



Dear Moss Side Community,

You may have heard the children talking about a flock of ducks escaping in school this week. Don't worry - these were only the yellow rubber duck variety! It has been another busy week in school, especially for our Year 6 as they prepare for SATs in mid-May. At the other end of the school journey, our Reception class performed one of the best first class assemblies Moss Side has ever seen. We are so proud of them!

School Day—From September 2024

A reminder from last week...

In order to comply with current DfE rules, by September 2024 our school day must be 6 1/2 hours in total. The proposal for the school start and finish times is:

Juniors, Y2 and Y1/2 classes: 8:45-3:15 (Junior gate to open at 8:40 for pupils to line up)

R/Y1 and Rec classes: 8:50-3:20

If any parents have feedback on these proposals, they may comment via <https://forms.office.com/e/YS3buDCJ9X>

This consultation will close by Friday 10th May and we will confirm the final arrangements by half term.

Birthday Presents

We have a lovely community, who often want to celebrate special occasions with their friends. We, of course, encourage such a collective spirit but continue to discourage pupils bringing in items for their class on their birthday. This is because we do not want families to feel 'under pressure' or pupils to feel that there is an expectation to do so.

Unfortunately, any items will need to be returned if sent into school. We appreciate your understanding with this.

Police Pals

Year 6 are heading towards the completion of their Police Pals session. There will be a celebration of their achievements during their final session on Wednesday 22nd May, to which parents/grandparents etc are invited. We will confirm the timings nearer to the date but would anticipate approximately 2:30 for the event.

Holidays in Term Time

The time seems appropriate for my annual message about term time holidays. We know that this continues to be a national news item and a point of great controversy for parents, especially given the costs of holiday in term times (I know all too well how much they cost and the stretch on family budgets they cause).

However, we have a legal duty to ensure that children attend school. More importantly, as parents and school staff, we have a moral obligation as well to make sure that all pupils spend the most time in school that they can as this is their one opportunity to achieve at primary school.

As a school, we are audited carefully over our attendance rates and are expected to do everything we can to keep this at an acceptable level—the school target **remains 97% for all pupils**. Some schools instigate fining as an instant response to holidays but we have always attempted to find alternative routes to improve attendance wherever we can. However, sometimes fines are the final resort when an absence (or series of absences) are not compatible with the education of our pupils. These are always carefully considered but we would, please, ask that all parents consider carefully before any absence from school is taken and talk to us about any absences, especially holiday requests which should be made **months in advance and before holidays** are booked. As with all school life, I am happy to have a chat about this at any point.

A reminder as well that school policy has always been that no Year 6 pupil should have any absence (apart from illness) in the weeks leading up to SATs (April and May) as this is hugely disruptive.

Parent Governor Reminder

Further to our post on Class Dojo, a reminder that the nomination forms must be returned to Mr Wright by 12 noon on Tuesday 7th May.

Y2 Class Assembly



This has now moved from Friday 21st June to Thursday 20th June. The time remains 9:10 for all class assemblies.

Thank you to all those families who have supported these so far this year. They are an important part of school life and a way to celebrate the brilliant work of our pupils.

Sport this Week

On Tuesday, Year 5 represented school in the Leyland Crown Green Bowls competition, finishing second. On Thursday, after 3 weeks of competition, our girls' football team finished second after remaining unbeaten throughout every week of competition.

Both teams represented school with the Moss Side Way in mind and were great ambassadors for school. We are extremely proud of all the participants, but especially those Year 6 girls who have been part of our football team for two years. They have committed to training in all weathers, whether that be mixed or girls practice, and have now reaped the reward. A big thank you to Mrs Roscow and Mrs Freeman who play an important part in modelling the value of sport to our pupils.

 Stars of the Week 	
Rec	Ryka for super listening and dancing in our assembly.
Rec/ Y1	Reggie GW for some amazing work about dinosaurs – lovely colouring and writing!
Y1/2	Sienna for great teamwork in her phonics group.
Y2	Nina for having a brilliant first week at Moss Side and working incredibly hard in everything.
Y3	Tommy for some great capacity work in Maths this week.
Y4	Kai for a huge improvement in his joined handwriting.
Y5	Ethan R for a HUGE improvement in participation and confidence in lessons!
Y6	Leah-Mae for representing school so well at our recent football tournament.
W House	BLUE
Silver Leaf	Nina Y2 - Respect for Others - for being a good friend to a class member and she's only just joined the school!

Key events next week

Monday BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED

Tuesday

Wednesday Cricket Club Y5/6, Police Pals

Thursday Swimming Y4, Cheerleading Y1 (SR),
Rounders Club Y3/4

Friday Brass, Multi Games Y3/4 (SR)

Dinner Week #1

Happy Friday,

Mr Wright