

Moss Side Primary School

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Friday 20th January 2023

Dear Moss Side Community,

A very busy week followed up with a very busy newsletter!

Parental Questionnaire

A big thank you to all those who completed the survey. We had responses for 152 pupils, which equates to 59%. The results will now be analysed and used to support school development.

Book Week

This year's Book Week will be February 6 -10th 2023. There will be further details but a few key dates are:

- Scholastic Book Fair will visit Monday and Tuesday. Children will visit during the school day and can take parents into the hall after school to buy books. Books range from £2.99 - £7.99 (ish), with pupils allowed a maximum of £10 should they wish.
- Book Café is an opportunity for one parent/grandparent to come into school, grab a brew (as well as a biscuit) and read with their child from a selection of school books. Do not worry if you cannot attend as our Year 6 pupils will step in and read with younger pupils at this point.

Tues 7th:	Thurs 9th:
9-9.45 Y1/2	9-9.45 Rec/Y1
10 -10.45 Y2	10-10.45 Y4
11-11.45 Y6	11-11.45 Y5
1.45-2.30 Y3	
2.30-3.15 Rec	

- Bedtime Story Day will be Friday 10th. Pupils should wear a onesie or PJs for the day and bring a teddy and favourite bed time story.

Communication and Open Door Policy

Recently, we have spent some time reflecting upon this aspect of our core values.

We know that, sometimes, online messaging tools can solve 'quick' queries but, in order to provide a clear communication pathway for all to support our 'open-door' aims and following a significant rise in traffic, Dojo messaging **inboxes will not be monitored** by staff and communication should not be sent in this way. Instead, as has long been the case, parents should communicate with staff by:

- Talking face-to-face (class teachers are usually easier to reach at the end of the day, but a member of management and/or Front Desk staff is always available in the morning).
- Ring school to speak to your child's class teacher and/or make an appointment.
- Write a message in your child's Reading Record Book and the class teacher can get back to you in the most suitable way.

You will be aware, whether that be due to your experience of our long-standing methods or from induction meetings with myself or other members of staff, that face-to-face conversations are the first step when there are any issues or challenges. We fundamentally believe - and have decades of evidence to back this up - that this type of communication provides the best possible environment for our young people to develop. This was certainly challenged during COVID and we have spent much of the last eighteen months trying to reset our 'open-door' approach.

We pride ourselves on running an open-door policy (and we know that it was widely seen as a school strength in the recent survey). However, recently, there has been a growth again in Dojo messages, which can be problematic for several reasons and, most importantly, undermines our attempts to build human, face-to-face relationships as some families use this and nothing else.

In order to maintain this crucial triangle of strong relationships between pupils - home - school, it is vital that face-to-face discussions are held whenever possible.

Where this causes a challenge, decades of experience tell us that phone calls are the next best thing, rather than internet messaging. We know that messaging can be seen as the most fashionable way to communicate but we truly believe that it undermines a crucial part of primary school life when not used effectively. We also know that some working parents might consider it to be 'easier' to message (we understand because so many of the staff are in the same position) but we know that our fantastic parents are willing to make that extra step to support their children because you do so often.

Please note that Dojo Class and School Stories will remain an invaluable tool for sending reminders and links to parents. As always, portfolios will remain open to upload any 'show and tell' images from home.

Dog Fouling

Disappointingly, dog excrement was left on the Infant playground at pick-up time on Wednesday. Please ensure (wherever you are) that this is disposed of properly. A big thank you to the onlooker who took charge of cleaning the mess.

Multi-Skills

Our Year 2 team were excellent ambassadors for school on Tuesday and performed well in the festival at Worden High School.

Clubs



Mrs Freeman has posted information about this term's clubs on Class Dojo. A big thank you to those staff who volunteer their time to run these.

Young Voices

Further information will be sent out at the end of choir practice next week for the main performance at Manchester Arena on Monday 30th January.

Potential teacher strike action

I am sure you will be aware from the news that there could be strike action by some teachers (following a national ballot of members). The intended dates for those strike days, if they go ahead, would be Wednesday 1st February, Tuesday 28th February, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March. We are awaiting further

 Stars of the Week 	
Rec	Maya for super phonics and letter formation.
Rec/ Y1	Georgia for brilliant sentences and ideas for her own Superworm adventure this week!
Y1/2	Tina for always working extremely hard at everything we do.
Y2	Ellen for beautiful handwriting every time she writes anything.
Y3	Rory, who could be a Star of the Week every week, but this week even more so. He has been an extra teacher, answered lots of questions and generally been a pleasure to teach. You are a Superstar!
Y4	Ellis for always giving his best and quietly 'getting on' - a great role model to others!
Y5	Conor for always working hard in Maths lessons and making consistently good progress.
Y6	Alesha- the 'always' girl- who <u>always</u> tries her best, <u>always</u> works hard and is <u>always</u> a superb role model in school.
W House	Blue
Silver Leaf	Ivy-Mae and Aria - Respect for Others - for helping zip up their classmates coats.

Key events next week

Monday Netball Y5+6, Guitar Y4,5+6, Recorder Y3+4,
SATs Meeting (6.30pm)

Tuesday Choir

Wednesday Tots on Tyres EYFS, Football Y5+6, Art
Y3+4, Tennis Y3+4, Dr Bike

Thursday Fit 4 Life Y5+6(am), Swimming Y5,
Coding Y3+4

Friday Road Safety Y5

School Dinner Week: #2

advice from the Local Authority at the start of next week and from the unions.

Our intention is to remain open to the children, but the situation will need to be assessed and may require the closure of some classes or the school on health and safety grounds. This is unlikely but not an impossibility.

We will let you know more details and what contingency plans we are putting in place as soon as possible.

Dr Bike

Dr Bike is a free service offered by South Ribble Borough Council where a qualified Cytech mechanic will carry out bike maintenance. Pupils from all classes are invited to bring in their bikes on Wednesday, storing them on the Junior playground ahead of the service.

Parents' Evenings

A reminder for parents that this term's parents' evenings are Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th February.

SATs Meeting

All Year 6 parents are reminded that there is a meeting on 23rd January at 6.30pm. At least one representative from every family is heavily encouraged to attend.

Happy Friday,

Mr Wright