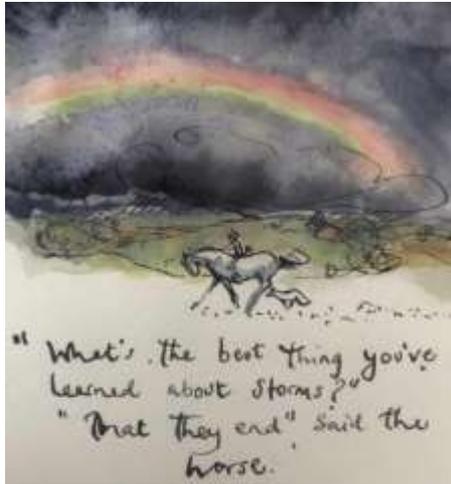




Moat Farm Junior School Trust

Where we prepare for tomorrow by achieving today

Dear parents,



It is only as we reach the end of this year and look back at the last ten months that we can fully understand just how monumental the changes and challenges have been. This cartoon by the artist Charles Mackesey reflects our shared experience - this year has been a storm like no other and sometimes it has been hard for us to believe it will end. However, I also want us to look back on this year with great pride at what we have accomplished together. Working in partnership with families, we have built up an exceptional curriculum online that Sandwell have identified as Best Practice. Your support in this has been vital in enabling us to continue to educate our children despite many bubble

closures. Thank you also for the way in which you have supported reading at home. Reading is on fire at our school because of the excellent job our reading team have done and the way in which you have encouraged your children to read for pleasure. During our author's visit this week, she could not believe how interested our children were in reading and how knowledgeable they were about books. Your encouragement for this has had a great impact and the numbers of children reading regularly at home are now the highest since I joined Moat Farm.

Even when the storm clouds have been at their darkest, I am grateful to work at our school as there is still so much joy in every day. One of the saddest parts of COVID is that we are separated from each other and we have not been able to welcome in parents for months; however even though there have been many changes, in school there is the same buzz and enjoyment about learning every day that is just infectious. Our children and staff are wonderful and despite the difficulties of the last year, I know I have the best job in the world. This storm will end. We must not give up hope!

Have a wonderful holiday and a Merry Christmas in whichever way you choose to celebrate it. One of the lessons we can take from the story of the first Christmas is that magic, joy and love can come from very simple things. Even if our celebrations are different this year, they will be no less meaningful.

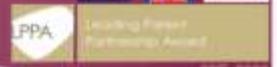
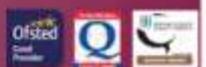
Stay safe and well.

Best wishes,

Lara Stone

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Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs E Shaw
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