

# Moss Side Primary School

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Friday 16th April 2021

Dear Moss Side Community,

I hope that everyone has had an enjoyable Easter holiday and found that the easing of restrictions has provided some lighter moments, especially given the pleasant weather that we are currently enjoying. As always, it has been great to have all the children back in school again this week. On Monday, there were lots of big smiles and stories of seeing other people in their gardens or returning to sporting activities. Hopefully this greater balance to life will help all of our pupils after a tough few months.

## Routines for independent work

We are having a school-wide drive to promote really high standards of independent work in class. This can cover a whole variety of areas (a page of maths, a paragraph of story writing, an A3 sketch drawing etc.) but, as always, we want to ensure that pupils present their work as neatly and accurately as they can. This pride in *their work* encourages them to really focus on the small details and to think carefully about all learning that they take part in, in order to draw the best out of them.

It has been noticeable, understandably, that setting out work and producing age-appropriate handwriting (i.e. Joined in Juniors) has been harder for pupils following the changes to the way that they have learnt over the last twelve months. Some pupils are also developing their skills to work at a quicker pace now that we have returned to the tighter times for lessons that a school day naturally dictates. They are the usual hurdles that pupils need to get over every September but have obviously been exacerbated by the amount of time spent without 'normal school' during the past year.

I set all classes a challenge of showing me three excellent examples of presentation and was delighted with the results. We will do exactly the same next week and I hope that even more pupils can rise to the challenge.

## Homework

Regular homework patterns should now be returning in most classes. As you know, we decided that pupils and families needed time to readjust before Easter but we are now seeking to return to as much normality as possible with regards to learning. Homework has always been a crucial part of pupil's learning, giving them the time to consolidate important skills. Given the last twelve months, it is even more important as an opportunity for pupils to keep practising skills that they have been taught during the day. Remember that, alongside any set

homework (such as a piece of maths in Juniors), **every pupils should aim to read five times a week**. It cannot be over-emphasised the difference that this makes to our pupils.

## Field Drainage

Apologies if Junior pupils have returned home with sand in their shoes this week - the field slightly resembles St Anne's beach! We have had drainage maintenance work on the grass and, hopefully, we will be able to use the field on a regular basis while the good weather holds.

## Labelled Clothes

Please make sure that all clothes are labelled properly with full names. We have had a lot of jumpers in lost property this year with no names in, making it very difficult to return them to their owner.

The new uniform supplier, Impressions, is open for business. Uniform can be viewed and ordered via <http://bit.ly/mosside>



## Staff Absence

We have been struck down by two injuries over the holidays which have meant that Mr Gilyead and

## Jamie's Fact of the Week

**The Tai-Pan snake can kill a hundred people with just one drop of its venom!**

Mrs Leadbetter are currently recuperating at home. Hopefully this will not be for long and we have our fingers crossed that they will recover quickly from their broken bones.

Stars of the Week	
 Mrs Swift	 George Kingsbury for some excellent work on addition
Miss Jones	Emily Earlam for a really enthusiastic start to the summer term!
Mr Gilyead	Rory Torbett for fantastic work in our music and dance sessions.
Mrs Simpkins	Mia Doyle for always having beautifully presented work .
Mrs McKenna/ Mrs Glynn	Harriet Lamb for acting out our playscripts with lots of expression.
Mr Kellett	Olivia Bancroft for some amazing multiplication this week using the written method.
Miss Thomas	Noah Walsh for always taking pride in his work, doing his best presentation and working hard.
Mrs Torbett	Courtney Baron for doing extra research about our topic and sharing this with the class.
Winning House	Green

### 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 and should arrange for a full COVID test. *It is also advisable for pupils to not attend school should they be in any other way 'under the weather'.* 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.**

Happy Friday!

Mr Wright