

# MOWDEN NEWS



JULY 2023

**PHEW!** What a year. Everyone has worked really hard and we are all ready for a well-deserved break. Here are some highlights from this year:

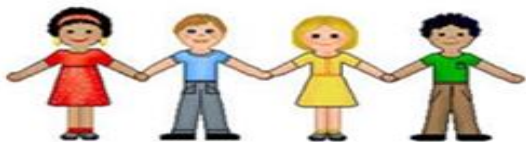
Children came back to school to find new outdoor shelters had been installed in the playground. These were bought with funds raised by the Friends of Mowden. The shelters have been well used and appreciated by the children.

Some individual classes have had Celebration Assemblies this year and parents/carers have witnessed some lovely performances.

Children in Need raised a fantastic £878.74.

December saw us putting on a Christmas show at Hummersknott School which was a great success. We had some lovely emails: please see a snippet below:-

*"I just wanted to express my thanks to all involved in the Christmas performance at Hummersknott. The show was fantastic and it was lovely to see all the children involved and enjoying themselves. We had a great evening and thoroughly enjoyed it"*



Friends of Mowden Schools

**THE FRIENDS OF MOWDEN** organised a successful Summer Fun Day raising a magnificent **£4071.31**. Everyone who came really enjoyed it and had lots of fun.



During the year the Friends organised lots of events including the Discos – which are always very popular, Christmas Cards designed by

your child, a Smartie Challenge, Penny Wars and lots more.

All funds raised are used in school to enhance your child's school experience. More information to follow next year about what we are raising the money for.

The Friends cannot continue without your help. They would love you to contact them if you can offer any time or offer any skills. You do not have to fully commit to every event and can 'dip in' when you can. Just let them know on [friendsofmowden@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofmowden@gmail.com)

**IN SPORTING NEWS.....**After winning the cricket qualifying tournament Y5/Y6 boys went on to win the Darlington final against Abbey School by 1 run.

Y6 won the Darlington School Netball League after two evenings of games at Polam School.

We have recently been upgraded to Silver in the School Games Award.

Well done everyone!



## LOST PROPERTY -

Please remember to label your child's clothes, especially jumpers or cardigans.

**We can then return them to your child.**

We will put a table out in the yard on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July, (weather permitting), with a mountain of lost property. Please feel free to look through and claim any items. On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> we will put out any unclaimed items. Please help yourself to anything you may need. Anything left over will be donated to charity. If it is raining we will display it in the school office receptions – please call in.



**CAR PARKING** - Please drive slowly around school and be considerate to the residents living in the area. The local cul-de-sacs are a particular problem currently: please do not park on yellow lines, in front of driveways or on pavements. Be mindful of our children who walk to and from school by themselves. Please don't park or drop off children in the staff only area.

The infant school car park is for staff only.

The junior school car park, on Conyers Avenue, has parking for infant or junior parents/carers to use before/after school. Please use the designated bays.

Try parking a few streets away and walking in to school for a healthier start/end to the day. This will help to ease congestion and pollution around school.

Please remember to switch your engine off when waiting in and around the school grounds. Whether it's using the heater to keep warm in the winter, or the air conditioning to remain cool in the summer, idling engines create a lot of unnecessary pollution and can be very harmful, particularly to children.

**SCHOOL MEAL WEEK** was really popular and we had some lovely feedback. We are working hard to improve the school menu choices and have taken on board some of your suggestions. We will be testing some new options in September. Look out for the new menu coming soon, this will start after October half term.

**SCHOOL DINNERS** are all freshly cooked every day and children have a healthy choice of meals and puddings. There is fresh fruit available daily.

If your child is currently taking a packed lunch and would like to try a school dinner just let the office know.

Infant school dinners are free. Junior school dinner payments need to be kept up to date, payments should be made in advance each Monday – £2.20 per day/£11.00 per week.

**PACKED LUNCH** - We like to encourage children to eat healthily and ask that sweets,

chocolate bars and fizzy drinks are not included in children's packed lunches. **There are a number of children in school with nut allergies: we ask that you are mindful of this when preparing your child's packed lunch.**

We do not have facilities in school for keeping food cool in hot weather.

We would prefer children not bring hot food to school as part of their packed lunch. However, if parents do provide hot food, **it is their own responsibility** to ensure that it is not too hot to burn if spilled and that flasks etc are washed and safe for use each day. Flasks should be robust and preferably metal to limit injury caused by accidental damage or breakage.

**FAREWELL/HELLO** Year 6 have been busy practising for their upcoming performance at the Majestic Theatre. We are sure it will be enjoyed by Year 6 parent/carers: remember to bring your tickets to the show. Year 6 parents/carers are invited to join us on the field on Thursday afternoon at 2pm when we will say a goodbye to our Year 6 children and celebrate their achievements during the year. The gates will be opened on Conyers Avenue and Chester Grove at approximately 1.45pm. We wish them every success in their new schools.

Year 2 children will be leaving the infants and joining the juniors in September. Their production will be on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> at 9.30 am and Year 2 parent/carers are invited to join us at the infants.

In September we look forward to welcoming our new Year 3 pupils in the juniors and our new Reception children joining us at the infants.

**FINALLY** ..... we wish you all a lovely summer and hope everyone comes back refreshed ready for another exciting year.

**JOB VACANCIES** - We have a vacancy for a lunchtime supervisor, kitchen assistant and a cleaner. If you are interested, please contact school for an application form.