



Moss Lane School Newsletter

Thursday 12th February 2026

**Whole School
Attendance**

96.49%



Our value for half term

Dear Families,

As we move into the beginning of February, there is a real sense that we are turning a corner in the year. The longest, darkest days of winter are now behind us and, although the weather may still feel cold, each day brings a little more light. Those extra moments of daylight in the morning and afternoon make such a difference, lifting spirits and reminding us that spring is on its way.

Our teachers are already busy planning exciting class trips and visits for the coming months. These experiences are such a valuable part of learning at school, helping children to make real-life connections, build confidence and develop their independence. We look forward to sharing more details with you very soon.

We have had a busy few weeks in school, with lots of lovely and productive learning taking place. Recently, we marked Children's Mental Health Week, focusing on the theme "*This Is My Space*", as well as Time to Talk Day and Safer Internet Day. This year's Safer Internet Day theme was "*Smart tech, safe choices – exploring the safe and responsible use of AI*". Classes across the school took part in a range of lessons and activities linked to these important topics.

These events provided a fantastic opportunity to shine a spotlight on the importance of children and young people's mental health and wellbeing. We encouraged children to develop self-awareness and reflect on what wellbeing means to them. This learning helps them to grow and build resilience, supporting them in coping with the challenges life may bring.

If you would like to find out more about Children's Mental Health Week, please visit:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

Below is also a useful link offering top tips for parents and carers to help support children when they are online:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers>

Being part of a safe, positive community is vital for our mental health and wellbeing. We thrive when we have strong connections with others and belong to supportive communities that remind us we are not alone. Some children may wish to share their learning and reflections with adults at home, and we encourage these conversations.

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers after half-term for parents' evenings and hope you find the updates on your child's progress helpful.

Enjoy the halfterm, and we hope you have a relaxing and restful break.

Kind regards,
Mrs Abbott
Headteacher

Do you have a concern?

If you have a concern about your child's learning or personal development then please email your Class Teacher directly in the first instance. This way any issues can be dealt with as soon as possible. Please note that your class teacher may not be able to respond on the same day due to teaching commitments. If the matter is urgent then please email the office, copying in your class teacher.



Parents' Evening March 2026

Appointments will be held on the following dates for all classes:

Tuesday 3rd March 3.40pm – 7.00pm

Thursday 5th March 3.40pm – 5.30pm

This is an opportunity to discuss how your child is getting on in their class. For all appointments there is a limited time of 10 minutes per

For all appointments, please go to your child's class and wait outside the door

If you feel you need to arrange extra time to discuss a particular issue, then you are welcome to make a further telephone appointment with your child's class teacher. We value the partnership we have with you as parents, so we very much hope you will attend on one of the evenings.

If you wish to speak to our SENDCO Mrs Forbes-Patching there will be a sign-up sheet in the office.

If you cannot make these times for any reason, please speak to your child's class teacher who will happily arrange a telephone appointment for another time, either before or at the end of the school day.

What's happening in School

Reception

Bees had a wonderful trip to St Peter and St Pauls Church this week, as part of our learning about Special Places. We enjoyed looking around the church and talking about all the different activities that might happen there.



Year 1

Year 1 have been busily exploring reptiles and amphibians. They have found out how to tell them apart! The children have been very creative this week; marbling, sculpting and carrying out close observational drawings. Foxes and Squirrels are also excited to have their NumBots log ins. Take a look at class webpages to find out how to log in.

Year 2

Year 2 have been busy bringing together all their wonderfully innovated ideas in English and transforming them into their very own short stories. The children have shown amazing creativity as they combined characters, settings and plots they developed throughout the unit. Alongside their writing, they've also been working hard on their multiplication and division facts for the 2 times table, and they can continue to build their confidence by practising these at home too.

Uniform

Please can we remind you that visible base layers are not part of our school uniform. Children are encouraged to wear vests, polo shirts and jumpers/cardigans in colder weather. Thank you for your support.

Friday 13th February

Inset day- School closed

14th -22nd February

Half term

Monday 23rd February

Children back to school
Squirrels Woodland School
3.40pm-7.00pm

Monday 2nd March

Foxes at Woodland School
Ducks in School for 2 weeks

Tuesday 3rd March

Parents evening 3.40pm-7.00pm

Thursday 5th March

World book day – dress up
Parents evening 3.40pm-5.30pm

Monday 9th March

Honeybees at Woodland School

Friday 13th March

Someone special morning



Monday 16th March

Bumblebees at Woodland School

Friday 20th March

Parent clinic 9am

Monday 23rd March

Otters at Woodland School

Thursday 26th March

Easter bonnet parade and egg hunt

Friday 27th March

End of term 1.30pm finish

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

Inset Days

Friday 13th February

Friday 22nd May

Next year's Inset days

1. 1st September 2026
2. 2nd November 2026
3. 12th February 2027
4. 12th April 2027
5. 28th May 2027

NB

2 WEEK HALF TERM

October 19th- 1st Nov 2026

Woodland School

Thank you to all the parents that have helped out at woodland school. We really appreciate your time and dedication. Just a reminder that if you are attending as a helper, please do not take any photographs or have your phone out whilst there. This is due to GDPR and safeguarding reasons. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Medication at School

We wanted to remind you that we can only administer prescribed medicine to your child at school when four doses are required, e.g., three doses are given at home and one at school, usually given at lunchtime. The medicine should be in the original container with a prescription label clearly stating the child's name, medication name, date of issue, expiry date and dosage required. We request that you come to the office to complete a permission form detailing the dosage and frequency of medicine. Medicines cannot be handed into class or via the child. An adult should deposit and collect these medicines each day as we cannot give them back to your child.

Healthy lunches

At Moss Lane, we regularly talk to the children about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and staying active. One part of 'being healthy' is the food we eat and we know that when children eat healthily, they are more able to learn and take part in our daily school activities. If your child brings a packed lunch to school, please remember to offer healthy choices and remember that we are a 'no nuts' school.

Communicating with the school

The wellbeing of our teachers is a top priority, and we believe it is crucial to provide them with the opportunity to relax and recharge outside of their working hours. Therefore, we kindly request that you refrain from emailing the class email between 5:30pm and 8:00am or over the weekend. We understand that communication between parents and teachers is essential, and we value your involvement and engagement in your child's education. However, by respecting these boundaries, we can collectively create a healthy work-life balance for our educators, enabling them to continue providing the high-quality education our school.

We encourage you to plan your communications accordingly, aiming to send any non-urgent emails during the school day, ideally between 8:30am and 4:30pm from Monday to Friday. By doing so, we can ensure that our teaching staff have the necessary time to respond to your queries and concerns effectively, while also striking a balance between their personal and professional lives.

We sincerely thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and ongoing support in implementing this policy. It is through our collaborative efforts that we can safeguard the wellbeing of our entire school community. If you have any urgent matters that require immediate attention outside the designated email hours, please do not hesitate to contact the school office directly.

Safeguarding

Online Safety Update the new Online Safety Bill brings stronger rules to help keep children safe online. Games like Roblox have been a particular worry because of unsafe behaviour from strangers. To help protect young players, Roblox is adding new safety features, including age checks using facial analysis and optional ID checks for users over 13. These changes are designed to make sure people are who they say they are and to create safer online play. More information is available on the SWGfL website.

Children's Services

If you have a concern about a child or young person being abused or neglected, or an adult who is concerned about a young person's safety and wellbeing during the weekend or school holidays, please remember that you can contact Surrey Children's Services' Single Point of Access, also known as CSPA. Lines are open between 9am and 5pm from Monday to Friday. The telephone number for CSPA is 0300 470 9100 or for out of hours, the emergency number is 01483 517898.

Year 2

This term, Year 2 children have been learning the scientific names for different body parts, including private parts, as part of our statutory PSHE/RSE curriculum. This learning helps children develop a safe and accurate understanding of their bodies and supports our whole-school approach to safeguarding by giving them the correct language to use if they ever need to share a concern with a trusted adult. The lessons are age-appropriate, factual, and delivered with sensitivity.

Please refer to our PSHE/RSE policy on our website for further information. If you would like to explore these topics further at home, the NSPCC's *PANTS* resources provide simple, child-friendly guidance about staying safe and understanding appropriate boundaries. You can access this information using the link below:



Attendance

A big congratulations to all our families. We have been awarded a certificate from Fisher Family Trust as Moss Lane's school attendance was in the top 10% of all Fisher Family Trust schools nationally. Let's see if we can get another one for this term!



New attendance rules!

Moss Lane School

There are new rules for unauthorised absences, whether this is due to holiday, irregular attendance, or otherwise. Don't get caught out!

1 I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for 5 days.

Make sure you use the absence request form. Your holiday will not be authorised. Let the school know before you book anything. As your child will miss 5 school days, you'll be given a penalty notice fine.

1 parent & 1 child = £160
Reduced to £80 if paid in 21 days

For each child a penalty is given...

+£160 +£160 +£160 +£160

1 parent & 4 children = £640
Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

For a family of 2 parents & 4 children

+£160 +£160 +£160 +£160

£1280
Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

What happens if school suspects children are actually on holiday?

Photos on Facebook?
Foreign mobile dial tone?
Other children talking about your holiday?
Amazing sun tan?
Home visit shows no-one at home?

Please don't be offended if we ask for evidence or mention these questions to you. We're required to do this to ensure a fair system!

2 What about subsequent absences? Is it still the same penalty amount?

No, not anymore. If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence OR pattern of irregular attendance, which is unauthorised, then...

	2 nd TIME	3 rd TIME
	2 parents and...	
	1 child = £320	A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2,500 for each child.
	2 children = £640	1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
	3 children = £960	2 parents and 4 children = £20,000
	4 children = £1280	
	NO DISCOUNT FOR EARLY PAYMENT	

3 What about irregular attendance? Could I get a penalty notice?

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks, and their absences are unauthorised, then the school is required to consider penalty notices / prosecution.

PENALTY!

So, half a day here and day there could all add up to 10 sessions in 10 weeks. If unauthorised, then it would be a penalty notice. Remember, 1 day is 2 sessions (morning and afternoon).

YES

4 What are typical reasons given that won't be authorised?

Examples of unauthorised absences

A family member's birthday	Sickness of parent or sibling	
Shopping for uniforms	Sibling's school closed	
Inadequate clothing for school	Refusing to attend, but able to	
Child being used as a carer	Poor family organisation	
Problems with transport	Family holidays	
	No absence request completed	

Where attendance is irregular, or historically poor, sickness absences may be unauthorised unless medical confirmation by a GP surgery is given.

EVERY DAY COUNTS – ATTEND TODAY. ACHIEVE TOMORROW

Online

The online world is currently a familiar and common part of children and young people's lives and far more than with previous generations. There are many positives to children being able to access online materials so we have a responsibility to educate our children about the hazards that they might encounter online (just as we would about real-world dangers) so it is essential that we are able to have an open conversation with them about what they do and see online.

<p>Make your interest clear!</p> <p>Most children enjoy being the teachers and showing others how to do it so be enthusiastic and ask to see how their favourite apps or games work. This can help you to spot any aspect that may need your attention (e.g. chat features). Keep listening, even if your child pauses for a long time.</p> 	<p>Be open and honest, appropriate to their age</p> <p>If your child knows that they can discuss a variety of subjects with you, including more sensitive ones, then they will be more accepting of the 'why'. This can be helpful around why a game may not be age appropriate for them.</p> 	<p>Remind them that they can always talk to you</p> <p>Some children can be reluctant to share in case it leads to consequences. Emphasise that you're always there to listen and help and if they have seen or done something online that has worried or scared them they are <u>not</u> to blame.</p> 
<p>Discuss that not everything is real</p> <p>Explain that there may be parts of the online world which are presented in an unrealistic way for effect e.g. supposed 'pranks' / photo and video filters / product reviews / augmented gameplay. Use examples to them understand that we cannot trust everything that we see or hear online.</p> 	<p>Try to remain calm</p> <p>Try and remain calm, even if your child tells you something that makes you feel angry or fearful. Otherwise, our reaction could deter a child from speaking openly in the future. Give yourself time to consider the right approach and perhaps speak to family members or school staff if you need guidance.</p> 	<p>Create a family agreement</p> <p>Involve the whole household in coming up with an agreement about device use can be beneficial. You can discuss when and for how long it is OK to use devices at home, what parental controls are for and why and why it is good to talk to each other about things we have seen online. Explaining your reasoning will help children to understand that we want to make sure that they are safe. Allowing children to have their say also means that they are far more likely to stick to it in the long term.</p> 
<p>Keep talking!</p> <p>The most important part is to keep talking with your child about the online world and what they do. You could use everyday situations to ask questions about their online experiences.</p> 		

Norovirus cases increased by over 60%

Protect children with effective hygiene measures

What is Norovirus?

Norovirus, also called the winter vomiting bug, is a stomach bug that causes vomiting and diarrhoea. It can be very unpleasant, but usually gets better in about 2 days.

Symptoms of norovirus

The main symptoms of norovirus usually start suddenly and may include:

- feeling sick
- being sick (vomiting)
- diarrhoea

You may also have:

- a high temperature
- a headache
- tummy pain
- body aches and pains



Although it's sometimes called the winter vomiting bug, you can get norovirus at any time of year. For further information, please see the [NHS website](#) UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) update. In the last 2 weeks, cases of Norovirus have increased by over 60% across England. To help reduce the spread, people are urged to make sure they practice good hygiene. **Alcohol gels do not kill norovirus**, so washing hands regularly with warm soapy water and using bleach-based products to clean surfaces are the best steps people can take to protect themselves and reduce the chance of further spread.

How to wash hands properly Proper handwashing requires wetting hands, applying soap, and scrubbing all surfaces—backs, between fingers, and under nails—for at least 20 seconds, followed by a thorough rinse and drying with a disposable paper towel. Key actions include scrubbing, rinsing, and using a paper towel to turn off the faucet to avoid re-contamination. For more information on keeping safe and well this winter, please see the [Healthy Surrey Webpage](#)

GODALMING LEARNING PARTNERSHIP'S GET TEACHING PROGRAMME

Initial Teacher Training with the GLP and Winchester University

The window is now open for enrolling onto the Godalming Learning Partnership's successful year-long teacher training programme, in partnership with Winchester University, to start in September 2026. We are welcoming applicants keen to pursue a career in teaching to join our next cohort of trainees. We have a 100% pass rate and offer a genuinely holistic and innovative programme leading to teachers entering the profession with resilience, confidence and creativity. Further information about the GLP teacher training course can be found [here](https://www.godalminglearning.org), or you can email Rachel Dunnage via: coordinator@godalminglearning.org with any questions.



Happy Valentines from Moss Lane School

Have a lovely half term



100 things to do before you are 6.....

1. Discover your favourite story/stories
2. Go to the beach
3. Build a giant sandcastle
4. Smash ice with a stick outdoors
5. Find a stick and make it your own
6. Go on a treasure hunt
7. Dress up in adults shoes and wear make up you applied
8. Find a fairy door in your house or garden
9. Do the Hokey Cokey
10. Have a sponsored bounce on a trampoline or bouncy castle
11. Throw autumn leaves in the air
12. Crunch through autumn leaves
13. Grow a seed into a plant – sunflowers are great
14. Walk bare foot in mud/sand or even jelly!
15. Hunt for conkers
16. Write a message and put it on a helium balloon and ... Let it go!
17. Post a card to a family friend
18. Make bread from scratch
19. Jump in the waves
20. Fish with a fishing net

21. Stroke a rabbit
22. Hop around like a bunny
23. Dress as your favourite character (wear out to the supermarket)
24. Build an indoor den under a table or tip up the sofa
25. Fill water balloons and throw them
26. Dance in the rain without a coat
27. Catch rain drops on your tongue
28. Paint using only your hands or your feet
29. Slide down a grassy hill on a tray
30. Roll down a grassy hill
31. Make mud pies
32. Eat an ice cream cone
33. Learn to roll like a pencil
34. Squirt shaving foam then rub your hands in it!
35. Make large bubbles with hoops
36. Blow bubbles on a windy day
37. Grow caterpillars into butterflies
38. Make a Vitamin C rocket
39. Have a picnic indoors and outdoors
40. Sit upstairs on double decker bus

41. Go for a ride on a train – a steam train even better
42. Visit old people and tell them a story or sing them a song
43. Chalk on the pavement
44. Learn to play hopscotch
45. Go rock pooling – catch a crab in a bucket
46. Feed the ducks
47. Learn a poem – the owl and pussy cat was my favourite!
48. Make perfume with flower petals and bottles
49. Eat at a restaurant – not a fast food one!
50. Bake fairy cakes and lick the bowl
51. Have a tea party for your toys
52. Sing out loud and dance as often as possible (especially in public)
53. Take part in a show
54. Learn to swim
55. Hold a sparkler and write your name in the air
56. Run so fast you think you can fly
57. Go to a pantomime
58. Roll boiled eggs down a hill
59. Bottle feed lambs
60. Play pooh sticks on a bridge over a river

61. Make a scrap book of your favourite things/people
62. Play Jack in the box, in a large cardboard box
63. Have a themed birthday party
64. Do one kind act for others each week of a whole year
65. Grow tomatoes and eat them
66. Stay up late to look at the stars with a night time picnic
67. Visit a 'pick your own' farm
68. Play apple bobbing
69. Toast marshmallows on a fire pit outdoors
70. Jump on your bed
71. Ride on a carousel horse at the fair
72. Eat icecream cornet from an icecream van
73. Bash a piñata
74. Play party games like pass the parcel, musical chairs or musical statues
75. Slide down a garden water slide
76. Slide full body on a muddy field
77. Be a pirate for a day, build a ship, dig for treasure
78. Explore your garden looking for mini beasts
79. Make a sock puppet and do a show
80. Do a coin rubbing with paper and crayons.

100 Things to do before you are 6

SPREAD THE HAPPINESS
SHONETTE
BASON-WOOD

81. Make a rope swing in a tree with a tyre or large stick as the seat
82. Put on a cape (piece material) pretend you're a superhero
83. Talk like a pirate for a day (if your voice will last!)
84. Learn to jump rope – simple skipping
85. Bounce a bouncy ball as hard as you can!
86. Eat jelly and ice cream with a gigantic spoon
87. Have unlimited toppings on your ice cream ... Your choice!
88. Ride a two wheel bike
89. Make friends with people who live in a different country
90. Enter a competition to win a prize
91. Join in a Guinness World Record attempt
92. Help wash a car with buckets and sponges
93. Learn ball/wall games to play on your own
94. Pretend to conduct your own orchestra
95. Hike up a mountain and admire the view
96. Use a magnifying glass
97. Visit a museum with dinosaur skeletons and fossils
98. Run in and out of a hose pipe spray
99. Go on an adventure to a zoo or farm
100. Roll around a large field and stop to smell the grass