

WITH ALL THE LATEST FROM MOOR PARK

**MOOR
PARK
NEWS**

WINTER 2017

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THE HEADLINE



It has been a great term at Moor Park. As a headteacher I look for the small signs that tell me that the school is improving, and I have seen many of these signs during this term. Our current year 11s have made a great start, adapting quickly to the more rigorous and difficult GCSE courses. They are on course to do exceptionally well and produce a record set of results. Our new year 12s have settled in well and our sixth form demonstrated once again in the summer that it punches well above its weight, producing results in the top 10% of 6th forms nationally.

We have a record number of year 7s this year and we have been delighted by the way in which they have started their lives in secondary education. I have also been delighted by the quality, commitment and professionalism of our new teachers; at a time of teacher recruitment issues we have been able to recruit the best and retain the existing quality staff that we already had. Teachers want to work here because our young people behave well, want to learn and come from supportive families; we consider ourselves very lucky.

Work has begun on improving the external environment for the young people, giving them shelter, somewhere to eat and first-class facilities for sport and exercise. Our new multi-use games area has been built and our sports teams continue to excel, notching up victories against local schools in both girls' and boys' sports.

Our Arts offer continues to grow strong roots. Only the best is good enough for our young people and we are all determined to provide it.

This term's newsletter is packed full of the achievements of our young people and the opportunities that they get at Moor Park. These are exciting times and next term we will be branching out into social media; launching our new Facebook and Twitter accounts and our Parent App. This will allow you to keep up with developments, feedback to us and access quickly the sort of information that is so valuable to parents.

Headteacher: **Mr B Corbett**



BRITISH ARMY VISIT

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MAJOR TURNER AND SERGEANT COOPER FROM THE BRITISH ARMY VISITED THE SIXTH FORM AND TALKED TO STUDENTS ABOUT THE VARIOUS JOB ROLES AVAILABLE IN THE ARMY.

The session also involved a forensic investigation workshop, which gave students the opportunity to gather and analyse evidence of a crime scene.

The workshop was insightful, with many students leaving informed about the different methods associated in criminal investigation.



NATIONAL POETRY DAY

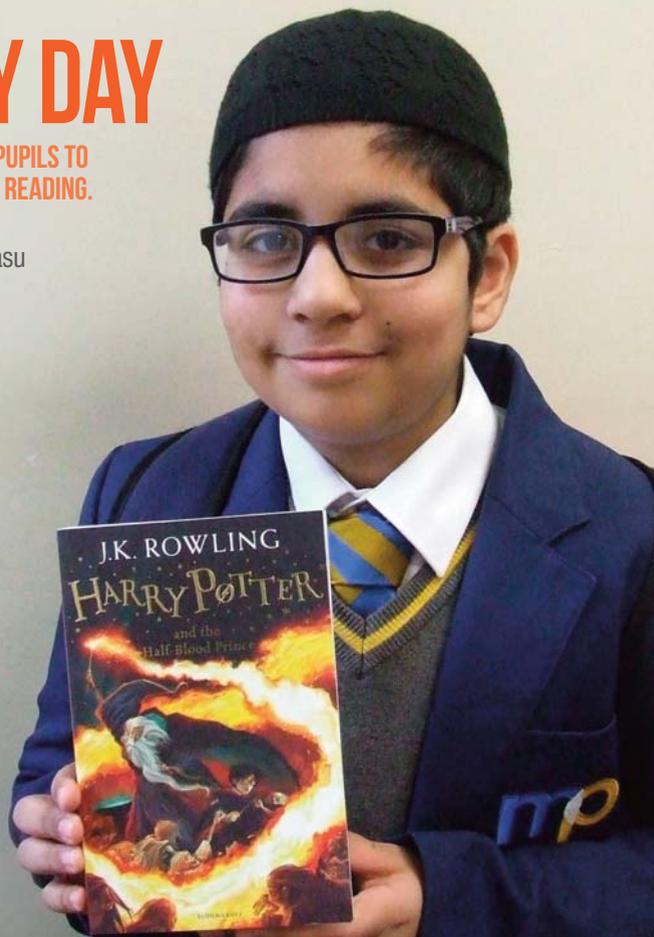
FOR NATIONAL POETRY DAY A COMPETITION WAS SET FOR PUPILS TO COMPOSE THEIR OWN POEM ON THE THEME OF BOOKS AND READING.

The winner of the competition was Year 7 pupil Ahmed Dasu who chose a Harry Potter book as his prize.

Here is his winning poem: 'Open a Book'.

Open a book
And you will find
People and places of every kind.
Open a book
And you can be
Anything that you want to be.
Open a book
And you can share
Wondrous worlds you find in there.
Open a book
And I will too.
You read to me
And I'll read to you.

WELL DONE TO AHMED.



EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

To mark this year's European Day of Languages competitions were held for pupils to demonstrate their linguistic aptitude.

Pupils in Years 8 – 11 had to translate the phrase 'Keep Calm and Learn a New Language' in as many languages as possible. Congratulations to our winners: Harry Fleetwood, Riley Thompson-Andrew and Dillon Cunningham.

For Year 7 pupils the challenge was to create a t-shirt design which celebrated the diversity of European languages. Well done to God'swill Odumeru whose t-shirt design was chosen to be submitted to the official European Day of Languages design competition.

'KEEP CALM AND LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE'

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CHARITY SHOEBOXES

PUPILS IN YEAR 7 HAVE BEEN FILLING SHOEBOXES WITH GIFTS FOR THE SAMARITAN'S PURSE CHARITY.

Organised by the Religious Education staff at Moor Park, this Christmas fundraising project has involved every form in Year 7 performing an 'act of citizenship'.

Overall, twenty packed shoeboxes have been delivered to a local church where they will be distributed to countries where children will benefit from the generous donations.

THANK YOU AND WELL DONE TO YEAR 7.

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ON WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 36 PUPILS FROM YEARS 8-11 TRAVELLED TO THE WINTER GARDENS IN BLACKPOOL TO WATCH THE HIT MUSICAL 'HAIRSPRAY'.

The trip was kindly funded by the Association of Lancastrians in London and allowed many of the pupils to experience the theatre for the very first time.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the show and were impeccably behaved. The trip has inspired our own cast as the rehearsal process is well under way for our school production in 2018.

'It was the best experience I have ever had. It has inspired me to do better in performing arts for this final year so I can be on the stage like that too. Thank you so much for the experience.'
Chyna Cartwright

hairspray

GUIDE DOGS FUND RAISER

PUPILS AND STAFF HAVE RECENTLY BEEN RAISING MONEY FOR THE GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND ASSOCIATION, IN AID OF THEIR "MOVE IT FOR MONEY" INITIATIVE.

Fourteen members of staff took part in a thrilling netball match, cheered on by a crowd of pupils. The game, between Mr Jones' team and Miss McGrath's, was a closely fought contest with Mr Jones' team eventually prevailing. Star player of the evening was the fantastic Mrs Moore.

Pupils took part in an obstacle course which they had to complete blindfolded. This provided some experience of life without sight, and what it feels like to complete tasks where sight is taken for granted. Pupils worked in pairs guiding their 'blind' partner through the obstacle course to see if they could be as efficient as one of the many dogs working as a guide dog in the UK.

Pupils and staff also took part in a sponsored run around Moor Park. Congratulations to everyone who completed the run and raised funds for the charity.

Overall, a grand total of £150 was raised. Many thanks to all those involved.



STUDENT FOCUS



**ELLIOT
LEACH _
YEAR 8**

Tell us a little about yourself.

Hello, my name is Elliot. I'm currently in Year 8. I'm 12 years old.

Why did you choose to come to Moor Park?

I chose to Moor Park because it's a good school and I like how small it is. It's easy to find your way around.

What do you think of the school?

I think Moor Park is a good school. My favourite thing about the school is how the classes are small. I like having 1:1 support because it helps me progress.

How did you feel on your first day at Moor Park?

I felt nervous at first as I didn't know if my friends were coming here. But I saw most of my friends from primary school on the school yard.

Tell us about your recent achievements.

I recently received an award for doing well in the Progress Tracking exams.

What enrichment activities are you involved in?

I do ping-pong after school on Mondays which I really enjoy.

What are your plans for the future?

I plan to go to Sixth Form and then take an apprenticeship.

THE ANNUAL MOOR PARK SUMMER GAMES WAS ONCE AGAIN BLESSED BY WARM JULY SUNSHINE.

SUMMER GAMES



TEAMS OF PUPILS COMPETED WITH VIM AND VIGOUR AS THEY COMPETED FOR TEAM POINTS.

After an excellent competition with strong individual and team performances, Miss Dasu's team prevailed as champions.

WELL DONE TO EVERYONE WHO TOOK PART.



12 SUMMER SCHOOL

MANY OF MOOR PARK'S NEW YEAR 7 INTAKE MADE AN EARLY START TO THEIR TIME WITH US BY TAKING PART IN OUR SUMMER SCHOOL INITIATIVE FOR TWO WEEKS DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAY.

Pupils had the opportunity to experience lessons in many of the curriculum subjects they would be studying in September, as well as seizing the opportunity to make new friends and develop some important skills in team work and communication.

At the end of the fortnight pupils were presented with certificates as recognition of their success.

WELL DONE TO ALL OUR SUMMER SCHOOL PUPILS.



LUNCHTIME CONCERT SERIES

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IN OCTOBER FIVE MOOR PARK MUSICIANS SHOWCASED THEIR TALENTS IN FRONT OF A PACKED AUDIENCE DURING THE FIRST LUNCHTIME CONCERT OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. EXPERIENCED PERFORMER ALICIA FORBES (YEAR 10) OPENED THE SHOW BY SINGING 'YOURS' BY ELLA HENDERSON'.

Natasha Rigby (Year 8) performed last year as part of a duet; however, this year she took the next step and performed fantastically as a soloist.

Two of our new Year 7 pupils jumped at the opportunity to perform in front of an audience for the very first time. Marc Rhodes performed 'Two in a Boat' on violin after having only 6 lessons this year, and Kian Welsh excelled in his performance of 'Enter Sandman' by Metallica on the electric guitar which included a 3 minute guitar solo!

The first lunchtime concert was once again supported by pupils and staff who gave up their lunch time to support the musical talent that we have here at Moor Park. Well done to all involved.

The next lunchtime concert will involve students from UCLAN who will perform for our pupils on Friday 15 December. The next lunchtime concert for Moor Park pupils to take part in is on Friday 1 December.



BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

THE MOOR PARK SUMMER CONCERT PERFORMANCE OF BEAUTY AND THE BEAST PROVIDED A WONDERFUL SPECTACLE FOR AN APPRECIATIVE AUDIENCE AT THE END OF A BUSY SCHOOL YEAR.

Our young performers seized the opportunity to showcase their acting and singing talents to the full.

MANY CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE INVOLVED IN THIS HIGHLY ENJOYABLE AND SUCCESSFUL EVENT.



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IN JULY FORTY PUPILS FROM YEARS 8-11 WENT TO THE BEAUTIFUL SPANISH CITY OF BARCELONA.

A packed itinerary included visits to the Nou Camp football stadium, Sagrada Familia church, Olympic stadium, a shopping expedition on Las Ramblas and a cable car trip over the city.

Apart from a misplaced passport and a lost baggage key, the visit was a triumph. All pupils thoroughly enjoyed learning about the customs and culture of the Catalan capital and are already looking forward to the next visit.



MEDAL SUCCESS

IN SEPTEMBER YEAR 11 PUPIL SHABAZ KHOKHAR TOOK PART IN THE WORLD KARATE AND KICKBOXING COUNCIL EUROPEAN OPEN WHICH WAS HELD IN MANCHESTER.

Shabaz is part of the Faqiri Gym in Preston and competed as part of a five-strong team from the gym.

The team won six medals overall, including four gold – one of which was won by Shabaz.

MANY CONGRATULATIONS TO SHABAZ FOR THIS FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENT.

ACCELERATED READER



MOOR PARK IS NOW RUNNING THE ACCELERATED READER PROGRAMME WITH PUPILS IN YEARS 7, 8 AND 9.

The programme requires all pupils to read books and then complete quizzes on the books.

The more books read, and quizzes passed successfully, the more confident pupils will become with their reading and literacy skills.

We are very excited about this new initiative and look forward to seeing our pupils progress on their own particular reading journeys.



BOOKBUZZ

AT MOOR PARK WE ENCOURAGE A HABIT OF REGULAR READING AS SOON AS PUPILS ARRIVE AT THE SCHOOL IN YEAR 7. ONE OF THE WAYS WE PROMOTE THIS EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH BOOKS IS THROUGH THE BOOKBUZZ SCHEME.

Bookbuzz is offered by the Book Trust reading charity and encourages a love of reading for pleasure among young people.

Currently, everyone in Year 7 is waiting eagerly for their free Bookbuzz book to arrive, having made their choice of reading material from a list of seventeen titles.

There is a great deal of evidence to suggest that pupils who become confident readers early on at school not only perform well in English, but also have a high degree of success in their other subjects.

We hope Year 7 pupils enjoy their free book and continue to be active readers throughout their time at Moor Park.

SPORTING DEVELOPMENT



AT MOOR PARK WE CONTINUALLY LOOK TO INVEST IN FACILITIES WHICH WILL ENHANCE PUPIL EXPERIENCE ACROSS THE SCHOOL.

Our next large-scale development will be a 'multi-user games area' (MUGA). This brand new outdoor sports area will serve as an impressive complement to our existing sports hall.

The construction of the MUGA is currently under way. Needless to say, our pupils are very excited at the prospect of making use of this significant addition to the school.

SPORTS DAY

MOOR PARK'S SPORTS DAY WAS HELD ON A SWELTERING DAY IN JULY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL LANCASHIRE SPORTS CENTRE.

Teams of pupils represented Olympic nations and competed in a wide range of track and field disciplines, including high jump, long jump, javelin and the 100 metres sprint. Pupils encouraged each other as they performed in a spirit of friendly competition.

The day was rounded off with an entertaining relay race involving members of staff who showed a surprising level of athleticism!

Congratulations to everyone who took part in this enjoyable whole school event.





IN JULY MOOR PARK HELD ITS ANNUAL AWARDS PRESENTATION TO CELEBRATE AND CONGRATULATE ALL PUPILS WHO WORKED HARD OVER THE YEAR TO ACCOMPLISH EXCELLENT RESULTS.

The awards were presented by special guest former Sixth Form student Mohammed Bhata who is now achieving great things in London on a KPMG apprenticeship programme.

Musical entertainment was provided by Blake Glassey on saxophone, solo vocalist Alicia Forbes and a Moor Park string ensemble.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR PRIZE WINNERS, INCLUDING AADIL OSSMANIE WHO WON THE 500% ATTENDANCE AWARD FOR NOT MISSING A SINGLE SCHOOL DAY IN FIVE YEARS.

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JUNGLE DRAMA



IN NOVEMBER A GROUP OF YEAR 9 DRAMA PUPILS TRAVELLED THE SHORT DISTANCE TO ST MATTHEW'S PRIMARY SCHOOL IN PRESTON TO TAKE PART IN THEIR ARTS FESTIVAL.

The pupils performed a short jungle-themed play and then assisted the primary school pupils in creating some jungle-themed role plays.

Our young performers enjoyed passing on their drama skills to the pupils of St Matthew's.

"It was great working with the year 3 and 4 children. I think we did a good job of entertaining them. I would love to do this again." Rebekah Davis

"This experience allowed me to see what it would be like to be a teacher for the day." Farzanah Parker



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UNIVERSITY OF LAW

A LECTURER FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF LAW VISITED THE SIXTH FORM RECENTLY TO DELIVER A COMPELLING WORKSHOP ON THE INFAMOUS AMANDA KNOX MURDER CASE.

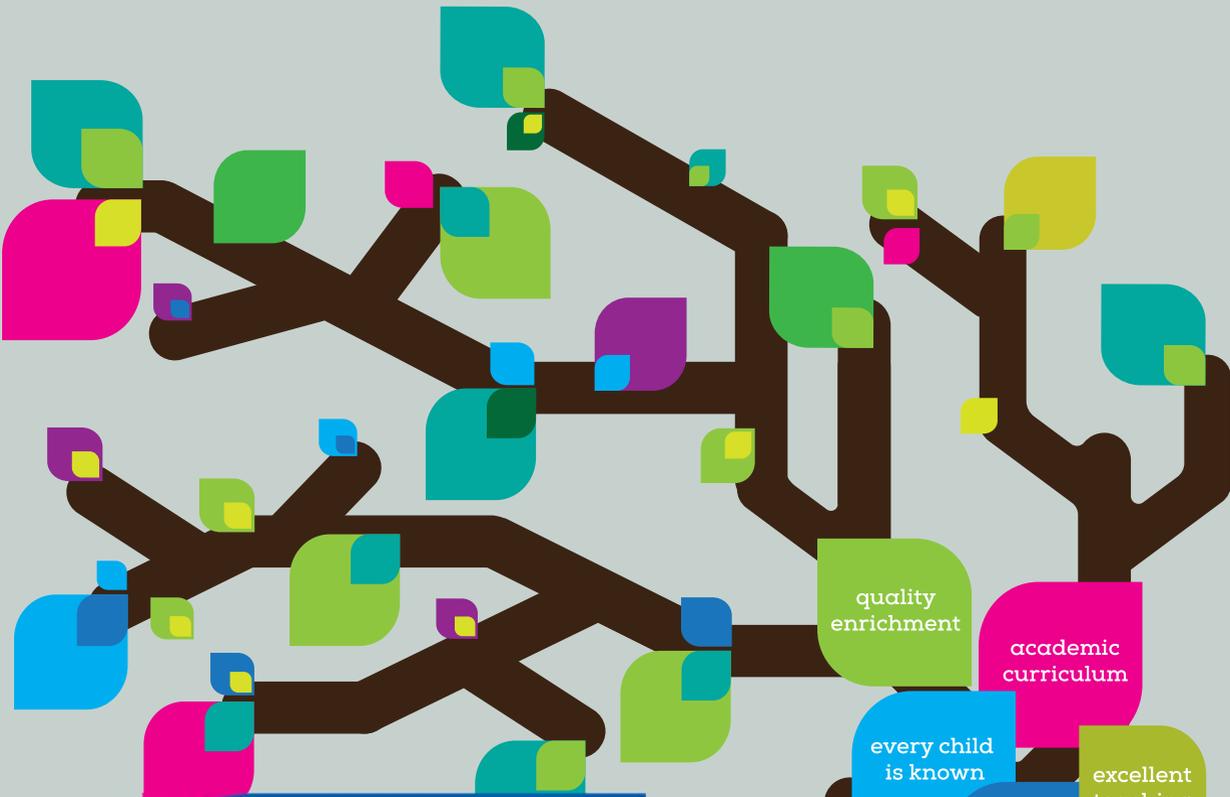
The workshop required students to assess the evidence put forward by prosecutors and decide if the evidence was viable.

Students also looked at the key suspects involved in the case and evaluated if their alibis were accurate. The workshop provided a valuable insight into criminal law and certainly challenged the students' analytical skills.



DIARY DATES





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| 13 DECEMBER | FULL GOVERNORS MEETING |
| 19 DECEMBER | WINTER EXTRAVAGANZA |
| 21 DECEMBER | END OF TERM FOR STUDENTS |
| 22 DECEMBER | INSET DAY FOR STAFF |
| 8 JANUARY | INSET DAY FOR STAFF |
| 9 JANUARY | SPRING TERM BEGINS FOR STUDENTS |
| 11 JANUARY | 6TH FORM CONSULTATIONS |
| 24 JANUARY | STAFFING AND CURRICULUM GOVERNORS MEETING |

quality enrichment

academic curriculum

every child is known

excellent teaching

high expectations

exemplary behaviour

so that all students will be able to access higher education and participate fully in our democratic society

