23

BACK TO SCHOOL

03.05.23

BLUE 5 CLASS
ASSEMBLY - 9AM

08.05.23

BANK HOLIDAY
MONDAY (SCHOOL
CLOSED)

09.05.23

12.05.23

YEAR 6 SATS WEEK

29.06.23

30.06.23

TEACHER TRAINING
DAY



ATTENDANCE NEWS

WHERE WE PREPARE FOR TOMORROW BY ACHIEVING TODAY

Attendance Update

We need to try really hard this year to make sure every year group is achieving or beating our **96%** target. We can only do this if we all work together!

Our attendance for w/c 13th March 2023 is

97.4%

Lower School Weekly Attendance Champions:

Red 3 (98.7%)

Upper School Weekly Attendance Champions:

Red 5 (100%)

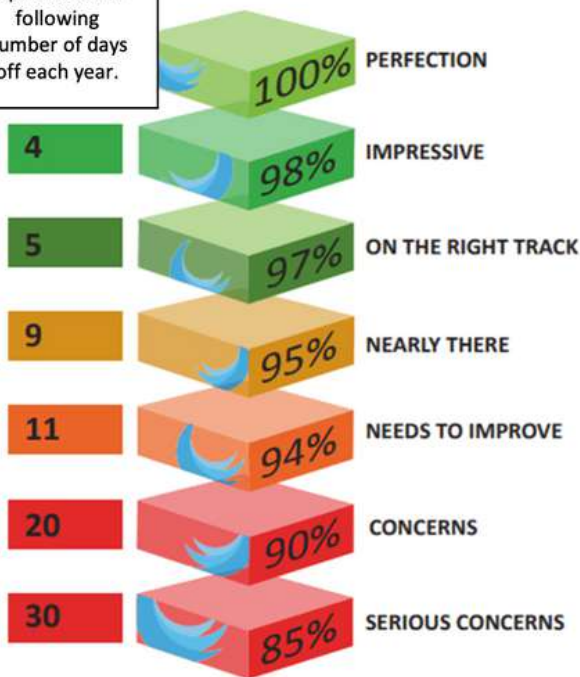


Well done to

Red 5 who had 100% attendance this week and earned some extra playtime as a special treat!

How well is your child doing?

Equates to the following number of days off each year.



Moat Farm Junior Attendance League this half term

Lower School

Blue 3		Blue 4	
Green 3		Green 4	1
Red 3	2	Red 4	
Yellow 3		Yellow 4	

Upper School

Blue 5		Blue 6	1
Green 5		Green 6	1
Red 5	1	Red 6	
Yellow 5		Yellow 6	

Each week, classes receive a point for having the best attendance within lower and upper school.



Weekly Attendance w/c 13.3.23

Yellow 3	94.8%
Red 3	98.7%
Green 3	95.9%
Blue 3	97.2%
Yellow 4	94.3%
Red 4	95.8%
Green 4	96.7%
Blue 4	97.7%
Yellow 5	92.6%
Red 5	100%
Green 5	98.7%
Blue 5	98.4%
Yellow 6	99.7%
Red 6	98%
Green 6	98.3%
Blue 6	99.3%

