

Moss Side Primary School

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Friday 28th May 2021

Dear Moss Side Community,

We made it! It has been wonderful to complete the half term in school and I hope that all of our pupils (and their parents) feel the same sense of satisfaction that we do as a staff.

Staff Changes

At the end of this term, we will say goodbye to Mrs Heaton who is retiring after a magnificent teaching career, the majority of which has been spent developing the lives of children here at Moss Side. As a school, we will miss her dearly and I know that many of our families will feel the same (with lots of current parents having been taught by Mrs Heaton in their own time here). Luckily, we still have a few more months for her to carry on making an impact on school life.

This does, however, mean that our longstanding deputy headteacher will not be with us next year. I am delighted that Mr Gilyead and Mrs Torbett will become assistant headteachers from September to strengthen the senior leadership team for the new academic year. I know that this will be a great benefit to school

In slightly shorter-term developments, today we say goodbye to Mrs Tetlow. She has been working in our Y1/2 class this year and has coped with undoubtedly the strangest school year that any of us have ever experienced.

Progress Meetings

Thank you to all those parents/guardians who attended the progress meetings this week. We know that we needed to 'think outside the box again' and we really appreciate your support and flexibility, attending on different days and at a range of times. The feedback we received was that being able to find a way to reinstate face-to-face meetings has been a popular decision; it was pleasing to know that both staff and parents really value that relationship between one another and we have certainly missed being able to develop that further this year.

We hope that it has been useful to check-in with your child's progress, gather ideas that you can use to support them and also discuss any concerns that you may have.

Cricket Sessions

We had some excellent cricket sessions from Lancashire Cricket Club coach Lauren this week, despite the rather changeable weather. Unfortunately we did need to cancel our Year 3 sessions due to the Noah's Ark like downpour but, if Lauren can find some time, she will hopefully come back to school to let Year 3 have a go.

Feel Good Fridays

This year has obviously been challenging but our children have coped remarkably well, showing great resilience. To acknowledge their effort (and to keep us going for the last leg of this year) we have arranged a series of activities to mark Feel Good Fridays. There are a range of external visitors to school who will come in to add some extra sparkle to the remainder of the school year. Pupils will (while Government guidance remains at 'step 3') stay within their bubbles to undertake these but, hopefully, might be able to gather as a whole school if step 4 takes place as planned.

The current planned dates are as follows:

Friday 11th June - Inflatable World *Juniors will swap between an inflatable obstacle course, bouncy castle and laser tag. Infants will swap between three different bouncy castles. Pupils can wear PE kit on this day if they prefer.*

Friday 18th June - Circus Day

Friday 25th June - Borwick and birthday parties

Friday 2nd July - Samba and Cricket

Friday 9th July - Dance and Cricket

There will be further details for each event as we get nearer to the date.

*Should you not wish for your child to take part in any activities, please inform their class teacher.

Jamie's Fact of the Week

A scorpion can hold its breath for up to 6 days and can survive a whole year without food!

Half Term

School closes at 3.15pm today and pupils return
Thursday 10th June.

Test and Trace

The Government has again informed us that if there are any positive cases from symptoms which start today, Saturday or Sunday, school will still need to be informed so that bubbles can isolate. We obviously hope that this does not happen but, should this be the case, please let us know.

Any test results returned **by Sunday** should be communicated to **Mr Wright via Dojo**. Any results not arriving until Monday-Wednesday should be shared with **Mrs Heaton via Dojo**. Any symptoms which do not start until Sunday evening or later, that lead to a positive case, do not need to be communicated through school as this is outside the contact window. These will be dealt with via NHS test and trace.

| Stars of the Week | |
|-------------------|---|
| R | Roman Delaney for super sitting, listening and trying his best. |
| Y1 | Isla Stringer for trying really hard this week! |
| Y1/2 | Bethany Belfield for great clog dancing. |
| Y2 | Roman Wiggans-Clarke for managing to write a poem, copy it out and illustrate it - all in one lesson, because he had been ill the day before. |
| Y3 | Rosie Kendall for always working like a trooper! |
| Y4 | Alfie Doyle for showing us some great cricket skills on Tuesday. |
| Y5 | Masiey Bibby for brilliant behaviour and amazing effort during our swimming sessions. |
| Y6 | Arran Neale for super contributions in our class reading sessions. Emily Merrill for scoring a PB on her arithmetic paper. |
| W House | Yellow |
| Silver Leaf | Amelia Leyland - respect for others by helping a friend into school at the start of the day. Ellie-Mae Hillman - respect for others by caring for a classmate. |

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