



Moss Lane School Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2026



Our value for this term is

Friendship

Dear Families,

All of a sudden, it is starting to feel like autumn! We have had another very busy week in school, and I have really enjoyed spending time in classrooms, seeing the children engaged in their learning and responding so positively to their teachers. Many congratulations to everyone!

This term, we have started our school tours for families considering joining Moss Lane in September 2027. It has been a pleasure welcoming prospective families and showing them around our wonderful school. If you know anyone who might be considering Moss Lane for their child, please encourage them to contact the school office to book a tour.

Our after-school clubs, including our Year 2 teacher-led clubs, have restarted this term. I have visited a number of clubs throughout the week and have seen children enjoying drawing, engineering, football, piano, board games and construction, to name just a few. I have been particularly impressed by the children's enthusiasm and behaviour, as well as the high-quality opportunities provided by our staff.

Communication with School

Effective communication between home and school is really important and helps everything run smoothly. Teachers are always happy to answer quick queries by email or speak to you briefly at the beginning or end of the school day. However, if you have something that requires a longer or more detailed discussion, please arrange a face-to-face appointment with your child's teacher. Please remember that teachers are unlikely to be able to respond to emails during the school day while they are teaching and supporting the children. We therefore appreciate your understanding that you may need to wait until the end of the school day, or sometimes a little longer, for a response.

Our Senior Leadership Team comprises myself, Miss Betterton and Mrs Ballard. We are always happy to have a chat if there is something you would like to discuss, and our office team are also on hand to help with any queries.

We have another busy week ahead of us, so I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend!

Mrs Abbott
Headteacher

PTA news

Could You Help Support Moss Lane School?

As a school, we are always looking for ways to enhance opportunities and experiences for our children. We are fortunate to have a wonderfully supportive school community, and we are reaching out to ask whether any parents, carers, family members or the companies they work for might be interested in supporting Moss Lane School through sponsorship or donations.

We are particularly interested in:

- Sponsorship of school events and activities
- Donations of raffle prizes or gifts
- Contributions towards Christmas presents for our Pupil Premium children
- Vouchers, experiences or products that could be used to support fundraising events
- Financial donations to enhance children's learning experiences and wellbeing

No donation is too small, and every contribution helps us provide additional opportunities and support for our children and families. If you, a family member, or your employer may be able to help, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact the school office for further information.

Join Our PTA

Our PTA plays such an important part in school life, helping to organise wonderful events for the children and raising valuable funds to provide additional opportunities and resources for our school. We would particularly love to welcome new families to get involved this year. Joining the PTA is a great way to meet other parents and carers, become part of the Moss Lane community and make a real difference to the children. There is no expectation to commit lots of time — whether you can help at an occasional event, share an idea or become more regularly involved, every contribution is greatly appreciated. Please do consider getting involved; new faces and new ideas are always very welcome!

Email: ptamosslane@gmail.com



Thank you for your continued support of our school community.

What's going on in school...

Bees

Bees have had a great first full-time week at school and we have been so impressed by their independence, especially at lunchtimes. We are also busy starting our phonics, and have learned some new sounds. Please check your child's book bag on Friday to find out more about the sounds we have learned this week. We are also really enjoying Challenge and Learn time, where we get to play indoors and outdoors with our friends. We have drawn pictures of our families to go in our Learning Journeys. If you would like to see photos of all that we have been up to, please log into e-Schools via the school website to view our class pages.

Year 1

Another busy week for Squirrels and Foxes. Maths has seen us busily exploring counting backwards within ten and showing one less. Avocado Baby is the focus for our writing over the next few weeks. We have started thinking of their own ideas for a new, similar story. We found out about our sense of sight and explored using our eyes, practiced foot work skills, and made our own abstract portraits. Phonics and reading practice sessions are well under way with everyone working really hard to embed existing skills ready to add new knowledge in the next couple of weeks. Great work again, Year 1!

Year 2

Year 2 enjoyed a drama workshop based of The Great Fire of London. It was a wonderful hands-on way to learn important facts about the event. On Tuesday afternoon they participated in a fire safety workshop delivered by two brilliant female firefighters. Otters enjoyed their trip to Woodland School, particularly getting the use the fire lighters to practise their fire lighting abilities! Hedgehogs are looking forward to their Woodland School visit on Monday.

Things from home

A gentle reminder that children should not bring any items from home into school. This includes stationery, cuddly toys and jewellery. Fidget toys are only allowed if this has been agreed directly with the SENCo.

Birthdays

We know birthdays are very exciting and some children like to give out a snack at the end of the school day. Being part of Healthy Schools, we would ask that these snacks are not sweets, chocolate, crisps or anything containing nuts.



Weather

As the weather is now starting to turn cooler and we have had some wet days, please ensure all children bring a named coat to school every day.



Worry Monster

During our recent KS1 assembly, I talked to the children about what they can do, and who they can speak to, if they ever feel worried, sad or upset. We reminded the children that there are always trusted adults in school who are ready to listen and help. We also talked about our special Worry Monster and red letterbox, which are located on the table outside the school office. If a child has a worry or something they would like help with, they can write or draw it and post it into the letterbox. Miss Clare regularly checks the box and will make sure that children receive the support and reassurance they need. We want every child at Moss Lane to know that no worry is too big or too small to share and that there is always someone here to listen.



What's coming up

Monday 28th September
Woodland school Hedgehogs

Monday 5th October
Woodland school Foxes

Tuesday 6th October
Book Fair

Friday 9th October
PTA welcome coffee morning for all new families 9.15am – 10am

Monday 12th October
Woodland School Squirrels

Thursday 15th October
Harvest Performance 9.15am – 10am
Bee's and Otter's Parents
Autumn Mufti

Friday 16th October
Harvest Performance 9.15am – 10am
Squirrels, Foxes and Hedgehogs parents
Autumn Mufti
HALF TERM



Check out our online calendar of events

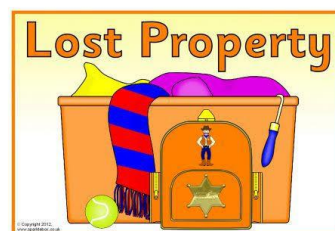
<https://www.moss-lane.surrey.sch.uk/web/calendar/156581>

Inset days 2026-2026

- Monday 2nd November
- Friday 12th February
- Friday 12th April
- Friday 28th May

Lost property

Please ensure that all clothing and belongings are clearly named. We already have a growing number of items in our lost property bin, which is located by the bike shed on the playground. Naming items makes it much easier for us to return them quickly to their owners. Please do check the lost property bin regularly if your child is missing anything.



Welcome evening

Thank you to everyone who attended our Welcome Evenings this year. We hope you found the sessions useful and informative. If you were unable to attend, the presentation slides are available to view on the eSchools class pages. Please also note that Home Learning will now be posted weekly on the eSchools class pages, so please check these regularly.

Rehearsal of alarms

As part of our ongoing health and safety and safeguarding procedures, children and staff regularly practise what to do in the event of an emergency. This includes rehearsing both our fire evacuation and intruder/lockdown procedures.

- A fire alarm is a continuous ringing bell which alerts staff and children that they need to leave the building calmly, safely and promptly. Children are taken to the designated assembly area on the playground, where staff complete a headcount and register to ensure that everyone is safely accounted for.
- An intruder/lockdown alarm is an intermittent bell which alerts staff that there may be a potential danger inside or outside the school building. Children are calmly supported by familiar adults to move to a safe place within their classroom or another designated area. They are asked to remain quiet and follow the instructions of the adults looking after them until it is safe to resume normal activities.

We recognise that practising an emergency procedure can feel unfamiliar or sometimes unsettling for young children. Staff therefore manage rehearsals sensitively, calmly and in an age-appropriate way, reassuring children throughout. Children will practise our intruder/lockdown procedure next week as part of our planned safeguarding arrangements.

Celebrating Achievements

Friday's Gold certificate assembly -

Each week, two children from every class are awarded a Gold Certificate to celebrate a particular achievement, effort or success. These are presented by their class teacher during our Friday Gold Assembly.

Achievements Outside School

We also love celebrating children's achievements outside school. If your child receives a certificate, medal or trophy for an activity outside school, they are very welcome to bring it in and share it during our Friday Gold Assembly. Children are encouraged to tell us about their achievement and what they did to earn their special award. We are always delighted to celebrate their successes with them.

Headteacher Awards

Headteacher Awards can be given at any time when a member of staff feels that a child has done something particularly special or deserves recognition for their effort or achievement. Children are invited to visit my office, where I have the pleasure of hearing about what they have achieved and presenting them with a Headteacher Award.

Speak to Mrs Forbes - Parent's Evening

Please remember that you can also book an appointment to speak with Mrs Forbes, our SENCo, during Parents' Evenings. We would always encourage you to speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance, as they know your child's day-to-day learning and experiences best. However, Mrs Forbes is also available if you would like to discuss any concerns, questions or worries relating to your child's additional needs or support in school.

Safeguarding...

Please can I remind all parents and carers that children remain your responsibility before they are handed over to school staff in the morning and once, they have been dismissed to you at the end of the school day. We have had in the past, children wandered away without their parents/carers immediately realising. Thankfully, the child was safe, but it provides an important reminder to us all about remaining vigilant during these particularly busy times of the day. Please ensure that the gate between the playground and car park is kept closed at all times.

Please also do not be offended if a member of staff challenges you while you are on the school site, particularly once the gates have closed, or asks you to close and bolt the small side gate. These procedures are there to help us keep everyone safe. Children should not use the playground equipment before or after school. We would really appreciate your support in reminding your children of this. To help us maintain a safe and secure school site, we kindly ask families to leave the playground promptly at the start and end of the school day.

This also enables us to complete our attendance registration promptly and ensure that all children are safely accounted for and the site is safe. We appreciate that parents and carers may wish to catch up with one another or speak with staff; however, where possible, we ask that longer conversations take place outside the school gates so that the playground can remain clear and secure.

Safeguarding our children is everyone's responsibility, and we thank you for helping us maintain a safe environment at Moss Lane.

School Timings Reminder

Gates open: 8.40am

Year groups called in: 8.45am

All children should be in school by: 8.50am

Lunchtime: 12.05pm–1.00pm

End of school day: 3.20pm

If your child arrives after the gates have closed, please take them to the school office and ensure they are signed in.

Safe Collection at the End of the Day

Keeping children safe while they are in our care is our highest priority, and this is particularly important during the busy end-of-day collection period.

To help staff dismiss children safely, please:

- Stand opposite your child's classroom where the teacher can clearly see you.
- Be ready to receive your child when they are dismissed.
- Wait for the teacher to send your child to you, rather than calling or encouraging them to leave the teacher.
- Please be patient, particularly at the beginning of the school year, while staff become familiar with new parents, carers and other authorised adults.

Teachers will not dismiss a child unless they are confident that the child can reach their authorised adult safely. We appreciate that collection time can be busy and everyone is keen to get home, but taking a little extra time helps us ensure that every child leaves school safely.

Harvest Festival

We are delighted to invite families to join us in the school hall for our annual Harvest Festival celebrations:

15th October at 9.15am – Bees and Otters families

16th October at 9.15am – Year 1 and Hedgehogs families

We would also love the children to wear **autumnal mufti** on these days – clothes in lovely autumn colours such as red, orange, yellow, green or brown.

This year, we will once again be supporting the Godalming & Villages Community Store, which provides food and essential items to local people and families in need. The Store works closely with local organisations to identify those who need support and relies on donations from the community. Last year, the generosity of Moss Lane families enabled us to donate a whole car full of items, and we would love to provide the same wonderful support again this year.

If you are able to contribute, particularly useful donations include tinned meat meals, curry sauces, toilet and kitchen roll, instant noodles (packets rather than pots), sugar, biscuits, multipack crisps, UHT semi-skimmed milk, washing-up liquid, tinned custard, rice pudding, tinned tuna and dried pasta. Other non-perishable food items are also very welcome. Please bring donations into school during Harvest collection week from Monday 12th October and leave them on the table outside the school office. Every donation, however small, will make a difference. Thank you for your generosity and support.



Keeping up to date

Keeping up to date with what is happening at Moss Lane is one of the best ways you can support both your child and the school. Our regular newsletters contain key information, reminders and celebrations. The school website is the place to find important dates, curriculum information and other school information, while class WhatsApp groups and parent representatives help to share reminders and PTA messages. We try to keep the number of emails we send to a minimum so that families are not overwhelmed with information. You can also see some of the exciting things happening across school by following our Moss Lane School Facebook page. Please do take a few moments to read our communications and check important dates – it really does help school life run smoothly for everyone.

Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!



In a nationwide approach to improve school attendance following the pandemic, a new National Framework for Penalty Notices has been introduced. The following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to **each parent** for **each child** that was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave would result in **each parent** receiving **3 separate fines**.

5 Consecutive Days of Term Time Leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of **5 or more consecutive days**. Inset training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was **intent** for term time leave.

10 Sessions of Unauthorised Absence in a 10-Week Period

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of **unauthorised absence in a 10-week period**.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days

If it is paid within 21 days it will be reduced to £80

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will be issued and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. **Magistrates' fines can be up to £2,500 per parent, per child.**

Cases found guilty in the Magistrates' Court can show on the **parent's future DBS** certificate due to '*failure to safeguard a child's education*'.

