



Morley Place  
Academy



# ACADEMY NEWS

Autumn 1 Newsletter

September 2016

## A New Year, A New Start!

Welcome back to all of our children and parents for the start of the academic year. A special welcome also to our Y3 pupils, new starters and their families. A quick thank you too, to our 'Morley Buddies' in Y5 – it was great for the Y3s to receive your postcard during the summer holidays. Also on their first day this week at Morley Place, we have teachers Miss O'Reilly in Y3 and Miss Green joining us full time to support Y4. Look out too for Mr Taylor, our new Site Manager, who'll be making sure our building and grounds are well looked after. We look forward to working with & getting to know all of our new starters this first half-term.

We hope that everyone had a good summer break. The children have returned rested and refreshed and have shown fantastic behaviour and attitudes so far. It was great to see them in their new uniforms (especially Y6!), looking smart and eager to get cracking with the curriculum!

The staff team has worked hard to ensure children are returning to a much improved learning environment and are looking forward to a great year filled with fun, hard work and success!

*“At Morley Place Academy, our aim is for all children to be **Happy and Safe, Show Respect, Enjoy a Challenge, Celebrate Diversity and be Fit and Ready for their Future!**”*

*- Academy Core Values and Vision*



Front of House!

### Included in this Issue:

- Welcome
- Academy Values
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- Academy Priorities
- Working Together
- Diary Dates



Look Smart, Think Smart!

## Great Expectations!

**We have the highest expectations for every child at Morley Place and are working hard to keep raising standards year on year and ensure the best outcomes for all of our children. Here are a few ways you can help us set the standard for our pupils...**

### Home-Learning

Standards in Reading, Writing and Maths need to continue to rise, and we all play a part in making this happen. Teachers and LSAs are all now confident with the new government set 'Age Related Expectations' (ARE) and how best to ensure that children reach these standards by the end of the academic year.

In order to accelerate progress and give children the best possible chance to meet the national standards, it is essential that children work on their basic skills at home. These will give children a head start that can then be built upon in the classroom!

This year therefore, our home-learning will focus on securing basic skills in English and Maths. This includes; a minimum of 3, 10-15 minute sessions per week reading to an adult, with questioning to ensure understanding (daily would be even better please!) / Weekly spelling words to learn by heart using 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' / Times-tables practice to ensure children are fluent and can recall number facts at speed.

### School Uniform - Look Smart, Think Smart!

We would like to make sure children wear the correct school uniform every day please, so they are always looking smart, professional and ready to learn! In case you're not sure, uniform details (inc. PE kit) and how to order can be found in every child's school planner.

*Please can we also ask that a note is sent from home on any occasion when correct uniform is not worn. We will be purchasing spare academy clothing for those not in uniform to change into, whilst working in school.*

## Thank You!

We are all very proud of the progress made within the academy so far. We had a fantastic end to the 2015-16 school year, with several successful events taking place, including the Summer Funfair, Sports Day and Y6 DARE Graduation. Thank you to all those that attended and contributed to their success— an amazing **£795** was raised!

An extra special thank-you as well to grandparent Mrs Joyce, who has, as the local press described, been 'on a mission!' Over the last term she organized a charity concert at the Ivanhoe Working Men's club, enlisting the help of the 'Star's in Their Eyes' team and canvassing local businesses for raffle prizes. An incredible **£1075** was raised to go towards extra sensory equipment for our vulnerable pupils. Thank you also to the Ivanhoe Club and performers who gave their time for free. It is very much appreciated – the money will make a great difference for our pupils.



Reading for Pleasure

## Communication

To ensure that communication is further improved this year and that you always feel well informed, you will now receive 'Academy News' and an individual Class Newsletter every half-term.

The newsletters will include key information regarding your child's timetable, what they're learning, news & celebrations, academy expectations and upcoming dates for your diary.

These will be in addition to the regular communications you already receive - parent update letters, text messages etc will all continue as normal. Please remember to check pupil planners for any notes home from Class Teachers and use it to send messages in. You can check out our website and follow us on twitter too, for all the latest pics and news (details on the back page!)

As part of our new curriculum launch, we also look forward to inviting you into the academy to celebrate progress and learning at year group events. We have planned some really exciting opportunities for your child this year that we're sure they'll want to share. Watch this space for further details coming soon!

## **ACADEMY PRIORITIES**

To ensure that our academy continues to thrive and improve, we would like to share with you the key priorities for this academic year...

### **ACTION 01:**

To further improve the quality of teaching and learning so that the teaching profile is securely good across the academy

### **ACTION 02:**

To ensure leaders at all levels are contributing to the academy's rapid and sustained improvement

### **ACTION 03:**

To embed a supportive and positive culture across the whole academy, where pupils show pride in their achievements and commitment to learning



**Together we can achieve more!**

## **Working Together**

We believe that the single most important aspect of a successful education is strong, trusting relationships with all of our school community. By creating a clear sense of purpose and a shared vision for children, families and staff, our academy can be a place where everyone will thrive and succeed. The 'Home-School Agreement' (a government recommendation for all schools!) will help to ensure all children can maximize their abilities and have the best possible experiences during their time with us here at Morley Place Academy. The Home-School Agreement is designed to ensure that we all work together to contribute to your child's success.

## **Safeguarding 2016-17**

It is really important that all of our children are safe in school and at home. For your information, our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) for Child Protection are;



**Mr Rust**  
Head Teacher



**Mrs Fitzpatrick**  
Inclusion Manager  
*SEND / Curriculum*



**Miss Murray**  
Inclusion Manager  
*Behaviour / Parental Support*

Should you have concerns regarding any child at our school, please let us know either in person or call **01709 863400**

**"It is our 'duty of care' to act upon the information you give us"**



## A Message from the Trust

We are absolutely delighted that Morley Place is now a part of Wakefield City Academies Trust. From our time in school so far, we have found it to be a happy environment, where staff want the very best for every child and work relentlessly to ensure they achieve this. They are always open to new ideas and rise to any challenge presented to them. The team wholeheartedly believe in a child-centred approach and all decisions that are made are done so to improve the quality of education your child receives. In partnership, we are working really hard together to ensure that these rapid improvements continue, so that we can provide the best possible experiences for all children. Our main goal this year is to ensure that standards continue to rise in reading, writing and maths across all year groups. We will be supporting the academy towards these goals and are looking forward to a successful year!

*“The best preparation for good work tomorrow is to do the good work today”*

*- Elbert Hubbard*



## Contact Us

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**Twitter:**  
Follow us @MorleyPlace

## Diary Dates Autumn 1

- **9<sup>th</sup> September** Y5 Greek Day
- **12<sup>th</sup> September** Y3 Local Study Walk
- **20<sup>th</sup> September** School Photos
- **21<sup>st</sup> September** Y3 Parent Meeting
- **22<sup>nd</sup> September** Y6 Parent Meeting
- **3<sup>rd</sup> October** Y3 Fire Safety Talk
- **5<sup>th</sup> October** Y4 Butterfly House Visit
- **12<sup>th</sup> October** Harvest Celebration (Lower School)
- **13<sup>th</sup> October** Harvest Celebration (Upper School)
- **18<sup>th</sup> October** Parents Evening (General Progress)
- **19<sup>th</sup> October** Parents Evening (continued)
- **20<sup>th</sup> October** Lego Workshop Y3 (a.m) Y6 (p.m)
- **21<sup>st</sup> October** Last Day of Half-term

### HALF-TERM BREAK

- **1<sup>st</sup> November** School Re-opens for Pupils



**Aim High!**

## And Finally...

A special thank you for all of the support and positive comments we received last year.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any further suggestions about school improvement, or any queries or concerns. We will do our very best to help and your views will always be taken into consideration.

As we look forward to a great first half-term, our thanks once again for your continued support.



**Morley Place  
Academy**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. V. Rust'.

Mr P. Rust  
Head Teacher