



Morton Academy

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KW/TS

Friday 28th November 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Mortonmas

As we quickly approach the month of December, I would like to share this year's plan for our annual Mortonmas.

Mortonmas is our school community's celebration of the festive season, where students and staff participate in twelve days of challenges and activities during the final school days of 2025. These include artistic competitions, community events, and awards for attendance, excellent behaviour and house points. Some of these activities/events, particularly the competitions, will take place during tutor time in the morning. These can then be extended upon at home and submitted to our Student Council before the deadline on Friday 12th December. Other activities will involve all students being invited to participate in events at certain times of the day.

The house achieving the most Morton Merits/House Points during Mortonmas will win the Mortonmas Cup!

Thursday 4th December – Festive Tutor

The 4th December will see the official launch of Mortonmas. Students have been tasked with decorating their tutor classroom in the most vibrant way possible. This could be through decorating a Christmas tree, designing a display board, or just generally making the classroom as Christmassy as possible. Our Student Council will visit and judge each tutor classroom on Friday 12th December before crowning the winners!

Thursday 4th to 12th December – Santa Shootout!

Between Thursday 4th December and Friday 12th December, students representing their tutor group and house will be invited to the Sports Hall during lunch to take penalties against Santa Claus!

- Thursday 4th Dec - Year 7
- Monday 8th Dec - Year 8
- Wednesday 10th Dec - Year 9
- Thursday 11th Dec - Year 10
- Friday 12th Dec - Year 11

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Friday 5th December – Christmas Card Competition (Deadline 12th December)

Does your child have a creative flair and a love of Christmas? We are looking for a wide range of Christmas card designs, submitted from as many students as possible. The submitted design can be in pencil, pen or paint, with the design having a festive theme.

Friday 5th December – Choir Performance at St Luke's Church

Morton Academy Choir are performing at St Luke's Church at 6.30pm as part of their annual carol concert. All are welcome and there will be mulled wine/juice and mince pies at the end.

Monday 8th December – Y7 Virtual Author Visit

Author Katherin Rundell will be visiting a selection of our Year 7 students.

Katherine is a multi-million-bestselling author whose novels for children have won the Waterstones Book of the Year, the Blue Peter Book Award and the Costa Children's Book Award, among many others.

Monday 8th December – Y7 and Y8 Christmas Disco

If your child is in Year 7 or 8, make sure they have their tickets for this wonderful event. They will enjoy a range of music including all those classic Christmas hits!

Tuesday 9th December – Morty's Christmas Tree Competition (Deadline 12th December)

All students will be invited to take part in a Christmas tree bauble competition, created by our very own elf, Morty! Morty has been sent from the North Pole to spread festive cheer with the delivery of a Christmas tree. All was going well when our reception staff started to put the tree up, until it was realised that he had forgotten to pack the baubles - again! Morty has requested our students help to decorate the tree with their own creations. Student designs can be made from anything...the more creative, the better!

Tuesday 9th December – Christmas Foodbank (Carlisle Foodbank)

Carlisle Foodbank provide three days emergency food aid for people in crisis who have been identified and referred by agencies working in the local community. This year, our Student Council would like to continue to support our local community in this way and have asked if we can collectively gather as much as possible for Carlisle Foodbank. Tutor rooms will contain Bags for Life throughout the start of December for students and staff to donate. On the 9th December, all donations will be collated and transported to Carlisle Food Bank.

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Tuesday 9th December – A Festival of Christmas!

We will be welcoming students from some of our local primary schools who will be attending for a fun filled Christmas show. This is an opportunity for all schools to showcase their talents and celebrate Christmas together.

Tuesday 9th December – Morton's Got Talent!

Students have been working extremely hard on perfecting their talents and would love to battle it out in our very own Morton's Got Talent. Come along and witness superstars of the present and future! The event starts at 6.30pm and tickets are available on ParentPay!

Wednesday 10th December – Seasonal Poem Competition (Deadline 12th December)

During tutor time, students will be writing a seasonal poem. This could be a poem about Christmas, the weather, the season, historical events, or the presents! Students can choose which kind of poem they wish to write, such as an acrostic poem, a haiku, a sonnet or a limerick. Entries for the competition needed to be handed in to the Library before the end of break time on the 12th December.

Wednesday 10th December – Year 8 Reward Trip

One of our reward trips taking place this year is during Mortonmas and is for our Year 8 students. We are limited to the number of students that we can take to this event, therefore invitations are received based on a combination of factors including attendance, excellent behaviour and completing homework.

This will be to Rheged to watch the brand new film, Zootropolis 2.

Thursday 11th December – Are you smarter than a Mortoner?

Six randomly selected Mortoners from each tutor group will have the opportunity to outwit their all-knowing Head of Year in front of their peers in the theatre. All students should prepare for a battle in brain-busting general knowledge.

Friday 12th December – Competition Deadline

The Student Council will be touring the building at the start of the day, judging each tutor classroom for the 'Festive Tutor' competition. All other competition entries are to be submitted no later than break time (10.40 – 11.05am) on this day so tutor time could be used for those last minute touches to competition entries. The Student Council, alongside various members of staff, will be meeting to discuss the entries and decide on the winning designs. All entries to competitions can be submitted to the Student Council in the Library before this day, if preferred.



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Monday 15th December – Morton Cinema (Christmas Movie)

One of the prizes on offer during Mortonmas is a 'Morton Cinema Ticket'. If your child wins a 'Morton Cinema Ticket' during our Mortonmas activities/events, they will be invited to attend the showing of a Christmas movie in our theatre. This will take place during Period 3 on this day.

Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th December – Spreading Christmas Cheer

Our choir and other representatives will be going to care homes within our community to spread Christmas cheer! They will be visiting Burnrigg Court, Morton Cottage and Eden Manor.

Tuesday 16th December – Mortonmas' Lotería de Navidad

All students that arrive to the Academy on time on this day will receive a ticket for our Morton Lotería de Navidad as they enter the Academy. Students will then be educated during tutor time on the importance of Lotería de Navidad in Spain. The Lotería de Navidad (The Christmas Lottery) is an annual event. It is a tradition that started in 1812 and has been running for over 200 years. We will be hosting our very own version of this event that will be broadcast over Teams to all classrooms. Everybody will be in it to win it, but must be in the Academy on time to receive their ticket. The core values surrounding the Lotería de Navidad are kindness and sharing, but it really is the luck of the draw!

Wednesday 17th December – Year 7 Choir in Day

On this day, Year 7 will learn a part of a song. They will learn as a class, and then all of Year 7 will come together to fill the theatre with sound!

Wednesday 17th December – Year 10 Reward Trip

Another reward trip taking place during Mortonmas is for our Year 10 students. We are limited to the number of students that we can take to this event, therefore invitations are received based on a combination of factors including attendance, excellent behaviour and completing homework. This will be to Hollywood Bowl for a game of bowling and access to the arcade.

Thursday 18th December – Christmas Extravaganza Day!

Christmas jumpers and Christmas dinner! Students will be encouraged to proudly wear their Christmas jumpers to the Academy. £1 will be requested from all involved, with all proceedings raised being used in the near future for student events and rewards. All students will also be invited to partake in a Christmas lunch. More information on both Christmas jumpers and the arrangements from Christmas Dinners will be shared over the coming days.

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Friday 19th December – Mortonmas Closing Celebrations

Mr McGuire will host the annual 'The Big Morton Quiz of the Year', featuring the distinguished 'Magic Hat'. In addition to this, individual awards will be issued to students who have been outstanding in the following areas: Attendance, Excellent Behaviour and House Points.

Our Weekly Star Award winners will also be announced on this day.

I am sure you will agree that events such as Mortonmas are not only a great way for our school community to celebrate the festive season, but also a fantastic opportunity for your child to develop their character and showcase our Academy core values of Ambition, Confidence, Creativity, Respect and Enthusiasm. For events such as the Christmas Extravaganza Day, which involves our Christmas dinner and jumpers, we will communicate the finer details nearer the time.

Kind regards

Karl Wilson

Karl Wilson
Assistant Principal