

My Miracle School Day

In the summer term of 2013 Morley children were asked what their 'miracle school day' would look like. Their responses are below.

What would happen when I arrive at school and come into the school building?	What would happen when I came into my classroom?
What would my lessons look like?	What would my teacher be like?
What would happen at break time?	What would happen at lunch time?
What would my classroom look like?	
Is there anything else you want to tell us?	

What would happen when I arrive at school and come into the school building?

- No one runs into school (classroom, corridors), everyone enters quietly.
- Tidy cloakroom.
- Everyone is excited to come in and sits at their table.
- No one will be cycling around the playground when Mr Catchpool goes in.
- No pushing or shouting.
- Everyone behaving well, everything is tidy and quiet.
- A tidy cloakroom where no-one's stuff would go missing.
- I would feel really happy to be starting my day.
- Clean and an exciting place to learn.
- No running.
- Enviro-watch happens in the morning.
- The door opens earlier, so we don't get cold.
- Pegs are spaced out better.
- **Stay outside until 8.55 a.m. or 9.00 a.m. then the teacher collects us and brings us into class (like break and lunch).**
- More plants at the entrances.
- Big welcome signs above the doors to encourage us to come in.
- Different coloured lockers.
- Separate bike shed for infants and juniors.
- Modern, clean cloakrooms.
- No ball games in the morning.
- No parents in class (KS1 – 6 children)!
- More teachers outside in the morning.

What would happen when I came into my classroom?

- Early Morning Work
 - Clear tasks on the IWB
 - A different task every day.
 - We can choose the activity we do.
 - I can do a maths challenge
 - Activities are linked to our topics.
 - We do different things, not just feedback stuff.
 - We can carry on with the activity during the register.
 - More interesting tasks.
 - Not just reading every morning.
 - I can choose to read if I want to.
 - I can choose where I sit.
 - Activities on laptops.
- The teacher says good morning to me.
- Some music would be playing, and we choose the music.
- People say nice things like 'did you have a good holiday?'
- There would be a times table fact by the door and it changes every day / week.
- Lots of class discussions about what we do in our spare time.
- My teacher is in the room when I come in (she isn't always there).
- Every classroom has two computers to help us learn.
- A timetable that tells us what we are doing every day.
- Bright sign to welcome us into the classroom.
- We have responsibilities like watering plants or enviro-watch.
- I would see a role play area, no matter what year group I am in.
- Play on computers.
- Talk to my friends and teacher.

What would my lessons look like?

- Lessons look seem easy but they are hard.
- More time together on the carpet, not just at desks.
- Bright and sunny!
- Lots of laptops are available for lessons, not just once a week. Everyone has a laptop. All the laptops are the same and have the right programmes on them.
- Fun, exciting, challenging.
- Have fun when we learn by playing games.
- More creative (music, drama).
- Wow days linked to maths and science.
- Outside learning, not just for P.E.
- More active stuff like dancing and acting.
- Hard, fun, easy. We go on trips, have mysteries, artwork.
- People wouldn't call out or distract me.
- We would do unexpected things.
- Keep maths and literacy lessons at the same time every day.
- Do maths and literacy in the mornings and topic in the afternoon.
- We go to our tables, one group at a time.
- Larger literacy and numeracy books.
- Don't change the lessons, they are great!
- Let the juniors teach the infants sometimes, not just in buddies.
- **More laptops to help us with our learning.**
- More freedom in Art and DT, don't just tell us what to do.
- Let us choose our own genres to write in during literacy.
- Let the children use the IWB more.
- We have learning / help partners for all our lessons.
- Let us choose where we sit more often.
- Know where everything is, so we can get on with work.
- Have help cards so we don't have to put our hands up.
- Not be too long.
- Not just be writing.
- Be allowed to take naps.
- Literacy packs as well as maths packs (for spellings and speech mark tips).
- Allowed to make mistakes.

What would my teacher be like?

- Play games before work to make lessons more interesting.
- Really nice and lovely!
- Doesn't choose favourites!
- Fun to learn with.
- Gentle and helpful – and gives us golden time!
- My teacher would help me when I am stuck and then let me do it by myself.
- Would always work with groups, but different groups every day.
- Adventurous.
- Let me spend time talking about my learning.
- Kind but would tell people off when they need to be told off.
- Relaxed.
- To have fun when she/he are teaching us.
- Gentle, loyal and full of adventure.
- Kind, helpful, cheerful and a bit strict.
- Kind and loud.
- Will send naughty children to Mr Catchpool.
- Let's us choose what work we try to do.
- More relaxed and laid back. Someone who is less of a strict adult and more of a young fun adult.
- Joins in with our games at lunchtime.
- Sporty, fun, dramatic and makes boring lessons fun.
- Have a good sense of humour.
- Gives me compliments when I do something well.
- Helps me but doesn't give me the answers – challenges me.
- Says goodbye to me every day.
- Pretty!!
- Give me lots of support and praise.
- Will dress up.
- Doesn't embarrass me.

What would happen at break times?

- More equipment
 - **Skipping ropes, hoops, stilts, giant jenga, chalk for drawing, dolls houses, toy cars, play mobile, ribbons, bean bags, Frisbees, bats, balls, space hoppers, giant connect 4, every class has a sponge ball.**
 - Tokens given to children, that we swap for toys and then get back when we return the tokens.
- Ball games
 - A proper football rota for both pitches.
 - Proper football goals.
- Two classes to be allowed onto climbing frame, so we can play with different people.
- To go outside, even when it is raining.
- A proper quiet area.
- **When it is raining, let people decide to go outside or stay inside.**
- Supervised tree climbing.
- More choice about going outside or inside.
- A bell tells us when break time starts.
- A sandpit that all classes can use, on a rota.

What would happen at lunch times?

- Lunch
 - **Adults ring a bell when signs go up, so we can hear.**
 - Larger signs for lunch
 - Have a separate food hall, so we can go straight to P.E. after lunchtime.
 - Let us each school dinners outside, not just packed lunches.

- Play
 - **More equipment (see break times) because the climbing frame is too busy.**
 - People to be monitors and to make sure everyone gets a fair turn on the equipment.
 - More shaded areas.
 - Music playing.
 - Year 6 children run games (duck duck goose) for everyone else (from Year 3 child).
 - Green buddies don't work every lunchtime, they get some days off.
 - Rota for climbing frame – it's too busy.
 - Different zones for different activities.
 - Have tournaments every week – tennis, football etc.
 - More clubs at lunchtime (art, DT).
 - To be able to read outside or in the library.
 - Premier sport are friendly not mean.
 - **The option to be inside sometimes.**
 - Premier sport offer more interesting sports – not just football, basketball and cricket.
 - Films on during wet play – not just in the community room.
 - **Teachers to join in with games at lunchtimes.**
 - Mr Catchpool does skipping again!

What would my classroom look like?

- **Every classroom has a role play area that is linked to the topic.**
- The 'look'
 - Clean, tidy, neat, bright, well organised. Everything has a place.
 - Colourful
 - Soft seating areas (bean bags).
 - Each classroom is regularly a decorated, and painted in different colours.
 - There are maths, literacy and topic areas.
 - Decorated to suit our topics (jungles etc.).
- It would have a WOW space / WOW time every week.
- Displays
 - All the walls show stuff we are learning about.
 - **Our work would be displayed.**
 - Displays are a mix of learning and my work.
 - The timetable and date are on display.
 - Displays tell me what I need to do.
 - Displays can be reached by children and are created by children.
- Reading / Library
 - Big picture books for every class.
 - Class libraries are organised into sections.
 - More picture books, not just chapter books.
 - Library organised into sections and is neat.
 - We can recommend books for the library.
 - **Have a proper space for relaxed reading.**
 - Have a really adventurous reading corner.
- Be cold in summer, with fans and cold water.
- Windows open better.
- Move tables round lots.
- A fair mix of boys and girls on tables, don't sit with more than one friend, so you don't get distracted.
- Nice colourful carpet everywhere.
- Nicer desks – colourful.
- Better art resources (colouring pens).
- Plants in classrooms – exciting plants like Venus Fly Traps.
- More comfortable chairs (cushioned!).

Is there anything else you want to tell us?

- We should have a themed day every half term (DT or Art).
- Every topic has a long-term homework project.
- A quiet room in school.
- A bigger lost property area.
- **More technology.**
- A mystery corner with challenges.
- The school would have an art room.
- **Have more assemblies, and have them in the mornings.**
- All our resources are clean and easy to use.
- More enviro-watch, because our school is quite untidy, especially the toilets.
- **More interesting golden times – like a trip or playing outside.**
- More shaded areas outside.
- **We need class laptops that work – not old broken ones.**
- We don't get to visit the peace garden.
- Space out the pegs so we can fit all our stuff on there (P.E. bags, swimming bags, music etc.).
- Proper changing rooms for P.E. – not the toilets.
- Better windows so the classes have fresh air.
- Class pet for every class.
- Really strong fans in every classroom.
- Better storage for our belongings (lockers or trays).
- New water fountains.
- Easy access to water – glasses or fountains in every class!
- **Every class does buzz time and has their own equipment to do it.**
- Lots of Big Writing.