

Moss Side Primary School

www.mosside.lancs.sch.uk

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Friday 9th October 2020



Dear Moss Side Community,

Another week has passed by in school, where our pupils continue to inspire with their positivity, kindness and warm smiles. It looks likely that next week will see further restrictions on our way of life in the north west but I would urge everybody to keep going and stick together - we know it is tough for a lot of us at the moment but our aim as a school is to continue to support our families whenever we can. In return, we greatly value the support and encouragement that you provide us.

Parents' Evening

As you can imagine, schools are not running face-to-face meetings this term. Instead, staff will call to give you an overview of how your child has settled, any ways that you can help their development and to provide an opportunity to share any concerns. Next week, you will receive a 'Form' via Class Dojo which will allow you to let your child's class teacher know the best time to ring (this will be between 1.15-6.00 one afternoon during the week beginning 19th October).

We will endeavour to ring between this time (most likely from a withheld number) or will arrange an alternative time if this slot is oversubscribed. As usual, we can only offer one call per pupil.

In order to provide a more regular stream of information as school is less 'open' this year, pupil targets will be distributed in late November, so that staff can keep you informed if pupils have developed following the parents' evening call.

Mental Health

At this challenging time, the mental health of all is more important than ever. The NHS has provided some support for parents who would like to find out ways to help their children in this area at <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/childrens-mental-health/>.

Reading

As you know, we are trying to have a major push on reading in order to support our pupils in their return to full time education. **Your support in this area is key.** You can help by:

- Reading with your **child every night** - experience tells us that this is the biggest one thing that impacts on pupil's learning. For older pupils on 'free readers' this might be

encouraging them to read and then discussing their book.

- Sharing stories 'just for fun', especially a good bedtime read. If you have not got lots of books at home to read, there are lots of free versions online, such as at <https://sooperbooks.com/bedtime-stories/>
- Exploring words all around us: identifying words in supermarkets, on signposts, on instructions etc; discussing the meaning of different words; creating mind maps and word clouds for topics or feelings.
- Encouraging your child to write their own story or poem so that they can share it with others at home or relatives via Zoom.

The Big Green Draw

If half term proves wet and you are looking for inspiration, Canal and River Trust are running a 'Big Green Draw' competition, as well as having lots of other resources on their website. Have a look at <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers/learning-from-home/the-big-green-draw>

Flu Vaccination

Flu vaccinations will be administered next week for those pupils who returned a consent form. The nursing team will let each class know who has consented and they will go to the hall for the vaccination.

Photographs

We will not be having school photographs this term but we are hoping to arrange for this to happen as soon as circumstances allow.



Secondary School Open Evenings

Parents of Year 5 and 6 pupils should be aware that most secondary schools have 'virtual' parents' evening information available via Twitter feeds, websites etc. It is worth beginning to explore this if you are in Year 5. Year 6 pupils will need to submit their application for high school by the end of the month.

Policies

The website continues to be the source for important policies. Our attendance and behaviour policies, for example, have been updated due to the current COVID-19 restrictions. The ongoing risk assessment for COVID-19 precautions also continues to be stored in the weekly newsletter section, as well as a handy chart if parents are unsure what to do if they or their child has symptoms.

 Stars of the Week 	
YR	Will Saunders for being a superstar sound detective and spotting the sounds we have covered in Letterland in his story book.
Y1	Bobby Key for always trying his best and answering questions in lessons!
Y1/2	Hanna Burjan for always working hard at everything we do!
Y2	Oliver Parry for some fantastic numeracy work this week.
Y3	Finley Wright for a super attitude in class this week—thank you for trying so hard!
Y4	Rayan Zeynali for an amazing introduction paragraph for his Loch Ness monster magazine article.
Y5	Blake Holland for being positive in class and being one of our fabulous White Witches in Literacy.
Y6	Elicia Hill for a great attitude towards improving her reading skills.
Winning House	Blue

COVID-19 Illness

Should your child develop any of the main three symptoms of COVID-19 (new, continuous cough; high temperature; loss of taste or smell) they will not be able to attend school. Families should follow public health advice and households should self isolate, book a test for members of the house with symptoms and keep school informed of the test date and outcome. **All absence, whether COVID-19 related or not, should be communicated to the front desk via telephone.**

Please reference the flowchart sent out via Dojo if you are unsure what to do.

If any tests come back positive it will require at least one bubble, or in some cases a blob, to isolate and stay away from school: in Mrs Swift and Miss Jones' class, for example, given the nature of our department it is probable both classes would need to isolate should there be a positive tests. It is likely, in this event, that such a closure will need to be arranged quickly and we **will inform parents via Dojo.**

Enjoy the weekend.

Mr Wright