3rd October 2023 Newsletter

Moss Lane School

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Dear Families,

All of a sudden, October is here and it is starting to feels like Autumn! We have had another very busy week in school; I have enjoyed spending time in classrooms, seeing the children engaged in their learning and responding to their teachers so well this week. Many congratulations to everyone!

This term we have started our school tours for families joining the school in September 2024. It has been a pleasure showing them around. If you know anyone who might be considering Moss Lane for their child, please encourage them to contact the school office to book a slot.

After school clubs including our Year 2 teacher-led clubs have restarted this term. I have visited clubs throughout the week and seen dancing, cooking football, piano, to name a few. I have been impressed with the attitude of the children and the high quality learning delivered by staff. Year R will get the option to join paid clubs after school next term.

Effective communication makes all aspects of the school run smoothly. Teachers are happy to answer quick queries via email or speak to you briefly at the start /end of the day, but if you have a longer issue you would like to discuss please arrange a face-to-face appointment. Teachers are unlikely to be able to answer emails during the school day when they are teaching so please understand that you may have to wait until the end of the day for a response.

The senior leadership team comprises of myself, Miss Betterton and Mrs Ballard. We are always around should you want a chat, and the office are always on hand if you need help with anything.

We have a busy week next week so have a relaxing

weekend!

Mrs Abbott Headteacher

New Parents Coffee Morning...

Thank you to the PTA for organising the new parents coffee morning. The cakes and goodies that were baked looked delicious. It was lovely to meet the Bees parents and share with them how beautifully their children have settled into school life.



Our value for this term is **Friendship**

What's coming up...

W/C 9th October Squirrels at Woodland school Feeling Good Week

16th October

Otters at Woodland School

17th October

Clinic with Mrs Abbott 9am

18th October

9.15am Harvest Festival Bees and Otters Families

20th October

9.15am Harvest Festival Year 1 and Hedgehogs Families PTA Film night 3.30pm-4.15pm

23rd-27th October HALF TERM

INSET DAYS...

- Friday 9th February 2024
- Monday 19th February 2024
- Friday 24th May 2024
- Monday 22nd July 2024

Check out our online calendar of events \underline{here}

What's going on in school...

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 that Birthdays are very exciting and some children like to give out a snack at the end of school on their special day. Because we are 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 coat to school every day.



Lost property

Please clearly name all belongings as there are already many items in lost property that don't have a name. The lost property bin is by the bike shed on the playground.

Rehearsal of alarms

In all childcare settings, rehearsal of fire and intruder alarms has to take place as part of health and safety and safeguarding practices.

A "fire alarm" involves a continuous ringing of a bell to alert staff that they need to get the children out of the building safely but very quickly due to a fire risk. Children are led out the building and line up in the playground, where staff complete a head count to ensure all are accounted for.

An "intruder alarm" is an intermittent bell that is rung to alert staff that children (and staff) must 'run and hide' due to a danger inside or outside the building. Staff tell children "there is a danger outside, hide." Children are supported by familiar adults to hide behind chairs or under tables. Children are asked to be silent and remain hidden until the area is safe.

Whilst this experience can be daunting for some children, it is essential that it takes place. Children will experienced a fire alarm next week.

Awards

Gold Assembly Certificates - Each week two children from each class are given a gold certificate in celebration of an achievement. These are given out by their class teacher in our Friday assemblies.

Certificates awarded out of school - If your child receives a certificate / medal / trophy for an out of school activity, these can be shown at Gold Assembly. I encourage the child to tell me what they needed to do to achieve the certificate, allowing the rest of the school acknowledge the effort required.

Headteacher Awards - These are given out whenever a member of staff feels that a child has done something special. Children visit my office where I will give them a sticker and a Headteacher certificate celebrating the effort and work and they have done.

Safeguarding...

Please can I remind all parents to keep an eye on their children at the start of the school day and once staff have handed them over at the end of the school day. We have had a couple of incidents in the last few weeks when children have wandered off without parent realising.

With this in mind it is very important that the gate from the playground to the carpark is always kept shut.

Please do not be offended if a member of staff challenges you whilst on school site, especially after gates have closed, or asks you to shut and bolt the small side gate.

Once the gates are closed it is our responsibility to keep your children safe.

Children are not allowed on the equipment before or after school. Please can I ask that you support us in reminding your children of this.

Should anyone have any questions about Safeguarding please do not hesitate to ask.

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Worry Monster



During the KS1 assembly I talked to the children about what to do and who the children could speak to if they ever feel worried or upset. I reminded them of our special letter box and worry monster that is situated on the table outside the school office. If any children have a concern or worry they can post it into the red-letter box and Miss Clare will monitor this on a weekly basis and offer children support and help when needed.

Harvest Festival

You are invited to join us in the hall for our annual Harvest Festival celebration on:-

Wednesday 18th October at 9.15am = For Bees and Otters families Friday 20th October at 9.15am = For Year 1 and Hedgehog families



This year we are raising awareness and requesting donations for The Godalming and Villages Community Store. <u>https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/community-store/</u>

The purpose of the Community Store has expanded and is no longer just COVID related. It is supporting any local person in need of food and basics to live. The Store works closely with the Godalming Town Council and Citizens Advice Bureau to identify those in need and is entirely reliant on donations. Those in need come from all walks of life and age groups. Last year, we were able to take a car full of Moss Lanes donated items. Thank you.

If you are able to make a HARVEST contribution this year, please select from the following list: Tinned meat meals (e.g. Fray Bentos pies),

Curry cooking sauces, Toilet roll & Kitchen roll,

Instant noodles (packets not pots please),

Sugar Biscuits & Multi-pack crisps,

UHT Long life semi-skimmed milk, Washing up Liquid,

Tinned custard & Rice pudding,

Tinned tuna & Dried pasta.

Any other non-perishable food stuffs are also welcome.

Pupils can bring their donations into school from Monday 16th October onwards and leave them on the table outside the office. Any donations are greatly appreciated.

School Timings Reminder

Gates open at= 8.40am Year groups called in at =8.45am **All children should be in school by 8.50am** Lunch Times= 12.05pm-1.00pm Pick up= 3.20pm If your child is late please go to the school office and sign them in.

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What's going on in school...

Bees

Bees have had a great week at school, and have begun to write their names when they come into school in the mornings. We are also busy starting our phonics, and have learned some new sounds. We are also really enjoying Challenge and Learn time, where we get to play indoors and outdoors with our friends. The dressing up box is proving very popular, and we love playing outside on the big playground too.

Year 1

Foxes have been working incredibly hard to learn their own version of the story Funny Bones. They have used story maps, post it notes, hand actions and loose parts to retell the story adding their own ideas as they go. Over the next few English lessons, they will be writing their stories using their story maps to remind them of all their super ideas. Brilliant work Foxes!





Year 2

Hedgehogs enjoyed their trip to Woodland School, particularly eating marshmallows around the fire! Otters are looking forward to their trip to Woodland School on the 16th October. Year 2 have also been writing their own version of the story Toby & the Great Fire of London, imagining what it might have been like to be there.

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Parent Governor Surrey County Council Recruitment

Surrey County Council's Children, Families, Lifelong Learning and Culture Select Committee, in accordance with regulation, is seeking a parent governor to join its membership.

The Committee is responsible for scrutinising Council services including education, children's social care, safeguarding, SEND support, adult learning and apprenticeships, arts, libraries and heritage.

The successfully elected applicant will join fifteen County Councillors and two other co-optees, on the Committee for up to four years. The Council will reimburse travel expenses incurred by parent governor representatives.

If you would like any **further information** about the role or the work of the Committee, please contact Julie Armstrong at Surrey County Council (julie.armstrong@surreycc.gov.uk; 07816 091463).

If you would like to **apply**, please do so by sending a brief personal statement outlining your suitability for the role to Julie Armstrong at <u>julie.armstrong@surreycc.gov.uk</u> by Monday, 16 October 2023, after which an election will be held to determine who will be appointed to the position.

Flu Vaccine for toddler

Last year 6,000 under 5s ended up in hospital due to flu. The child flu vaccine reduces a child's chance of needing hospital care by around two thirds. That's why NHS Surrey Heartlands and Surrey County Council are asking childcare professionals to support our campaign to increase take up of the flu vaccines offered, increase confidence in vaccine safety and efficacy, and increase awareness of vaccine eligibility. The QR code displayed on the images takes you to our <u>Protect your child against the flu</u> webpage. If you have any questions please contact the NHS Surrey Heartlands Communications team at: <u>syheartlandsicb.comms@nhs.net</u>

