

Moss Side Primary School

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Friday 27th November 2020



Dear Moss Side Community,

We come towards the end of a very strange week for us as a school - with half of our year groups currently isolating at home and half continuing in school this week. My thanks, whatever position your child has been in, to those parents who have followed the instructions and the staff team who have (again) needed to adapt and work as a team.

Bubble Closures

As I confirmed via Dojo this week, all Junior classes will return **Thursday 3rd December**.

Until then, it is really important that self-isolation restrictions for those pupils are followed because we wish to do as much as we can to stop further spread.

Again, I would like to impress upon all families that if any pupil shows any signs of being less than 100%, they should remain at home. Families with a long association with school know that is a significant change to our usual message but we feel it necessary, at least in the short-term.

Home Learning

Well done to those pupils who are regularly accessing Dojo and following the learning that has been provided. It is a challenging task to provide relevant, interesting and accessible material but the class staff have spent a long time researching the best options for our school. This has been somewhat disrupted by staff illness this week and many members of staff have attempted to plug the gap in areas that they would not normally be called upon to do.

We remain aware of the challenges for some families with regards equipment and supporting your child - please use Dojo if you have any problems to see if we can support. Where possible, we will make whatever adaptations we can do so please let us know. For all Juniors, my mantra for the minimum would be the same: set up a routine, read regularly (books, set tasks, Serial Mash, Reading Plus etc) and practise times tables (TT Rockstars, Hit the Button, paper and pencil).

All families should prepare for the possibility of a closure and, if you are not already, familiarise yourself with Class Dojo (which is an excellent source of information about school anyway). There is also no guarantee that the same classes will not be in this position again, as has happened at many schools.

Drop off and Pick up

Aware of beginning to sound like a broken record, please can all families continue to follow the times and routines for the start and end of the day. This is for the safety of our parents and grandparents as much as anything else. A reminder of the times are below. Please remember that, Junior classes in particular, should use a window of 5 minutes either side (and not arrive earlier than that). Where possible, try not to congregate around the main gate so that this can be left free for pupils to walk into school.

Mrs Swift	Miss Jones	Mr Gilvead	Mrs Simpkins	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
9.00	8.55	8.50	8.50	8.55	8.55	8.50	8.50
3.15	3.10	3.05	3.05	3.15	3.15	3.10	3.10

Christmas

The closures over the past two weeks may well cause some adjustments to be made to our initial Christmas plans but we will still try to celebrate as a school.

We will review as a staff early next week and let parents know more detail about our Plan B (which hopefully will not need to become Plan C or D at any point).

Bike Donations

South Ribble Borough Council's Sport and Active Health Team are delighted to announce the creation of an Active Travel Hub based at Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre. Their aim is to provide a central community facility that will promote and encourage cycling, providing individuals with the skills and tools necessary to be able to make more sustainable choices around their local travel and physical activity options.

Jamie's fact of the Week

Will return next week...


Alongside many great ideas, our first action for our Active Travel Hub is to launch our 'UpCycle' service. This service takes in donated bikes which will be refurbished or broken up for spare parts. The newly refurbished and road worthy bikes will then be distributed to:

- Young people in primary schools who have been offered the opportunity to participate in Bikeability training but do not have access to a bike
- Targeted families and adults engaging in the council's various 'Active Travel' programmes who require access to low cost or free cycles.
- Participants in our 'UpCycle!' workshops and courses

For this service to begin we need the help of our residents. This help comes in the form of donating any unwanted bikes to our Active Travel Hub. If you can drop your unwanted bike off at your child's primary school, we will collect it from there. If you can not drop off your unwanted bike, please contact david.boyle@southribble.gov.uk and we may be able to arrange a collection.

Best regards,

Sport and Active Health Team

<i>Stars of the Week</i>	
 Mrs Swift	Dylan Carassale for working so hard and doing so well at learning to read all of his words.
Miss Jones	Kayden Evenson for working so hard in his phonics and writing this week!
Mr Gilyead	Hanna Burjan for being the class Numbershark champion!
Mrs Simpkins	Luca Kirkeby for having his best day in Y2 so far - some great numeracy and fantastic writing yesterday

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.**

Stay safe,

Mr Wright