



# Moss Lane School Newsletter

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Happy Chinese New Year  
17<sup>th</sup> Feb–3<sup>rd</sup> Mar 2026



Dear Families,

The children (and staff) have settled back quickly into the routines of their class, and everyone seems very happy to be back and are ready to continue with their learning. It is still quite cold, wet and windy most days so please can you ensure that **all** children bring a warm coat to school every day. I know getting back into the routine of school is hard to do especially after a long break like Christmas. To ensure that your child has the best opportunities and chances to learn, without missing any input or key information, please can you make sure that they arrive at school on time. The gate opens at **8:40am** and the children are called in at **8:45am**.

If you would like any support or further information on helping your child at home, please do not hesitate to contact their class teacher who will be more than happy to offer advice and strategies to help you support your child's learning at home.

**A reminder that Parents Evening is after half term on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. Please sign up on ESchools for your appointments.**

**Bookings open from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. This is an opportunity to discuss how your child is getting on in class All appointments are limited to 10 minutes. We value the partnership we have with you as parents, so we very much hope you will attend on one of the evenings.**

Have a wonderful relaxing weekend.

Mrs Abbott  
Headteacher

## What's been happening in school?

### Bees

Bees have enjoyed beginning to learn about The Titanic, and have been excited to see images of the raising of The Mary Rose in 1982! They have been learning about the parts of a boat and will soon be designing their own. Please keep an eye on our eSchools page for details of this as part of our Must Do Challenges.

We are also still looking for volunteers to help with Morning Challenges - parents are welcome to attend multiple times, and grandparents, aunts or uncles are very welcome too. Please sign up on the clipboards outside the classrooms.

### Year 1

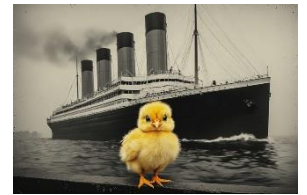
Year 1 enjoyed a drama workshop from Perform, Squirrels went for a visit to the allotment, and we all got to meet some puppies. In computing, we learned about coding and in science we learned about birds.

### Year 2

Year 2 have been busy helping with the allotment. Last week Hedgehog's cleared some beds, planted tulip bulbs and sowed some carrot seeds. This week Otters have been carefully creating some signs to label the plants and everyone is looking forward to seeing the beautiful colours the allotment will bring in Spring!



Otter's and Hedgehog's have also been using descriptive writing to create their own character when innovating 'Samson's Titanic Journey'. The children have had great fun using their descriptive writing to generate their characters using AI.



### Safeguarding...

#### Updating Changes

If your child has a change in medical circumstances, please notify the school office as soon as possible so that we can keep our records up to date and ensure that all staff are aware of each child's conditions.

It is also important that parents keep the school updated of changes in contact details, especially mobile phone numbers, so that we are able to make contact with you in an emergency.

#### Online Safety

This is a really useful toolkit which is helpful if you are unsure about what parental features are available on their children's devices. It only takes around 8 minutes to answer a few questions and then receive a tailored toolkit.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/little-digital-helps-toolkit/>

Receive a tailored toolkit packed full of resources to keep your child safe on connected devices.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

### GET TO KNOW AGE RATINGS OF POPULAR APPS

Age ratings exist to help protect your child by showing whether content is suitable for your child's age.

Whether your child is viewing films, accessing apps, playing games online or using social media - make sure you check the age rating first to see if your child is old enough. Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing. As you can see, apart from Roblox, no infant school age child should be accessing any of them! Roblox is rated PEGI 7+, however the user-created content falls outside this rating and may contain elements that are only suitable for older children. Setting the restricted option prevents any unchecked games being played. In addition to checking the age rating, the likes of PEGI (Pan European Game Information) provide further content descriptors, which will give you an indication of the type of content that your child might encounter, e.g., violence or bad language within a game.



#### Packed Lunches

Please do not send your child to school with any nuts or products containing nuts such as peanut butter or Nutella as we have children in school who suffer from potentially life-threatening anaphylaxis if they come into contact with nuts. When providing a lunch box from home please also ensure that it does not include sweets, chocolate bars, sweets or flavoured drinks.

#### Pupil Premium Grant (PPG)

Schools can receive additional funding for pupils whose parents are in receipt of certain income-related benefits. For any pupil entitled to Pupil Premium, the additional funding means that we are able to provide extra support in many ways. Any pupil whose parent/s are employed by the Armed Forces are also entitled to additional funding (Services Personnel Pupil Premium) – do let us know if this relates to your child. For more information, please visit the school [website](#).

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**  
**Hedgehogs Woodland School**

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February**  
SEND parent workshop 9.00am -11.00am  
FGB C &L 6.15pm

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February**  
Children's Mental health week "This is my Place"

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Otters Woodland School**

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February**  
Safer Internet Day

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February**  
SEND parent workshop

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Inset day- School closed**

**14th -22<sup>nd</sup> February**  
Half term

**Inset Days**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

**Check out our online calendar of events**  
**[Moss Lane School Calendar](#)**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**  
Children back to school  
**Squirrels Woodland School**

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**  
**Foxes at Woodland School**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**  
Parents evening  
3.40pm-7.00pm

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**  
Parents evening  
3.40pm-5.30pm

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Honeybees at Woodland School**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March**  
Someone special morning

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Bumblebees at Woodland School**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**  
Parent clinic 9am

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**  
**Otters at Woodland School**

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March (Tues)**  
**Hedgehogs at Woodland School**

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
Easter bonnet parade and egg hunt

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**  
End of term 1.30pm finish

**Open the Book Assemblies**

As a Headteacher, I am responsible for the collective worship provision in this school. It is important for all children at Moss Lane School to experience a wide range of different religious beliefs and cultures. The majority of collective worship in a school needs to be of a broadly Christian nature or should give consideration to circumstances relating to the family backgrounds of our pupils. One of the many groups that we have in school is 'Open the Book Assemblies'. These assemblies happen once a month and are simply to educate – there is no expectation for any pupil to pray or worship.

**Modelling Behaviour**

Children are highly impressionable and often imitate the behaviours and speech patterns of those around them, particularly when the individual is an authority figure or someone they admire. Within the school environment, all adults are conscious of how we interact with one another. Fortunately, this is made easier by the positive rapport we share as a team. By consistently demonstrating kindness and respect in our interactions, both with colleagues and with children, we set a powerful example of the behaviour we hope to encourage in them. It is important to recognise that children who observe disrespectful behaviour or raised voices from parents or others may be more likely to imitate these actions themselves. Such behaviour can be distressing and triggering for both children and adults. To maintain a positive and respectful environment, rudeness, intimidation or aggression from parents or carers will not be tolerated on school premises.

## Absence reporting

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please phone the school office **before** the start of the school day. There is an option to leave a message and report your child as absent. Please include your child's name, class and details of illness. If your child has had diarrhoea or vomiting, they must stay off school for 48 hours since the last bout of diarrhoea or vomiting.



## Children's Mental Health Week – 9th-13th February

The theme for this year's Children's Mental Health Week is 'This is My Place'. That means feeling like your part of something, such as your family, your school, your group of friends or a team.

These happy moments help us feel connected, valued, and accepted. When we feel like we belong, we feel happy, safe, and ready to learn and play. It helps us grow strong in our minds and bodies, and it makes it easier to make friends, do well in school, and feel good about ourselves.

During Children's Mental Health Week, we'll be talking about how we can help everyone feel like they belong. We'll learn how to be kind, include others, and make sure no one feels left out. Because everyone deserves to feel like they have a place where they are accepted, cared for, and loved. We will also focus on our well-being and what makes us feel happy, if you have a talent or skill that you would like to share with the children at school, please your child's class teacher. Perhaps you would like to visit a class or year group and run a short session on dancing, singing, yoga, drawing, mindfulness etc. We would love to welcome you into our school and look forward to hearing from you. Thank you

## Ofsted update

You may have seen in the press recently that Ofsted, the independent body that inspects schools and other providers, has undergone some major changes to the way they inspect. Whilst there are many opinions and perspectives on Ofsted and their approach, they have released the following information video for families to gain a better understanding of the new process.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbl0FvY976g>


Schools will no longer have a one word/phrase overall judgement. Therefore, schools will no longer be judged as "good" or "outstanding" etc. Similarly, new terminology such as "expected standard" does not match up to the previous inspection framework so all judgements must not be compared to previous assessments of schools.



UK Health Security Agency

NHS

# Should I keep my child off school?




Yes	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

## No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

**Advice and guidance**  
To find out more, search for **health protection in schools** or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

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**Calling all Squirrels,  
Rainbows, Beavers, Brownies,  
Cubs, Guides and Scouts!**

**Wear your uniform to  
school on Monday  
February 23<sup>rd</sup> to  
Celebrate World  
Thinking Day &  
Founder's Day!**

**Join the fun! Find out  
more.**

  
**Girlguiding**  
[www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)

  
**Scouts**  
[www.godalmingscouts.co.uk](http://www.godalmingscouts.co.uk)

### SEND Update

We know how important it is for every child to feel included and supported at school, and that's something we care deeply about at Moss Lane School. Across the country, and particularly here in Surrey, schools are facing increasing challenges when it comes to meeting the needs of all children, particularly those with complex Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). There's a growing demand for specialist support, but resources and funding haven't kept pace, which can make things difficult for families, schools and most importantly, children. Recently, school leaders in Surrey have written to the Secretary of State to share these concerns and ask for more help so that we can continue to give every child the best possible start. Please be assured that our commitment to inclusion remains strong but we face many difficult decisions and challenges around funding and resource limitations. We have included a copy of the letter that has been sent to the Secretary of State so you are aware of the pressures and challenges schools are facing

# Primary Headteachers' Phase Council

## Phase Leads

Karyn Hing  
Westfield Primary School

Mary Ellen McCarthy  
Lumen Learning Trust



Executive Officer: Joanna Jones  
[primary\\_phase@surreyeducation.org](mailto:primary_phase@surreyeducation.org)

Monday 17th November 2025

Dear Secretary of State for Education

I am writing to reiterate the concerns that myself and my colleagues from Primary Council have raised regarding Surrey SEND. We are a group of headteachers who represent over 300 Primary Schools across Surrey. We are not seeing many of the positive messages that the local authority are communicating about their support for children with SEND, in our schools, and trust is diminishing. Our experience in our roles corroborates the poor performance by Surrey County Council highlighted in the letter from Surrey's Liberal Democrat MPs to the Secretary of State for Education, dated 25th February.

We have also surveyed primary headteachers across the county and these are the current main areas of concern:

### **Severe Underfunding for Children with Complex Needs**

Schools are facing an unsustainable financial burden when supporting pupils with significant and complex SEND. Current funding allocations do not reflect the true cost of providing appropriate support, leaving schools to divert resources from other areas, which compromises the quality of education for all children.

### **Lack of Specialist Placements, especially for Younger Children**

There is a critical shortage of specialist settings for children with high-level needs, particularly in the early years and primary phases. This results in children being placed in unsuitable environments, which can lead to increased anxiety, extreme behavioural challenges, dangerous behaviour and disrupted learning for both the child and their peers. Sadly, this sometimes results in a permanent exclusion.

### **Insufficient Educational Psychologists (EPs) and EHCP Co-ordination Officers (formerly known as Case Officers)**

The shortage of EPs and local authority EHCP Co-ordinators is causing significant delays in assessments and decision-making. These delays not only hinder timely support but also create frustration for families and schools, while poor communication exacerbates the problem. The support that schools receive from EHCP Co-ordination Officers continues to be mixed.

### **Private Diagnoses Not Involving Schools**

Increasingly, families are seeking private diagnoses due to delays in the public system. These assessments often occur without school input, leading to recommendations that are impractical or misaligned with the child's educational context. This disconnect places additional strain on schools trying to implement appropriate strategies. This also increases the divide between children who come from families that can afford to pay and those that cannot. It creates a system where children from disadvantaged backgrounds are placed further behind as they are having to wait much longer for a diagnosis than those who can afford to pay.

### **Inconsistent EHCP Processes and Quality**

The Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) process lacks consistency across the local authority, and the quality of EHCP documents varies widely. This inconsistency results in unclear expectations, inadequate provision, and frequent disputes, which consume valuable time and resource. Incorrect provision and support can have a hugely detrimental effect on a child's mental health.

### **Lack of Alternative Provision (AP) for Infant and Primary-Aged Children**

There is an acute gap in alternative provision for younger children. Where AP does exist, it is often prohibitively expensive, inappropriate and difficult to access. This leaves schools with no viable options for pupils who cannot cope in mainstream settings, resulting in exclusions and inadequate support.

We have raised these points to Surrey MPs and Councillors already over the last 18 months and Headteachers are reporting very little progress in many of these areas. Sadly, we see that it is the most vulnerable children in our schools who are being negatively impacted.

Best wishes

Anne Cooper

On behalf of the Primary Phase Council Executive Committee

Anne Cooper  
Headteacher  
Bell Farm Primary School

Louisa Dormer  
Executive Headteacher  
Merrow Schools Federation

Karyn Hing  
Headteacher  
Westfield Primary School

Mary-ellen McCarthy  
Executive Principal  
Lumen Learning Trust

Sarah Kober  
Deputy Executive Principal  
Lumen Learning Trust

## Community news

### Half term activities for children and Families

At Haslemere museum, 78 High Street, Haslemere, Surrey, GU27 2LA

**Monday 16 Feb:** Age 11+ activity crafting willow lanterns

**Tuesday 17 Feb:** Family activity crafting masks, armbands and musical instruments for Mardi Gras

**Wednesday 18 Feb:** Family LEGO session;

**Thursday 19 Feb:** Age 5-11 activity crafting lanterns

**Friday 20 Feb:** Silent disco for children.

Family ticket: £10

Child ticket: £8

Find out more and book a session on the What's On page of the Haslemere Museum website.



### Play and Leisure Short Breaks in Surrey Consultation Open from 8 December 2025 to 4 March 2026

Play and Leisure short breaks are delivered for children and young people with any disability. They provide a range of educational and leisure activities in community venues across Surrey, and give parent carers a break from caring.

There are changes being proposed to the programme, to make sure it remains sustainable and effective.

The vision for Play and Leisure Short Breaks is an offer that prioritises **inclusive access, community integration, and cost-effective support** for those with the greatest need, across both specialist and mainstream community schemes.

We want to hear your views on our proposals



Find more information and respond:  
[www.surreycc.gov.uk/shortbreaksconsultation](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/shortbreaksconsultation)

Ask for a hard copy or different format:

Tel: 03456 009 009 | Textphone: 18001 03456 009 009 | SMS: 07860 053465

**G Live** has announced the launch of Connect at G Live, a refreshed community initiative designed to bring people, creativity and connection together, with a free Open Day taking place on Saturday 31 January 2026.

The Connect at G Live – Open Day will welcome visitors of all ages to explore the venue, participate in a wide range of creative activities and gain insight into the work that takes place both on stage and behind the scenes. The event aims to position G Live as a central cultural and community hub within Guildford.

Taking place from 10am, the Open Day will feature a varied programme of activities intended to engage families, young people and adults alike. Visitors will have the opportunity to take part in arts and crafts sessions, DJ workshops and inclusive family singing workshops, as well as enjoy face painting, a photo booth, balloon modelling and a selection of large-scale games. The programme also includes pop-up fitness classes delivered by ((BOUNCE)), the global, multi award-winning mini trampoline fitness brand, alongside backstage tours offering a rare behind the-scenes view of the venue. In addition, a number of local businesses and charities will be present throughout the day, showcasing community initiatives.

The Open Day, along with all workshops, are completely free to attend and designed to encourage community engagement, creativity and participation, offering an accessible and welcoming introduction to G Live and its new Connect initiative. Members of the public are invited to attend and discover the opportunities available through Connect at G Live, celebrating culture, creativity and community in the heart of Guildford.