



Moss Lane School  
Moss Lane  
Godalming  
Surrey  
GU7 1EF

(01483) 417214

[info@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk)

[www.moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk)

**Headteacher**

**Mrs Victoria Abbott, BEd Hons, NPQH**

20<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a restful Easter break and welcome to our very first remote summer term!

We have all had to adapt to new ways of working, so I wanted to take the opportunity to say what an amazing job you are doing supporting your child's wellbeing and learning during this time.

It has been a strange and challenging time, so it is ok if you and your child feel wobbly and worried at the moment. We are here for you every step of the way as we figure this all out together. Remember, if you have any concerns about helping your child learn or you need any other support from the school, please let us know by emailing the school office on:

[info@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk)

We miss the children very much, but we must follow the government's guidance to keep everyone in our community safe. So, we are carrying on with the school remaining closed to most pupils. We are however open to vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers.

But just because we are not all in the same building, does not mean we can't have some fun together! Your children will have lots of activities they can get stuck into over the summer term – so keep a close eye on the school website and your child's class pages.

We also love seeing the children's fantastic learning at home – please keep sending photos or messages about their learning. Below you will find each class teacher's email address. You are welcome to email you class teacher directly however please only use this email address whilst school is closed. Once 'normal' school resumes please use the info email.

Polars – [chilyard@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:chilyard@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk) / [rsmith@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:rsmith@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk)

Pandas – [vking@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:vking@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk)

Squirrels – [oclare@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:oclare@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk)

Foxes – [scox@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:scox@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk) / [gcook@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:gcook@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk)

Hedgehogs – [acummins@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:acummins@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk)

Otters – [abetterton@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:abetterton@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk)

We cannot say yet when we'll be able to open the school fully, but rest assured that we will continue doing our utmost to keep your child learning and our school community connected.

As we entered another 3 weeks of lockdown, I wanted to take this opportunity to provide a few updates. I also wanted to stress how important to us that we do as much as we can to support parents, children and families during these particularly challenging times; as such I have put together a short online survey to get feedback from you to inform our next steps. Do please look out for this on a separate email from Mrs Edmonds tomorrow.

## **Home Learning**

We hope that everyone has been able to access the home learning activities provided by the teachers in some shape or form. The teachers are working hard to ensure that these are as practical and accessible as possible. Please know that there is no set routine for Home Learning; the important thing is that you find a structure/pattern that works for you and your family set up which may mean a little some days, more on others.

## **Additional Resources**

- Pobble 365 - an online literacy resource that uses engaging and inspiring pictures (a different one each day) as the starting point for a series of activities such as comprehension and writing.
- Hamilton Trust maths and literacy home learning packs (Y1 and Y2)
- BBC Bitesize

## **Story Times – Coming Soon!**

Please go to our Home learning page and open a tab called Story time! Coming soon will be some of the children's favourite stories read to them by Staff and Governors.

## **Easter**

As many of you were aware school remained open during the Easter holiday for Key Workers children. I would like to thank all the key workers in our community for everything that they are doing to try to help us all keep safe and healthy. Many people are supporting the local community doing their part. Mrs Pearson has been busy making scrubs to support local NHS hospitals. My thanks go out to all the staff at Moss Lane for being a part of this.

## **Hardship**

We are all very aware of the impact this shut down will be having on families in many respects, but particularly financially, with businesses closing and many being unable to work and losing valuable income. Those families who meet the threshold to receive 'free school meals' (even though all infant school meals are free) due to their income, benefits etc. are entitled to food vouchers at this time. These vouchers were distributed last week, and we will be in touch again straight after Easter with the next instalment. Do get in touch if you have any queries. If you think you may now qualify, please email [admin@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:admin@moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk) (in confidence) so that Mrs Ballard can give you more information on the information we need to complete the online checking tool to find out. If you are experiencing hardship and do not qualify for these vouchers, do get in touch anyway as we may be able to arrange for food parcels from the foodbank to help you out.

## **Safe online at home**

Whilst we are all in lock down, I know many of you will be using technology a lot more. There are lots of fun and interesting things you can do on the internet, and it is a great way to stay in touch with friends. But it is important to understand how to keep your child safe online.

## **10 Top Tips to stay safe**

1. Do not post any personal information online – like your address, email address or mobile number.
2. Think carefully before posting pictures or videos of yourself. Once you have put a picture of yourself online most people can see it and may be able to download it, it is not just yours anymore.
3. Keep your privacy settings as high as possible.
4. Never give out your passwords.
5. Do not befriend people you do not know.
6. Do not meet up with people you have met online. Speak to your parent or carer about people suggesting you do.
7. Remember that not everyone online is who they say they are.
8. Think carefully about what you say before you post something online.
9. Respect other people's views, even if you do not agree with someone else's views doesn't mean you need to be rude
10. If you see something online that makes you feel uncomfortable, unsafe or worried: leave the website, turn off your computer if you want to and tell a trusted adult immediately.

### **Jessie & Friends: online safety education for 4-7**

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/professionals/resources/jessie-and-friends/>

*Jessie & Friends* is a three-episode animated series which aims to equip 4-7-year olds with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to help them stay safe and other risks they may encounter online.

### **Online safety advice and support**

- **Thinkuknow** (<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>) is the education programme from NCA-CEOP, a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline.
- **Visit Net Aware** (<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>) - Get expert advice on the top apps, sites and games children are using, how to set up parental controls, latest news and more with Net Aware.
- **Call the O2 NSPCC Advice Line (0808 8005002)** - For advice on how to set up parental controls, privacy settings or around social media,

### **The following websites provide support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online:**

- Internet matters ([www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org))
- Parent info ([www.parentinfo.org](http://www.parentinfo.org))
- LGfL- [www.lgfl.net](http://www.lgfl.net)
- Let's Talk About It (<https://www.ltai.info/staying-safe-online/>)
- UK Safer Internet Centre (<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>)

### **Wellbeing**

During this time, it is especially important that look after yourself and your family's mental health. Social connections, alongside exercise, sleep, diet and routine are important protective factors for this. Social isolation, reduced exercise, and bereavement may affect children's wellbeing. Below are some resources to help promote and support children's mental wellbeing

- MindEd (<https://www.minded.org.uk/>) educational resources for adults about children and young people's mental health, which is relevant for parents and carers as well as volunteers, teachers, and other professionals working with children
- Every Mind Matters (<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/>) platform which supports looking after your own and other's mental health
- Guidance on looking after wellbeing and mental health during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak
- guidance on supporting children's wellbeing and mental health (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-the-public-on-the-mental-health-and-wellbeing-aspects-of-coronavirus-covid-19>)
- All NHS mental health trusts are setting up 24/7 helplines, and seeking to use digital and virtual channels, to continue delivering support during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

**We are all in this Together**

I was forwarded this video in the week which I hope will play for you

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAGbxKfNMuE&safe=true>

It is uplifting and focuses on much needed positives that might be taken from the current situation.

Please remember that we are here for you. If your child is struggling in any way, we are still around.

Send us an email and we can get back to you. Moss Lane School Community spirit remains strong even if we are not physically together currently. Finally, why not start your day with a Joe Wicks' PE. I have tried and have found them to be a great way to get fit and motivated.

Let us get cracking with our summer term!

Stay safe and healthy

Mrs Victoria Abbott

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "V Abbott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'V'.

Headteacher