
March 2023

Mossend PS and NC

“Where Stars Shine Brighter”

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much for your understanding and patience whilst we have been facing staffing difficulties across our busy wee school.

This month we have been continuing to remind our children about the importance of wearing the correct school uniform and in keeping own clothes for designated dress down days. We have been so proud of how smart our children have looked this session and would appreciate your support in continuing with this. If your child has had a growth spurt recently and you need to purchase some new uniform pieces then please ensure that this is in accordance with our school uniform policy.

We hope you find this newsletter useful and informative, but if you have any queries or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch. In the meantime, keep an eye out for our tweets and emails for the latest updates.

Yours sincerely,

Tracey McCulloch

Head Teacher





Birthdays



A big 'happy birthday' to the following children who celebrate their birthday in March...Hassan, Shane, Lucas, Noah, Billy, Jamie, Ellie, Cameron, Skye, Rhea, Zakir, Brooke, Coyst, Kayla, AJ, Ava-Rose, Chloe, Marley, Shay, Sophie, William, Leigha, Ava, Georgia, Stewart, Mark, Finlay, Logan, Freya, Kai, Freya R, Brodie, Lewis, Aleaha, Xander, and Conor. Your Mossend friends hope you all have a very special day!

Dress Down Day Donations

Thank you for this month's dress down day donations of £113. We are continuing to purchase resources for our playground so your donations will help with this – thank you!

World Book Day – Friday 3rd March

To celebrate World Book Day on Friday 3rd March, we are inviting children to bring their favourite book / bedtime story to school and if they like, to come dressed in their PJs / comfy reading clothes.

During the week, children will have the opportunity to take part in a range of engaging reading related activities to foster reading for pleasure. Each class will also take part in a 10 minute teacher swap where another teacher will read them a story.

Children have also been issued with World Book Day tokens, we hope the children have the opportunity to redeem these.

Homework – Monday 6th March

New grids will be issued on Monday 6th March to all classes.

Parent Consultations – Thursday 9th March

We look forward to welcoming you to our second parent consultation evening on Thursday 9th March. The focus of this meeting is to discuss your child's academic progress and to set targets for the months ahead. Please note that each appointment is 5 minutes. If you require additional time then we will arrange this for you outwith the designated consultation time to ensure that everyone receives their appointment at the correct time. We thank you for your understanding with this.



Dates for your Diary

Friday 3rd March

World Book Day

Monday 6th March

New homework grids will be issued

Tuesday 7th March

Parent Bookings closes at 9am

Author Visit?

Wednesday 8th March

Forest Schools Week 2

Thursday 9th March

Parent Consultation Meetings 2, appointments begin at 3.15pm

Tuesday 14th March

Young Carers Project Input to P4, P5/4, P5 and P6/5

Wednesday 15th March

Young Carers Project Input to P6, P7/6 and P7

Forest Schools Week 3

Tuesday 21st March

P3 Trip

Wednesday 22nd March

Forest Schools Week 4

OPAL Meeting?

Wednesday 29th March

Easter Bonnet Parade

Forest Schools Week 5

Friday 31st March

Whole school closes 2.30pm for Spring Break

Dress Down Day



Young Carers Project

Many of our young people can find themselves in a position where they become carers by looking after someone who is unwell or disabled, including children caring for parents who have mental health or substance misuse problems. The Young Carers Project believes that it is the right of every young carer to have the same opportunities and life chances as other young people of a similar age. A member of the Young Carers Team will be in school on 14th and 15th March to raise awareness of this with our children from P4 – P7.

OPAL Playground Project Update

Thank you so much for the donations we have already received for the playground. The children have been enjoying playing with the toys and it's lovely to see so many of them engaged in imaginative and creative play. We are looking for more donations to enhance our loose parts play, we are looking for the following:

- Milk/bread crates
- Cable reels
- Plastic piping

We also still have lots of pallets waiting to be turned into marvelous creations so if you can help, please let us know.

Easter Bonnet Parade – Wednesday 29th March

This year we are thrilled to be holding our very first Team Mossend Easter Bonnet competition. All children (and adults!) are invited to participate and show off their creations in a special bonnet parade. Prizes will be awarded to every class by our Parent Council.

Children participating should bring their bonnets to school on Monday 27th March – we can't wait to see their creations!

Mossend's Got Talent – Friday 31st March

We are very excited for our upcoming 'Mossend's Got Talent' show! Auditions will be held the week beginning 13th March, overseen by our house captains and vice-captains. Children can come to the

After School Clubs

Monday 6th March

P6/7 Girls Football

Wednesday 8th March

P5-7 Dance

Monday 13th March

P5 Football (Letters to follow)

Wednesday 15th March

P5-7 Dance

Monday 20th March

P5 Football

Wednesday 22nd March

P5-7 Dance

Monday 27th March

P5 Football (Final Session)

Wednesday 29th March

Dance Competition



gym hall on their allocated day for their audition. They should bring anything they require for their act with them to their audition. These will take place on the following days:

Monday 13th March: P7 and P6

Tuesday 14th March: P5 and P4

Wednesday 15th March: P3

Friday 17th March: P2 and P1

Finalists will take part in rehearsals during the week beginning 20th March, before the main event on Friday 31st March. Please note that this event is for pupils and school staff only. If any child has a query about the talent show, please see Mrs Smith for more information.

Attendance

As previously reported this session, closely monitoring attendance is a strong priority for North Lanarkshire Council who are currently looking closely at statistics for each primary school. North Lanarkshire Council regards attendance under 95% to be a cause for concern and we have been monitoring such attendances closely. Our overall attendance at Mossend PS has decreased over the last few years and this session, we have been working intensively with families to increase this again.

Staff at Mossend Primary School recognise that good attendance is central to raising standards and in increasing pupil attainment. We closely monitor attendance to allow us to support pupils to achieve their full potential and to offer support to children and families where required.

As part of our work this session we have noticed a small increase in attendance which we are really pleased to see. A huge thank you to our parents and carers who have been working on this.

Latecoming still continues to be a huge concern across our school. As much as we believe in better late than never this issue desperately needs addressed in Mossend. We average around 30 children late for school each day which is disruptive to the running of the school, in your child being prepared for the day, and also in your child's learning. We urge all families to consider this and to consider the life lesson good timekeeping teaches our children for the future. Our management team will be looking more closely at this over the next few weeks.

Please refer to the table below to see the impact that low attendance can have on learning.

Attendance %	School Days Absent	School Weeks & Days Absent	Impact
95%	9.5 days	1 week 4.5 days	
90%	19 days	3 weeks 4 days	



85%	28.5 days	5 weeks 3.5 days	More than half of the terms learning missed
80%	38 days	7 weeks 3 days	Term1 (Aug – Oct) has 40 days. This child has missed the number of days in this term.
75%	47.5 days	9 weeks 2.5 days	Term 2 (Oct – Dec) is 44 days long and Term 4 (April – June) has 49 days. This child has missed the equivalent of one of these terms.
70%	57 days	11 weeks 2 days	Term 3 (January – March) has 57 days. This child has missed the amount that would make up this term.

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.

'Responsible' will be our Healthy in Schools focus for March. Children will learn about being responsible when thinking about food choices, being responsible citizens and when playing games. In second level children will also begin to reflect on performance and plan next steps in relation to P.E, Physical Activity and Sport.

Transition

So far we have enrolled 40 new P1s for next session which we are absolutely thrilled about. All families have been contacted and been provided with our transition plan for the next few months. We are really looking forward to our individual meetings for each new entrant and a parent, with a member of the management team, which will begin to take place very soon.

We will continue to share information from associated secondary schools regarding their transition plans when we receive them.



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!

Head Lice

Please be vigilant with this and check your child's head regularly. If you require advice on treating Head Lice then please contact us at the school and we will support as best we can.



Dates for your Diary

April 2023

Spring Break 3rd – 16th April

Pupils should return on Monday
17th April

May 2023

Monday 1st – May holiday

Tuesday 2nd – In-service day

Friday 26th – Monday 29th
inclusive, bank holiday
weekend

June 2023

Thursday 1st June

Parent Consultation 3

School closes Wednesday 28th
at 1pm

