



# Moundwood Newsletter

## Autumn Term 2



### LETTER FROM THE HEADTEACHER

The autumn term has certainly been busy at Moundwood and we all look forward to recharging over the break. The last seven weeks have been packed with activities including 'The Moundwood Table Tennis Grand Prix', 'Children in Need' and a series of pre-public assessments for our pupils in year 11. The school community has also continued to grow with more pupils joining us throughout the term. In addition to this, staff have worked extremely hard to ensure pupils across all year groups access an engaging curriculum that enables them to fulfil their potential.

My team and I would like to wish you all a safe and happy time over the festive period followed by a wonderful 2021.

Mr Andre Genas



### HELLO FROM THE SENCO

Hello! This term we have been up to a lot in special educational needs. We have planned and begun to clear ground for a therapy gardening space, where pupils can access and tend to green spaces to work towards ASDAN qualifications. We have so far discovered an old strawberry bed, conducted experiments with beans and made insect hotels. Cookery is on the agenda at the House, with pupils making gooey choc brownies, homemade bread and apple crumble. On the less sensory side of the curriculum, we have been developing learning portraits of our fantastic pupils, co-planning careers and gearing up for two weeks of mock exams. Excitement is in the air as we look forward to a twinkly Christmas!

### TERM DATES



**End of Term** – Thursday 17th December

#### Spring Term

Tuesday 5th January – Friday 26th March 2021

**Half term** Monday 15th Feb – Friday 19th Feb 2021

**Summer Term** Monday 12th April – Wednesday 21st July 2021

**Half term** Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June

May Bank Holiday Monday 3rd May 2021

#### INSET DAYS

Monday 4th January 2021

Students return on **Wednesday 6th January 2021**

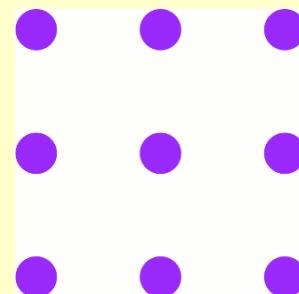
### MATHS

All students have been working hard this term, year 11 have been working towards the December mock exams and have been practicing past papers. Many pupils have been completing extra papers at home and bringing them back in for additional support. Well done for working so hard and I hope the mock results reflect your effort.

In lessons, KS3 have worked on a variety of subjects including algebra and converting measurements. KS4 have been studying perimeter, areas and volumes of combined shapes.

#### **Brain teaser:**

Join all the dots using four straight lines and without lifting your pencil.



### PRIMARY

This half term in primary our topic has been 'Harry Potter'. The children have worked hard to write letters, character descriptions and instructions. They have created their own mythical creatures and used different techniques to describe them. In maths, our focus has been shapes. We have concentrated on naming, sorting and classifying 2D shapes as well as finding the area and perimeter. We are constantly practicing our times tables!

The children have taken part in a number of design and technology lessons. They have made wands, kites and animal patronuses as well as taking part in an egg drop challenge. The children have also had the opportunity to take part in cooking and Makaton lessons and one child has written and recorded his own song.

## FOOD TECHNOLOGY

We have had another amazing term in our food technology lessons. Our students have made an array of savoury and sweet dishes, from making their own bread for burger rolls with freshly made burgers, chicken fajitas, lemon drizzle, chocolate chipped cookies and every student's favourite, chocolate brownies! During this term, our students have learnt so many new skills and the importance of weighing out the exact ingredients for each recipe.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and we are looking forward to creating some more new dishes with our students.



## ENGLISH

The build up to the mocks has taken centre stage in the Functional Skills English group. The students have really started to focus on looking at exam papers and trying their best to be fully prepared for the upcoming mocks. Things are looking positive with some achieving pass marks in practice reading papers. Some have also written some excellent letters which bodes well for his writing exam!

The KS3 English group have studied 'Holes' and 'Private Peaceful'. They have shown great maturity in studying these novels and have produced some really thoughtful and encouraging pieces of written work.

The KS4 GCSE group have studied both 'An Inspector Calls' and 'A Christmas Carol'. They have also prepared for their GCSE mocks in English Language. All students have shown great maturity and effort during their studies and this is encouraging for the future. I really hope the class continue to study well and maintain their positive attitude towards their studies.

## ICT

This half term, our secondary pupils have been learning about coding. They have used online resources to complete activities, mazes and games based on well-known games and films, such as Star Wars and Angry Birds. The children also had fun creating their own emoji and were learning about computer safety, then made internet safety posters to decorate the ICT room. Our Year 11s did a great job this term with their mock exams.

## NEWS & SUPPORT



Children can eat for free in December if with an adult!

<https://corporate.asda.com/newsroom/2020/11/30/kids-can-eat-free-in-asda-cafes-throughout-december>

Sending a big thank you to Jedidiah UK who have donated food parcels for our children who receive free school meals, staff are organising and adding to these and they will be going out this week.

## VOYAGER CHRISTMAS POEM

'Twas the week before Christmas, in the Voyager House.  
Mock exams were happening, so it was as quiet as a mouse.

Students focused and showing their skill, waiting for school Christmas dinner to eat their fill.

A difficult year is coming to an end  
and to all of you, our best wishes we send.

Thank you all for your support and cheer  
we truly hope you have Merry Christmas and a fantastic New Year.



*The Staff and Students of Voyager*

## SCIENCE

Some of our students have been working fantastically this term. They have been focusing on biology, with key topics including animal and plant cells, tissues, organs and organ systems. During some of these lessons the students have had the opportunity to take part in experiments to enhance their knowledge.

Year 10 students taking part in the process of the digestive system experiment



## MUSIC

Music technology remains a very popular subject and enrichment option with the students here at Moundwood. While developing their composition skills, the students have begun to venture out beyond the preset loop library and are beginning to explore software instruments. The students have been very busy in class working on a research project about their favourite musical artist. In addition to the classwork, several of the students have taken pride and effort in creating some beautiful art work to display using the key words from their lessons.

