



MorgansMail



November 2020

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communication creativity craftsmanship curiosity confidence commitment collaboration



Welcome back!

It has been so lovely to welcome all the children back to school this week after half term and to see so many smiling faces at the gates in the mornings.

We continue to thank you all for your support during drop off/collection times by ensuring that you keep left, follow the blue arrows and maintain social distancing whilst on the school site. The 20 minute time slots enable parents to stagger their arrival times which significantly helps to reduce congestion at the classroom doors.

As a reminder, please ensure that you drop off/collect your children quickly, and leave the site promptly to avoid gathering in small groups. Children should not play on the trim trails at the end of the day.

Thank you for all your support with the wearing of face coverings as you move around the school site. We appreciate your efforts in trying to ensure our school stays open, especially as numbers rise.

The DFE has provided schools with the following advice:

'When social distancing is difficult to maintain in communal areas

In situations where social distancing between adults in settings is not possible (e.g. when moving around in corridors and communal areas), settings have the discretion to recommend the use of face coverings for adults on site, both staff and visitors.'

Many of you are wearing face coverings and in doing so, are being considerate of others who may be more vulnerable. We would like to say a huge thank you for your understanding and support. Please can we urge those that continue to not wear face coverings to do so with immediate effect.

For further updates, please also see the Parent Council newsletter that was sent to all parents on Wednesday 4th November following our meeting at the end of last half term.

Keeping warm at Morgans

Extra layers of clothing

We are following the Government's guidance and have put in place many measures with the aim to keep everyone who visits the school safe. One of the measures is to ensure that the classrooms are ventilated at all times.

As the weather is turning colder and the temperature is dropping, please layer your children ready for school, and provide them with additional clothing for when in school. Classroom windows and doors will be kept open for ventilation as part of our safety measures. Children can carry an extra piece of clothing to school and take it home at the end of the day. We respectfully ask that they do not bring it in a bag, and suggest the extra piece of clothing could be a hoodie, fleece, sweatshirt or cardigan, meaning that children will not have to wear their coats indoors. Extra clothing does not have to be in the school colours – as you are already aware, we are taking a flexible approach to clothing and uniform at the moment.



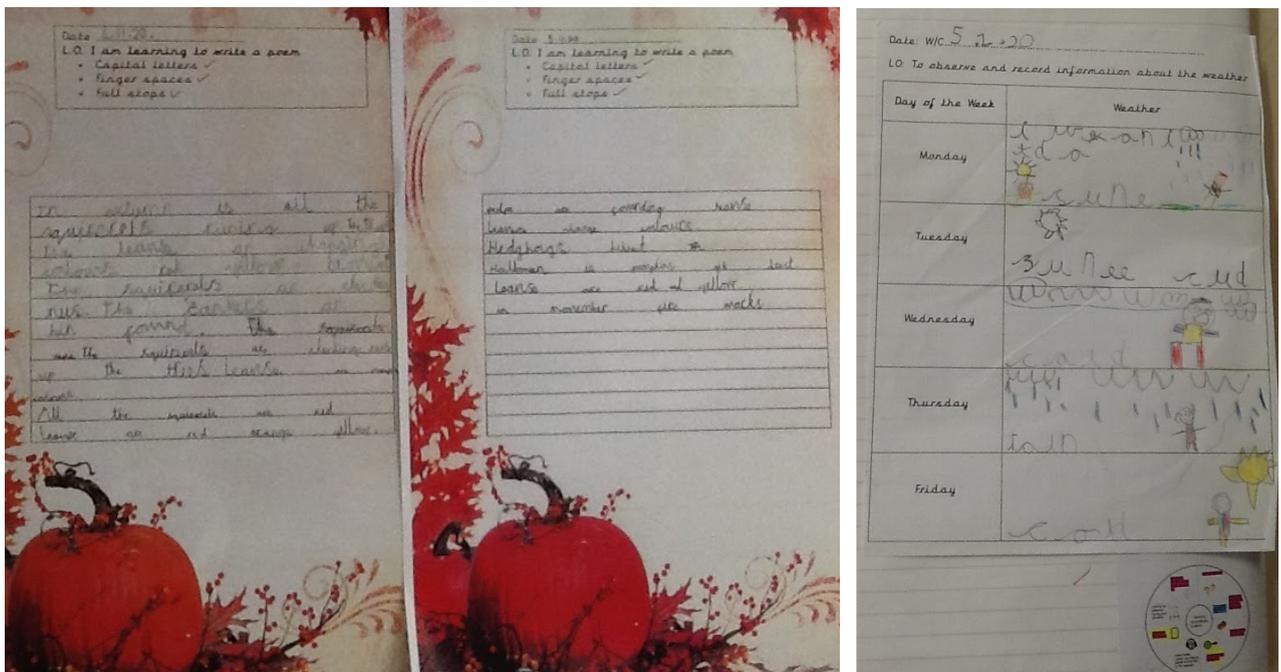
Celebrating learning at Morgans

Year 1

In Cherry and Walnut classes, our main Topic during the Autumn Term has been about the seasons and the changes that happen between Summer and Autumn. This will be reviewed at every seasonal change throughout the year.

We have used our scientific skills to observe and record the weather over a specific week during this Autumn Term.

We have used our knowledge about Autumn to create a class Autumn poem and the children have made their own Autumn poems as part of their Big Write.



In English, continuing on the theme of Autumn, we have been learning about the 'Leaf Man' story. We have looked at the scenery of the story and discussed how he is moving from place to place.

In Art, we have been using our Creativity Learning Power to make our own leaf people and animals.



In Maths, we have been practising our numbers starting at 20 and now going all the way to 100! We have looked at one more and one less and counting on and back. This week has been more focused on addition and the children have enjoyed practically showing us what they know.



In P.E, we have been really lucky to have Coach Dan in from Chance to Shine Cricket. He has taught us lots of fun games and the basic skills we need to play the game of Cricket.



Year 1 Team Charter

AIM: To be respectful, safe, and ready to learn

WE WILL:

Sit nicely on the carpet
Listen to our teachers and our friends
Be kind
Make the right choices

WE WILL NOT:

Have unkind hands or words.
Break the rules.
Shout out on the carpet.
Be rude to our friends.

WE EXPECT:

Everyone to self-regulate and to try their hardest
Good communication by listening and following instructions.
To have the right to learn.
Good collaboration.
Everyone to be friends.

WE DO NOT EXPECT:

To give up.
To not ask for help.
To be afraid of hard work.

WE WORK BEST WHEN:

We challenge ourselves.
We ask good questions.
In a calm and engaging environment.
We work as a team

In PSHE, we have been discussing what we are like as learners, how we learn and our expectations for Year 1. We have collaborated and created a Year 1 Charter to help reinforce these expectations.

Mrs Robinson and Miss Casey

Covid-19 Guidance

As a reminder, parents and carers must minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, **do not attend school**.

Ensuring that pupils do not come into the school if they have [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#) or have tested positive in at least the last 10 days, and ensuring anyone developing those symptoms during the school day is sent home, are essential actions to reduce the risk in schools and further drive down transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19).

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they will be sent home and advised to follow [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#), which sets out that they should self-isolate for at least 10 days and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19).

Home Learning



Our learning platforms are now up and running across the school. In the event that we have to close a year group bubble, teachers will use our learning platforms to continue to provide remote learning. Learning packs will continue to be provided for those with limited access to devices.

Parent Survey

As you know, we recently sent out a survey to parents for feedback on a range of topics. The deadline for responses was Monday 2nd November.

We received a total of 119 responses. Thank you to all of you who responded and provided us with invaluable feedback and thank you too to all those who provided additional, individual responses, comments and questions.

We will take the time to analyse all the information and will let you know of the outcomes, and our response to them, over the next couple of weeks.

Mrs Vicary's parenting tip of the month



There's no doubt that the coronavirus pandemic is having a huge impact on all of us.

As a parent at this time, it's easy to feel that you have so many roles to fulfil that you can't possibly perform any of them well. It's important to remind yourself that this is a unique situation, a global health emergency that none of us have had to face before. Don't be hard on yourself if you feel you're not functioning at your usual standard.

Food for thought.....Tough love is a parenting approach that can help children see that although their parents love them, they aren't going to allow them to make the wrong choices.

Tough love parenting sends a message that essentially says, "I know you don't like what I'm about to do, but I'm going to do it anyway because it will help you, it's good for you and I love you."

Farewells

At the end of the last half term, we sadly said a thank you, good luck and goodbye to 2 members of staff. Mr Saunders, who had worked across Early Years, has returned to college to gain further qualifications before applying to university next year. Miss Norton has left us to start a new career in the Care sector. We will miss Mr Saunders and Miss Norton very much and are so grateful for all that they did to support the children and families at Morgans. We wish them all the very best for their futures.

Mrs Klust has also left to start her maternity leave. We are very much looking forward to hearing exciting news in the weeks to come.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Whilst so many children have come back to school after half term with big smiles and seem settled and happy, we know that some children may have hidden worries or feel anxious about the continuing situation with Covid-19, especially with the recent change in restrictions. We continue to address children's mental health and wellbeing in class and continue to use our S.L.O.W strategies and approach to help.



S.L.O.W

Stop
Listen
Open-up
Work together.



We have left these links on our Morgans Mail in order to offer for additional support to families in helping with your child's wellbeing and mental health as they are regularly updated:

Government:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

BBC bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Young Minds: <https://youngminds.org.uk/>

Mental Health Foundation:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/a-to-z/c/children-and-young-people>

NHS: <https://www.healthforkids.co.uk/>

Second hand uniform

We have a stock of second hand school uniform available, for a small donation of 50p per item. Please ask at the school office for details.

Useful information

Please see the school website for updated information from Herts County Council with regards to schools reopening during the pandemic: <https://www.morgans.herts.sch.uk/covid-19-information>



Please continue to give us your feedback on how we are doing and how we can improve. We aim to ensure school is safe, fun and educational during this continuing difficult time.

Have a lovely weekend, stay safe and well, and enjoy the last of the autumn colours



Helen Jackson and Alis Rocca

Co-Headteachers