18th May 2021 Newsletter

Moss Lane School

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Dear Families

A mixture of sunshine and showers this week, but we have still had a lovely week of learning and fun! Despite the recent weather, we are now all looking forward to half term. We are finalising our events schedule for the summer term so watch out for more information after half term with additional dates for the diary.

This week has been a very busy one; myself and the leadership team have spent a number of session in classes this week. It has been wonderful to see all the children displaying excellent behaviours for learning and loving their topics. Many children were eager to show us their work and talk about the things have found out or can now do. We are also using our Covid catch up funds in all classes three afternoons a week where we are running targeted interventions.

I was delighted on the May 17th when the children have been able to mix with the other children in their **year group** during playtime. They have finally been able to play with their friends from other classes that they haven't been able to mix with this year due to COVID restrictions. We are sure that this will be a great opportunity to make and explore new friendships for all of the children. Our aim is to boost and look after the children's mental health but still safely reduce the spread.

Our value for the next half term in independence and we look forward to exploring this with the children in a number of different ways.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term break.

Mrs Abbott Headteacher



As we all know the weather can be very variable and we try to get outside as much as possible during playtimes! In the hot weather can you please encourage your children to protect themselves by wearing sun hats (named please!) and bringing in

bottles of water. It is also a good idea to put sunscreen on ex-posed parts of your child's body before they come to school in the morning. We would also ask you to ensure that your child brings a raincoat to school every day—just in case!



Upcoming Events

31st May – 4th June Half Term

7th June INSET Day – no children in school

7th June – 2nd July Golden Boot Challenge

24th June

Parent Clinics – please book through the office

Thank you!

A big thank you goes to Mr Twaits and all the parents who have helped on the allotment over the past few weeks. We have a lot of work to do to get it back to its pre Covid state. However, this is an ongoing project and focus for us as it is such wonderful place for all the children to enjoy.

What's going on in school...



Bump Up Day

On the afternoon of the 30th June the children will go to their new classes and meet their teacher(s) and learning support assistants.

Year 2 children will have new school visits also. Your new school will

contact you with information about this closer to the time.

If your child isn't having their new school visits on this date, children are still expected to come into school as we have activities arranged for them.

Perform Workshop



Recently all classes participated in a Perform drama workshop with the theme 'Under the Sea'. The children had a wonderful time using their imaginations and bodies to act like seahorses and whales.

Ofsted Parent View



Ofsted Parent View is an opportunity for you to give your view on Our wonderful school including:

- how happy your child is at the school
- how the school manages bullying or challenging behaviour

If your child has special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), we will ask how well the school supports them. The questionnaire can be completed at any time - you don't have to wait until the school is being inspected. We will use your responses to help us plan inspections. The information you provide can:

- inform discussions inspectors have with school leaders during an inspection
- help Ofsted decide when to inspect a school

https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/



We know with all the changes related to Brexit and the pandemic, we are expecting that some families will not be staying in Godalming area next year. In order to ensure the school remains full it is important that we know in advance if you will be leaving Moss Lane. If you already know that you will not be with us next year, please let myself know in writing as soon as possible including your new schools name and address. and include where your child. We have long waiting lists in some year groups and it is helpful to tell prospective families whether there will be places available for September.

Other news...

Active Surrey, supporting healthier lifestyles

Be Your Best is a **free** service for Surrey families with children aged 0-12yrs. The Be Your Best programme is all about helping families by supporting them to eat better and move more. Eligible families will be offered six one-to-one nurse sessions and six online group sessions. For more information visit our website <u>here</u>

Attendance 'Heroes'!

At Moss Lane we want to encourage attendance by having an Attendance 'Hero' system.



Whilst our overall attendance since all children returned fully to school on 8th March has been very good, there are still some children whose attendance and/or punctuality is a cause for concern. As a reminder, the Government's expectation is that attendance should be 96% or above. Any child whose attendance is **90%** or below is classed as **persistent absence**.

If your child has a cold or other minor ailment please consider giving them Calpol in the morning and send them into school, unless they are very unwell. We can also administer Calpol in school if a parent has filled out the consent form.

There have been occasions when parents have kept their child off school due to having an unsettled night. If your child has had a disturbed night, please send them into school as soon as they wake – we cannot authorise a whole day off school for a disturbed night. If your child is **persistently absent** or **late** we will arrange a meeting with you to discuss ways of improving their attendance/punctuality and to offer any support you may need.

If your child continues to be persistently absent or arrive late, the school may record the sessions as **unauthorised** absence. When no valid reason is given for your child's absence this will also be recorded as **unauthorised**.

School is now mandatory and the expectation is that all children will be attending school (except if they are unwell or there is a need for families to isolate – we understand this).

Please can we encourage children to be on time, as the children go straight into Maths or English related tasks as soon as they come into school. If children are late, then this means they miss the first crucial lesson of the day.

Please can I remind you to try, wherever possible, to arrange any medical or dentist appointments outside of school hours. If your child has an appointment in the morning for 10.00am or later, please try to bring them into school first so that they can get an attendance mark for the morning session and return them to school after the appointment so that they can get a mark for the afternoon. If you do not return your child to school the absence may be recorded as **unauthorised**, unless a valid reason is given. Likewise, if they have an appointment in the afternoon please send them to school in the morning, otherwise the morning session may be recorded as **unauthorised**.

We ask that parents please provide evidence (either a letter, text or appointment card) for any medical appointments during the day. Also, if you know that your child is going to be late in please contact the office to let them know if you wish to order a dinner for them (orders have to be placed before 9.30am).

When children are absent or late for school it can have an adverse impact on their learning and friendship groups, making them less settled at school. We want your child to achieve their potential – children make the most progress when they attend school regularly and on time.

Request for authorised absence form

As parents, you have the legal responsibility to ensure your child's regular attendance at school. Holidays (and where possible medical appointments) should be taken outside of school hours. However, should you need to take your child out during the school day then please fill out the 'request for authorise absence' form. This can be found on the website. Please can we remind parents that holidays will **not** be authorised during term time. Unless the absence is deemed exceptional.