

# MOSSEND PS & NC

## Newsletter

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March / April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you have all been enjoying this lovely spring weather and look forward to the lighter nights which will be upon us very shortly. Remember to pop your clocks forward one hour the last weekend in March!

The term ahead is traditionally a long one and one in which lots of new learning and teaching takes place. Please try to support us by ensuring that children are in school every day. We will be continuing to monitor attendance closely and seeking to work with families to secure improvement where needed, so please contact us if you need any support.

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 school children who celebrate their birthdays in March or April; Carter W, Jack B, Brodie, Lewis, Aleaha, Xander, Freya R, Kai M, Logan, Finlay, Leon J, Stewart, Ava-Rose, Jamie, William R, Marley-Mae, Leigha, Noah C, Hassan, Ellie F, Freya M, Rhea, Lacey-Anne, Mark W, Lucas C, Sophie P, Chloe Mc, Ava S, Brooke L, AJ, Zakir, Coyst, Leyla, Umar, Jack B, Tait, Matthew, Alfie A, Zack, Lily-Meg, James, Jack S, Stephen, Chloe M, Rachel, Thomas A, Daisy, April, Caleb I, Aaron, Isla-Mae, Mark J, Hanna B, Hannah B, Cooper, Emily D, Gabriella D, Abel, Harry, Hope Og, Amelia M, Theo M, Freya P and Charlotte W.

And also, to the following nursery children who celebrate their birthday in March or April; Amelia, Arthur, Nate, Eva, Macy and Max.

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



## Staff Updates

We are delighted to have Melissa Murray join us in our Senior Clerical position alongside Mrs O'Donnell. A period of training will now be undertaken as they both get to know new policies and procedures.

Huge congratulations to Miss Marshall who is a proud mummy to beautiful baby boy Murphy. We are delighted to report that Mum and baby are both doing well!

# Welcome

## Welcome to Our New Families

We have welcomed a number of new children into our school community over the last few weeks. We are so proud of all of our children in demonstrating our school value of 'welcoming' to Lilli-Rose, Kady, Riah, Jordon Junior, Jack and Ashton. We wish you all many happy years here in Mossend.

This month we are also thrilled to begin our welcome meetings with our new children who will begin school with us in August!

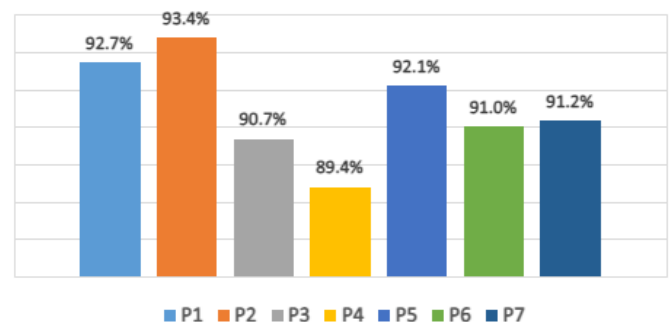
## Attendance and Lateness

Attendance continues to be a strong priority across our authority, and nationally. At Mossend PS we are monitoring attendance closely, and working alongside partner agencies to support families in improving this. By the end of February our average attendance was sitting at 91.5% which falls below the local authority average of 95%.

Please see the attached table for average attendance per stage and see where our biggest concerns lie. There is a direct link between attendance and attainment and we cannot stress the importance of good attendance for your children.

We would be grateful if you could ensure that your child arrives at school for their start time so they do not miss key teaching and learning.

**School Attendance by Stage: Current Session**



## P1 Transition

We were delighted to enrol 33 new Primary One children and so far we have 14 children who are out with our catchment but have applied for a placing request. We have started our Solihull 'Getting to Know You' appointments and our P6 buddies are excited to meet the new children. If you see any of our new families around the school then please say hello!



## Water Bottles

Since the implementation of the Single Use Plastics Ban (2022), we are unable to provide pupils with plastic cups throughout the school day for a drink of water. Please ensure pupils come to school with a water bottle. Pupils will have access to water throughout the school day to fill up their bottles.





### House System

A huge thank you to Mrs Weir who recently held a very successful inter-house Reading Quiz. All classes, including our nursery class, had the opportunity to take part. The children loved it and Milnwood House were victorious – well done everyone!

Well done to Orbiston House, who were our 'House of the Month' for February and enjoyed their extra playtime. Milnwood are currently in the lead for the month of March. Children continue to have the opportunity to earn house points for displaying each of our six school values.

All children will soon be gifted a new coloured house badge to make them easily identifiable in their houses. Please ensure that children wear these with their school uniforms each day.

### Appointments

Where possible, appointments should be made out with the school day. If this is not possible then an appointment letter should be produced in advance of when your child needs to be excused from class time. Please call in advance and inform us of appointments.

We have an increasing number of children with afternoon appointments, particularly on a Friday. This can be disruptive to learning, and to the running of the school through unplanned office interruptions at busy times.

We appreciate your understanding with this.

Clydesdale

Calder



Milnwood

Orbiston



## Health and Wellbeing Focus

During the month of March the Healthy in Schools programme will focus on the wellbeing indicator of 'Responsible'. Through Early, First and Second Level children will participate in activities in the Healthy Lifestyles, PEPAS and Food & Health curricular areas.

Each stage will have a different focus and may include activities to support their understanding of local and global issues affecting food choice or enable them to make informed choices while being aware of the pressure and bias of advertising.



## Nursery Focus

During March our Nursery children will begin to show an understanding of where our food comes from and participate in activities to determine what food comes from animals and what food comes from plants.

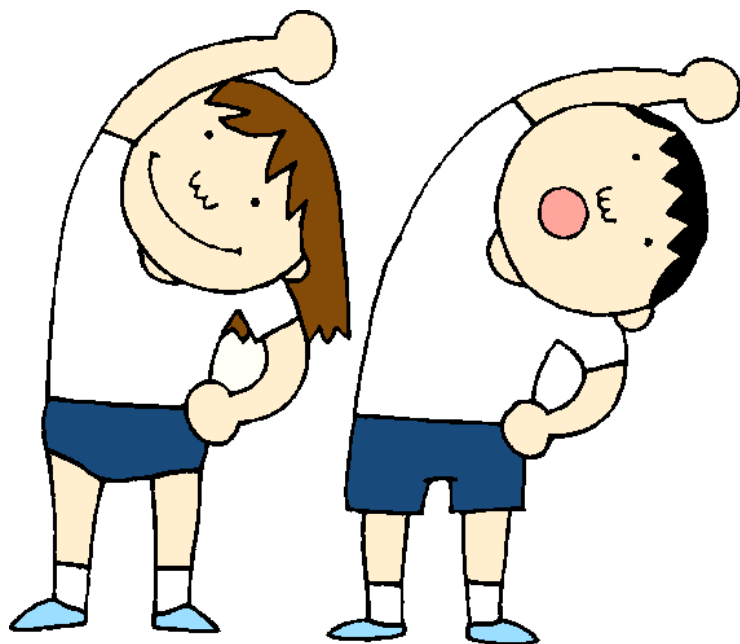
They will consolidate their learning in Numeracy, recalling the sequence to 10, identifying the number before, after and between and continue to copy and make patterns.

They will continue to be supported to use digital technology to support their learning across the curriculum.

## Physical Education

We continue to ensure that our children receive their 2 hour entitlement of physical education each week. This comprises of 1 hour of indoor PE, and 1 hour of outdoor PE. On these days we would appreciate your support in ensuring that long hair is tied back, jewellery is removed, and children have their water bottles with them.

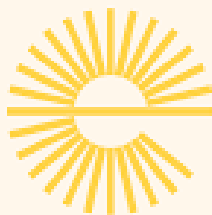
In relation to new piercings, these must be covered with a plaster either prior to coming to school, or children need to apply themselves in school. This is in accordance with NLC guidelines to ensure that children can access their entitlement safely.



## Donations

As we endeavour towards making our school and nursery a fun and friendly environment, we would appreciate any donations from the local community. We are seeking out the following items for our playground and nursery:

- New and unused artificial grass off cuts
- Corks/bottle tops
- Guttering
- Pots and pans
- Cable reels
- Books – non-fiction and fiction



## Support us through **easyfundraising**

### 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](http://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

Our next meeting will be held in person on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 4.45pm. All parents are welcome to join meetings as part of the parent forum. If you would like to join us then please send an e-mail to [enquiries-at-mossend@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries-at-mossend@northlan.gov.uk).

Our Parent Council is always on the lookout for new members, and we are likely to have a number of positions to be filled next session. If you would like to be more involved in the school then please join us, or contact our Chair, Clare Walsh for more information.





## Fun Reading Challenge

As we continue on our Reading Schools journey, we will be setting monthly Fun Reading Challenges!

This month, we would like you to take a photo of yourself reading in the most unusual or creative place you can.

Why not take a photo and tweet, remembering to tag us.

House points will be given for the most creative, so get reading!



## OPAL

We have been continuing to develop our playground with the introduction of an arts and crafts area, small world areas and a quiet zone. We have also opened the Secret Garden where the children have been enjoying digging and exploring where they have found several interesting artefacts. A very kind parent donated the funds for us to be able to buy a shed where wellies can be stored so hopefully, this will minimise the amount of muddy shoes.

If you have any old pots or pans, gardening equipment or old wellies that you would like to donate, we would be very grateful.



### Dates for your Diary

#### March 2024

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> – P7a visiting Sky Academy

School closes for Spring Break on Thursday  
28<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm

#### April 2024

Spring Break 1<sup>st</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> April

Pupils should return on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – P7b visiting Sky Academy

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> – Nursery Sponsored Welly  
Walk

### Contact Details

Website: [www.mossend.n-lanark.sch.uk](http://www.mossend.n-lanark.sch.uk)

Email: [enquiries-at-mossend@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries-at-mossend@northlan.gov.uk)

Telephone: 01698 274905



@MossendPS



### Dates for your Diary

#### April 2024

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Nursery Stay and Play  
(Strawberries)

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Nursery Stay and Play (Apples)

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> - Nursery Stay and Play  
(Lemons)

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> - Nursery Stay and Play  
(Blueberries)

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> – Parent Council Spring Disco  
after school – more information to follow

#### May 2024

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> – In-service day

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – May Holiday

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> – Parent Council Meeting in school  
at 4.45pm

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> – Wear Yellow Walk for P7s

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> – P3 Parent Showcase

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> (am) – P5/4 and P5 Parent  
Showcase – more information to follow

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> inclusive, bank  
holiday weekend

## Dates for your Diary

### June 2024

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Visit from St Andrews Hospice to P7s

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> – Whole School Sports Day – more information to follow

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> – Parent Consultation 3

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> – P2 and P3/2 Parent Showcase – more information to follow

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – P6a class trip to Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> (am) – P4 Parent Showcase – more information to follow

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> – Nursery Trip

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> – P3 class Trip to the Royal Highland Show in Edinburgh – more information to follow

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> – Nursery Graduation

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> at 10am – Leavers Celebration Church Service

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> – Meet the Teacher

School closes Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> at 1pm