

October 2021

Mossend PS and NC

"Where Stars Shine Brighter"

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Dear Parents and Carers,

The children are well and truly back to the routine of school and it has been great to see each class progress with their learning. Little touches of normality have returned to school life, such as being able to welcome small numbers of visitors to the school building e.g. Active Schools staff and colleagues from other establishments. This month will also see the return of after school clubs. As encouraging as this is many other mitigations still remain in place which we must continue to follow:

- Parents should continue to make an appointment at the school office, please do not come into the school building unannounced.
- Masks must also continue to be worn around the school grounds. School staff always retain a stock of masks in the event that you have misplaced your own. However, many adults continue to enter the playground without wearing a mask. We understand if you have an exemption, however as adults, it is **your own** responsibility to follow the guidelines. Please act responsibly.

We will keep you informed if there are any updates to the guidance in which we must follow.

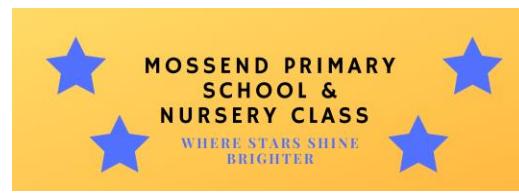
A huge well done to everyone who has been participating in Beat The Street. We have got off to an absolutely amazing start at Mossend and we hope this continues as the competition progresses throughout the month of October. Keep up the great work – you have been absolutely awesome! We are so proud of you all!

If you have any queries about any aspect of the work of the school, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Tracey McCulloch
Head Teacher (Acting)





Birthdays



A big 'happy birthday' to the following children who celebrate their birthday this month, Luci, Mia, Summer, Calvin, Hollie, Zara, Kelton, Carter, Ruby, Leon, Zuhaiib, Mia, Lily, Carly, Ava, Christopher, Samantha and Taylor.

Your Mossend friends hope you all had a very special day and if your special day is still to come...have a great one!

Homework – 4th October 2021

We hope that you have enjoyed virtually meeting your child's teacher, and in hearing about what the learning focus will be in each class following our recent presentation and learning letters.

Homework is a great way to support your child's learning at home. This session will take the form of monthly grids issued by the class teacher with a selection of activities which can be completed throughout the month.

Please note that no grids will be issued in the months of December, January, April, or June. This will allow children to enjoy special times of year and to adjust to routines after a holiday.

We understand that family life can be very busy and homework can place undue stress and pressure. If you find yourself in this position please remember that homework is not compulsory.

School Photographer – 6th October 2021

John Wilson photography will be in school to on Wednesday 6th October to take class and individual photographs. Sibling photographs will also be taken. All children should come to school on this date wearing **full school uniform**. Please ensure your child is as smart as possible on this day. If this falls on your child's day for PE then please ensure that PE kit is sent in school bags to get changed into after the photographs have been taken. Thank you!

Dress Down Day/Halloween Dress Up Day – 29th October 2021

Our next dress down day for school funds is scheduled to take place on Friday 29th October. Unfortunately, once again, guidance does not permit our Parent Council to hold their much enjoyed Halloween



Dates for your Diary

Monday 4th October

New homework grids will be issued

Tuesday 5th October

Parent Council Meeting, 6.30pm via Webex

Wednesday 6th October

School Photographer – say cheese!

Thursday 7th October

Flu Immunisations

Monday 11th October – Friday 15th October inclusive

School October Week – children should not attend

Tuesday 19th October

P7 Netball ASC

Thursday 21st October

P6 Netball ASC

Monday 25th October

P7 Football ASC

Tuesday 26th October

P7 Netball ASC

Thursday 28th October

P6 Netball ASC

Friday 29th October

Dress Down Day/Halloween Dress Up Day



Disco for the children. In light of this, we would like to invite any child who wishes to come to school dressed up in their Halloween costume to do so on this day. If any child is more comfortable in their dress down clothes then that is okay too. All we ask is that no masks are worn, and no costumes which are scary or gory.

To support families with providing children with costumes we would once again like to invite you to drop any unwanted Halloween costumes into our school office, which are clean and in a good condition. We thank you in advance for this.

Management Team Contacts – Pastoral Care Remits

A reminder that should you have any questions or queries regarding your child then please see below for a note of the relevant staff member that you should contact in the first instance. Please refrain from approaching class teachers in the school playground if possible.

Nursery – P1 Mrs Johnston/Mrs McCulloch

P2 Miss Callander/Mrs McCulloch

P3 – P4 Mrs Cole/Mrs McCulloch

P5 Mr Reid/Mrs McCulloch

P6 – P7 Mrs Brownlie/Mrs McCulloch

Health and Wellbeing Focus

The wellbeing needs of every individual child is of paramount importance to us as a school community as we aim to meet the national approach in Scotland of Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC). The Scottish Government has described wellbeing in terms of eight indicators, which are, Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included. These are sometimes abbreviated to the acronym known as SHANARRI.

Over the next month, as a school, we will be focusing on the 'Healthy' indicator. Through our weekly assemblies we will be exploring the importance and techniques to promote a healthy mindset.

Play Based Learning Request

As we are continuing to develop play-based learning in the infants, we are currently looking for donations of the following items:

- Cardboard tubes
- Bottle caps
- Old costume jewellery or silk scarves
- Empty thread reels or ribbon spools/reels
- Old curtain rings



- Old nuts and bolts
- Unwanted Small World Play Toys e.g. cars, animals, people
- Conkers

These can be handed into the School Office, or put into a bag and sent in with your child.

After School Clubs

We are delighted to be permitted to recommence after school clubs this term. Initially these will be offered to Primary 6 and 7 children after the October break. Miss McDonald will be leading a P7 football club on a Monday (excluding Monday 18th October), Mrs Brownlie will lead a P7 Netball club on a Tuesday and Mrs Turner will lead a P6 Netball Club on a Thursday. Further information will follow shortly. Clubs for younger children will be offered later in the school year.

Primary 6 and 7 children will also be offering lunchtime clubs to younger children on the completion of their Junior Sports Leader course.

Staff running these clubs do so in their own time. We are so grateful to all staff who have volunteered to lead clubs this session, and so proud to be part of such a great team. A huge thank you to each of them.

Parent/Carer Drop in – Each Friday

Our Parent/Carer Drop in sessions have been a great success and we plan on continuing to offer this to all of our parents and carers. At Mossend Primary School and Nursery Class we truly value working in partnership with you and would encourage you to pop along if there's anything at all you would like to chat about, or anything you need support with. Appointments must continue to be made in advance until further notice.

After School Care Collection Point

Children attending after school care will congregate at the end of the school day at the picnic benches beside the Nursery garden. We would be obliged if parents/carers would refrain from sitting at these benches to allow the after school staff safe supervision and monitoring of the pupils in their care. We thank you for your understanding with this.

Adverse Weather

As the weather becomes a little cooler, and a lot wetter, we would be obliged if, where possible, children are dropped off in the school playground as close to their entrance time as possible.

Currently guidance does not permit us to gather large groups of children in the gym hall therefore supervision can be challenging for the management team on adverse mornings. Bringing your child to school just before their start time is really helpful on these days.



Mossend App

Did you know we have a dedicated Mossend App? This is the easiest and best way to stay up to date with what is happening in the school and your child's class. We are able to send you important notifications via the app and you can view our Twitter feed on it, even if you don't have a Twitter account yourself. You can download this free of charge to your mobile or tablet from the Apple or Android stores.

Remember, at the beginning of each year you need to select the 'categories' you want to see as your child will have changed class. Press the menu option and select the classes you want to be kept up to date on.

Please let us know if we can help you download or set this up.

P/S – Our Twitter is @MossendPS and we also have a full website that you can find via Google!

Physical Education Changing Consultation



Our Physical Education Consultation is now closed. Further communication on this will be sent out to you shortly.

Water

A number of children are regularly requesting plastic cups of water. This results in some time out of class for them, and in the school going through lots of cups. Please ensure your child comes to school each day with their own, filled reusable water bottle. This will help to minimize the disruption that this can cause, and is better for the environment.

Morrisons It's Good To Grow Scheme

We are participating in Morrisons It's Good To Grow Scheme. For every £10 spent in store you will be offered one token for our school. We can then redeem these tokens against a whole range of gardening and growing equipment... perfect for our Secret Garden!

Easy Fundraising

We are continuing to look for ways to raise funds for the school. You can help us by registering at **Easy Fundraising!** You simply go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk, register for a free account, and search for Mossend Primary School as your chosen cause to support. Then every time you do any shopping online, go to the Easy Fundraising website first, select the retailer you wish to shop with – then when you spend the school will receive a donation. It's that simple, and costs you nothing. Big retailers include Amazon and Argos, and major food retailers, such as Asda and Tesco. Please consider creating an account and supporting us today!

Parent Council Area

Following our recent Parent Council Annual General Meeting a new chair has been appointed. Congratulations to Claire Welsh who takes on the role following the stepping down of our chair of many years, Andrea Gardner. School staff are really looking forward to working with Claire, and with the newly appointed members over the coming session. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th October at 6.30pm. All parents are welcome to join meetings as part of the parent forum. If you would like to join then please send an e-mail to enquiries-at-mossend@northlan.gov.uk. We will arrange to have a link sent to you for the next meeting which will be held online.

Dress Down Days

Thank you for your September Dress Down Day donations. We have raised £180 which will now go towards purchasing materials for our playground. We are so grateful for your support.



Dates for your Diary

November 2021

Monday 15th

In-service Day (Pupils should not attend)

December 2021

Wednesday 22nd

School closes at 2pm for Christmas Break

January 2022

Monday 10th

Pupils return

