

DANDELIN

PROJECT MORAY



TOP NEWS OF THE MONTH

WELCOME TO THE FIRST EDITION

I am thrilled to announce the release of the project's first newsletter, packed with the latest news to support armed forces children in Moray. This newsletter offers brief updates on upcoming events, invaluable resources and skill-building opportunities. Designed for schools and other professionals involved with the project, this newsletter is the perfect way to stay informed and up-to-date. So, sit back, relax, and enjoy a cup of tea whilst you catch up on all the latest news.

[!\[\]\(003082e50e3009141f59bd5df831749f_img.jpg\) About the Project](#)

[!\[\]\(17413706fd4997a1a4bdf85c6864eee1_img.jpg\) Survey & Launch](#)

[!\[\]\(faf942dc3e59ce8eb64b4ac481eca7e0_img.jpg\) Network Groups](#)

[!\[\]\(cf531ed27e91483460120fcc057b3901_img.jpg\) Month of the Military Child](#)

[!\[\]\(d3102649f02e825ddb76dc3de0190154_img.jpg\) Free Books!](#)

[!\[\]\(4b7a79268f6ba26c1471d4232fffa85a_img.jpg\) Funding Opportunities](#)

 READ
MORE

DANDELIN

SUPPORTING ARMED FORCES CHILDREN IN EDUCATION PROJECT MORAY

AIM

To ensure that all armed forces children have the right conditions and environment in their school settings to thrive whatever challenges their serving parents' military commitments would perhaps generate.

GET IN CONTACT

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Education Support Officer
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☎ 07929784839

Duration:
October
2023 to 2026

Supporting:
Primary and
secondary pupils

From:
Regular, reserve
or veteran
families

OBJECTIVES

Ensuring consistent educational advice and guidance is accessible to armed forces families.

Having a single point of contact specifically for enquiries about armed forces children in education.

Advocating and being a champion for armed forces children in education in Moray.

Raising the awareness and understanding about armed forces children in education and how to support if needed.

Supporting schools by delivering professional training, providing resources and signposting.

Keeping the project sustainable to ensure a long-lasting legacy of support for Moray's armed forces children.

Funded by:

Partnership between:

SURVEYS & LAUNCH

UPCOMING MS FORMS SURVEYS FOR PARENTS, STAFF AND PUPILS

→ SHARE YOUR VIEWS TO MAKE A CHANGE

This month, I will be releasing MS Forms surveys for parents, staff and pupils to gather a diverse range of perspectives. The goal is to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the current strengths, challenges and areas for improvement regarding the support for armed forces children in education. The data collected from these surveys will inform future support and provision under the Dandelion Project. Further information will be detailed when the forms are distributed. I highly appreciate and value your support!

→ LAUNCH

The Dandelion Project will be launching with the surveys. Look out for next month's newsletter detailing how schools and the armed forces community can get involved with future events and competitions, alongside new resources that will be on offer!

PHOTO COMPETITION

Calling all armed forces families in Moray! I have got a photo challenge that is just for you. We want to know all the fantastic things about being raised in an armed forces family. Grab your camera and let your creativity run wild! Stay tuned for more details on the prizes you could win!



NETWORK GROUPS

SUPPORT STAFF & ADES HT FORUM

→ SUPPORT STAFF

Join the first Support Staff Network Meeting!

If you are a support staff member working with children from armed forces families, come along to our first meeting. You will have the opportunity to meet other support staff in a similar role, discuss current challenges and successes, seek advice and collaborate on new ideas.

Here are the details:

- Date: Thursday 22 February 2024
- Time: From 14:00 - 14:45
- Location: Online via Google Meet (email me if interested)

For more information or for any queries, please email Priyanka.Chard@moray.gov.uk

→ ADES HT FORUM

The ADES Head Teacher forum meets regularly throughout the year. If you are interested in attending future meetings, please email: Carolyn MacLeod

National Education Officer for Forces Children Education
nationaltransitionsofficerades@gmail.com

See below for the next two meetings:

- Tuesday 26 March 2024, 15:30 - 17:00
- Tuesday 27 May 2024, 15:30 - 17:00



MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

5

APRIL 2024



APRIL IS THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD! IT WAS ESTABLISHED IN THE US IN 1986 AND HAS SINCE STEADILY MADE ITS WAY TO THE UK.

MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD IS A MONTH TO CELEBRATE AND RAISE AWARENESS OF THE UNIQUE EXPERIENCES OF ARMED FORCES CHILDREN.

PURPLE IS THE COLOUR OF MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD AS IT IS A TRI-SERVICE COLOUR. IT IS A MIX OF ALL OF THE FORCE'S COLOURS.

→ HOW CAN EVERYONE GET INVOLVED?

PURPLE UP! Let's turn Moray purple on Friday 26 April! All pupils and staff are encouraged to attend school wearing an item of purple!

Learn the **Month of the Military Child** song, by Never Such Innocence (NSI) and get together on Friday 26 April for an assembly to sing it and celebrate your armed forces pupils. There is even sheet music for the musically talented!

[CLICK HERE FOR LYRICS](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR OTHER NSI RESOURCES, INCLUDING BACKING TRACKS](#)



Get your pupils involved in NSI's competition [here](#), the theme for this year is 'The Lifecycle of a Dandelion.'

#MOTMC

Please share your pictures via your school's online platforms. Photos shared will be used to create a slideshow and will be released in May's newsletter.

→ WORKSHOP

I am excited to announce that I will be hosting a workshop with Never Such Innocence in Moray. It is guaranteed to be a fun-filled learning experience!

Get ready to join in with this exciting event which is aimed at both primary and secondary pupils. Keep an eye out for how to register your interest and further details.

→ RESOURCES

Download Moray's resources by clicking the links below:

[MotMC logo](#) [MotMC banner](#) [Dandelion Poem](#)

[Click here to download a school poster to send digitally to families or to print for your school](#)

Click below for other resources:



Save the Date!

APRIL 2024



BOOKS

READING FORCE & DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT

→ FROM READING FORCE:

Calling all primary and secondary schools with pupils who have parents/carers currently or previously in the Armed Forces.

Reading Force is a tri service charity supporting the families of serving, veteran and ex-service (due to separation, divorce, or bereavement)

Our book clubs can be a fantastic way to support your armed forces pupils to make connections with others who have a link to the Armed Forces and encourage reading for pleasure.

The coordinator* and each book club member will receive three free books, plus either our fabulous scrapbook or our amazing teen journal and the coordinator will receive our adult reading record.

www.readingforce.org.uk/book-club-suggested-titles



*Volunteer coordinators must hold a recent Enhanced Disclosure Scotland check

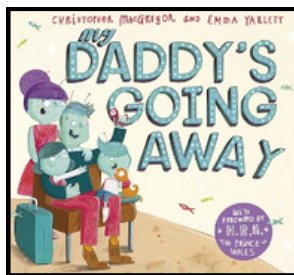


GET IN CONTACT

Get in touch with Nicola, our Book Club Ambassador to find out more about setting up a book club at your school - email nicola@readingforce.org.uk or call 07519 665410.

→ DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT

BOOKS:



MORE BOOKS & OTHER SUPPORT:



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

INDIVIDUAL AND COLLABORATIVE GRANTS

I highly value the feedback I have had from schools so far. I understand that the application and evaluative process can be challenging, so my aim is to alleviate workload for schools, by creating templates and supporting documents to help with applications.

→ ARMED FORCES COVENANT FUND TRUST (AFCFT)

The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust open funding applications around April time each year, click [here](#) for the link to last year's one. To get notifications of upcoming funding opportunities, please email: info@covenantfund.org.uk.

→ ARMED FORCES EDUCATION TRUST (AFET)

The Armed Forces Education Trust's CEO, Charmian Hickman welcomes discussions before applications are submitted. This enables you to get a better understanding on whether your application may be successful. The Armed Forces Education Trust is a charity working for children and young adults whose education has been compromised or put at risk as a result of parents' past or current service in our Armed Forces. The grants they give make a difference to young lives, helping improve their educational opportunities or supporting special skills or talents. They offer [individual](#) and [collective grants](#). For more information please visit their website [here](#). Before applying for a grant, you will need to complete a short pre-qualification questionnaire.

→ ALEXANDER DUCKHAM MEMORIAL SCHOOLS TRUST (ADMST)


The ADMST supports the children of RAF personnel past and present with education and welfare. Grants are awarded, at the discretion of the Trustees, to eligible applicants of the Trust. Grants can be awarded to assist with school fees; equipment to help with studies such as laptops; to enable children to attend extracurricular activities such as sports and music lessons, school trips and exchanges to other countries. University funding is also available, the maximum award is currently set at £4,000 per annum. The Trust may also offer welfare awards to help with the cost of providing food, clothing, school uniforms and items of furniture. All grants are means tested and award is dependent upon financial need. The ADMST can award grants to eligible applicants from across the UK and overseas. For more information, please visit their website [here](#) or by contacting the Trust via email at: admin@admst.org.uk

For any queries or to give feedback, contact:



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Funded by:

 THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT FUND TRUST
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