

Moss Side Primary School

www.mosside.lancs.sch.uk

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Friday 25th November 2022



Dear Moss Side Community,

Christmas is sneaking up on us and forms the main focus of this week's newsletter!

Secrets' Room

Due to the popular demand of our older pupils, we are reopening our Secrets' Room again this year. This has been a long standing school tradition but, for new parents in particular, the idea behind it is to encourage the children to think of Christmas not just as a time of receiving presents, but also as a time of giving to others they are close to.

Mrs Burdin has been busy preparing this, which will be an opportunity for pupils to buy gifts for their families and hide them away before Christmas. The children will visit the Secrets' Room on Friday 2nd December to see the items that are on sale. They will then return on Monday 5th or Tuesday 6th to purchase any items that they wish to buy. We will send out further details on next week's letter.

Christmas Tickets

Ticket requests (in Ant & Dec voices please) are 'now open'. Each performance is two tickets **per family**. Families could therefore have two evening and two afternoon tickets for the same performance but not four for the same time. Parents are reminded that these are only for productions in which your child is performing ie. No Y3/4 tickets if your child is in Y5/6 and please be considerate and only attend once, in order to allow us to distribute any spare tickets to more grandparents etc at a later date.

All pupils are expected to attend evening performances, even if no parent is watching, as this allows the quality to be maintained and is fair for those audience members who can only attend after work. Wherever possible, please do not bring other Moss Side siblings to attend evening performances as they will have already watched the dress rehearsals in school. Pre-school pupils attending during the day do not need a ticket, as long as they sit on a parent/carers knee (and therefore do not take up an extra seat).

Our aim, as always, is to give the opportunity for as many people as is reasonably possible the chance to watch the children perform. As usual, there is no charge for tickets as we believe that watching the pupils perform should be open to all.

Here is the link to the ticket request form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/kbfWG42SvA>

Decorations Day

Next Friday, another Moss Side tradition returns as we decorate school in preparation for Christmas. Pupils will watch a film in the hall while staff dress school.

Front Gate

This week, I reminded Junior pupils that school starts at 8:50 and the gate opens at 8:45. Some pupils have been stood at the front of school as early as 8:30 in the morning and, although we are pleased they are eager, this is not particularly safe. It also means that the path becomes clogged so - if pupils are waiting - they have been reminded to stand in single file as they do so.

The reason for the gate rule is that there are not staff available to supervise pupils earlier in the morning, which we are required to do once they are on their own on the school premises.



Christmas Presents

Staff may not like this (I jest, they are in complete agreement) but could I repeat my regular plea that, while a lovely thought, Christmas presents for *staff* are not necessary. In fact, this year of all years, I would go as far as to say I would strongly urge families not to go and buy anything. In the current climate, we would much prefer that money be spent on what your family needs, whether that be buying the right sized turkey, an extra gift under the tree or not worrying about having the heating on for an extra hour, which we know is something on everyone's minds at the moment. Even if you feel that you have the financial security to do so, this could possibly be a chance to donate that elsewhere, whether that be a cause of your own or towards the remaining *optional* donations/events at school this term (we will have details next week).

As always, if families feel that they wish to express any kind Christmas sentiment, a kind word in a card or a positive conversation at the door make all the difference - these are free (or nearly free) ways to get the same outcome and I cannot express the difference that they make to a highly committed but very tired staff team at this time of year.

Mental Health Month

Speak Out, Stay Safe

This week we ran the NSPCC Speak Out. Stay Safe. assemblies. These encouraged pupils to know their rights to be safe and listened to as children, as well as the ways that they can go about doing that. As always, it created positive discussion but was an effective way to get across a very serious message.

Pantosaurus

Next week, Juniors will be reminded of the Pantosaurus message. If you would like to discuss this with your children, watch the clip <https://youtu.be/-lL07JOGU5o> or google for the NSPCC campaign.

Cost of Living Support

South Ribble Brough Council is hosting a Cost of Living Marketplace on Monday 28 November; an event where people can call in and get advice and support around the challenges facing households.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1105866046791905/>

WLD Swimming

Walton-Le-Dale Primary School has swimming lessons available for all ages. If you are interested, visit www.wldswimschool.com.

Parking

Please can I communicate our regular request for parents to park respectfully and safely. Please be considerate of local neighbours by not blocking driveways or access routes. No cars should park on the yellow zig-zag lines (or opposite these) or the pavements, in order to provide a safe crossing for all of our families. Please also avoid parking cars actually on the grass verges, as they are being badly damaged.

Happy Friday,

Mr Wright

Stars of the Week	
Rec	Cyrus for always listening and being ready to learn.
Rec/ Y1	Levi for his brilliant work on his handwriting – he did a super page of Talking Tess!
Y1/2	Mikey for great interest and enthusiasm in our history work this week!
Y2	Lucie for always putting her hand up to share her ideas and contributing to all the work we do.
Y3	Grace-Louise for coming into school each morning, settling down quickly and using the language of the day!
Y4	Coby for listening carefully and always having a hand up to answer questions or share his ideas.
Y5	Amber for being able to explain her methods clearly in Maths. This week multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000.
Y6	Lily-Mae for showing care and compassion to a classmate.
W House	Yellow
Silver Leaf	Alyssa Y3 - Respect for Others - for helping a classmate put her wellies on when it was the welly walk. Emily Y6 - Respect for Others - a belated one! For offering to help Mrs Price carry some heavy boxes and then completing the task on her own without being asked. Joshua Y4 - Respect for Others - for being a really good friend.

Key events next week

Monday Y4 Parents' Eve,

Tuesday Choir, Sports Hall Athletics Final

Wednesday Fencing, Junior Assembly with Deacon Ellen, Y4 Parents' Eve

Thursday Junior Leaders Training, Swimming Y5, Dance

Friday Decorations Day

School Dinner Week: #1