

MOSSEND PS & NC

Newsletter

March / April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you have all been enjoying the lighter nights which have finally made a long awaited appearance. 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



We are a **Reading School**



Birthdays

A big 'happy birthday' to the following school children who celebrate their birthdays in March or April: Freya, Ava, Rhea, Sophie, Lacey-Anne, Lucas, Mark, Leigha, Noah, Hassan, Ellie, Chloe, William, Marley, Ava-Rose, James, Kai, Logan, Stewart, Freya, Finlay, Brodie, Leon, Lewis, Aleaha, Xander, Carter, Jude, Arthur, Laiyah, Amelia, Albert, Alfie, Zack, Lily-Meg, James, Jack, Stephen, Chloe, Rachel, Thomas, Daisy, April, Caleb, Aaron, Isla-Mae, Mark, Hanna, Hannah, Emily, Gabriella, Abel, Harry, Hope, Amelia, Theo, Freya, Macy, Zenas and Max.

Also, to the following nursery children who celebrate their birthday in March or April: Amelia, Lacey-Mae, Rosie, Rhea, Eva and Peyton.

Your Mossend friends hope you all have a very special day!



Mossend Nursery

Environment update

Following conversations with the children we have enhanced our block play area with the addition of large vehicles, road signs and road markings. The children have been able to extend their learning and role play, as a result of these additions. We have also replaced the sofa and dressing table within the Home Corner. Loose parts have been added throughout the Nursery which have developed the curiosity and creativity within the environment. These additions are only possible due to the support we receive during our fundraising activities from parents and carers.

A thank you to Mr Haxton who has laid laminate flooring in the Summer House, allowing a more comfortable environment for the children to explore when outdoors.

Mrs Haxton will be consulting with children and parents in the next few weeks about a Nursery trip for the summer term. We will be planning a fundraising event to cover the cost of the trip.





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.

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.

If you are needing to report pupil absence, this can be done via Parents Portal. If you are planning to phone the school, please call after 8.15am as the office is not staffed until 8.15am.

School Uniform for Session 2024/2025

We would like to say a huge thank you to our families for once again supporting our uniform policy. We are so proud of how smart the children look with almost all children wearing the appropriate uniform each day. A reminder of our uniform policy:

Formal Uniform

- Royal blue jumpers and cardigans (school branding optional)
- White shirt and tie
- Grey trousers/pinafores/skirts
- Blue Tartan pinafores/skirts

Please note, the colour black is not in line with the school's uniform policy.

PE Kit

- Royal blue hoodie or jumper
- White t-shirt/polo shirt
- Black leggings, shorts or joggers

Children will be permitted to come to school wearing their PE Kit on gym days (twice per week) as long as they are in correct formal school uniform on the other 3 days.

Nursery Uniform (Uniform is not compulsory for nursery children)

Royal blue polo shirt and sweatshirt or own clothes.

Appointments (Reminder)

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 is disruptive to learning, and to the running of the school through unplanned office interruptions at busy times.

We appreciate your understanding with this.

World Book Day

Thursday the 6th of March is World Book Day and we have lots of activities planned to celebrate!

Tales and Teddies

On the 6th of March, children are encouraged to come to school with their favourite book and teddy and to get cosy in the class and enjoy some reading time.

Book Tokens

All children will receive book tokens before the 6th of March, which can get them a £1 discount on books.

Reading Quiz

All classes will take part in a Reading Quiz where their knowledge of books will be put to the test. They will work with their peers in their House and we will see which House has the best book knowledge!

Reading Café

During our parent consultations, we will have our reading café open, where you can donate and/or select from lots of books while enjoying some refreshments.

Storytelling Tattie/Carrot Character

Children are encouraged to demonstrate our school value of creative by creating their favourite character from a book using a potato or carrot. They are asked to bring these in to school on the 6th of March where children will get to look at them all and vote for the most creative. Prizes will be given to the most creative designs.

WORLD
BOOK
DAY



Reading Books

We have recently purchased lots of new books for our upper school classes to read as part of their Literacy lessons. We have taken time to select novels which we believe are more interesting for pupils and are more relevant to them.

Your child should be taking their reading book home every night for homework. Can you please ensure that your child looks after their book and brings it to school every day as we do not have unlimited copies of the book to provide extras. This can have a negative impact on their learning during Literacy lessons. We appreciate your cooperation with this.

Mossend House System

Our House Captains and Vice Captains have been working together to take turns in preparing and presenting at our whole school assemblies. They have been enjoying taking on more responsibility and will continue this in to the last term.

Clydesdale

Calder

Milnwood

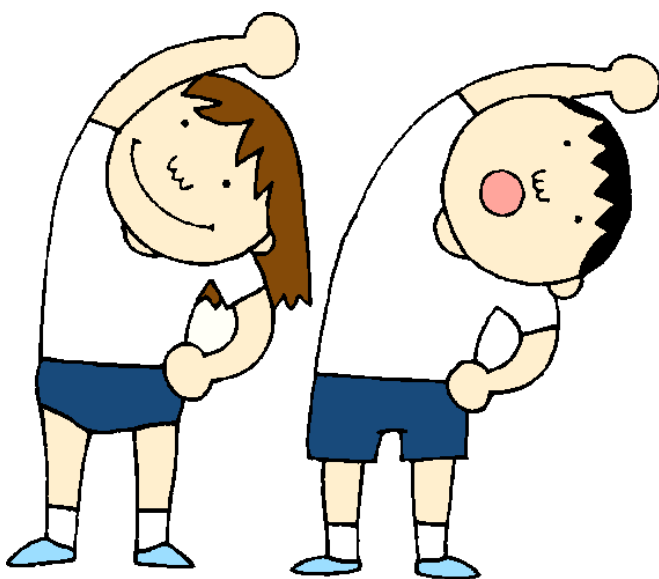
Orbiston



Health and Wellbeing

Responsible will be the focus wellbeing indicator for March across all stages. Children at Early level will link this to Food & Health, First level will be taught through Healthy Lifestyles and Second level through Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport.

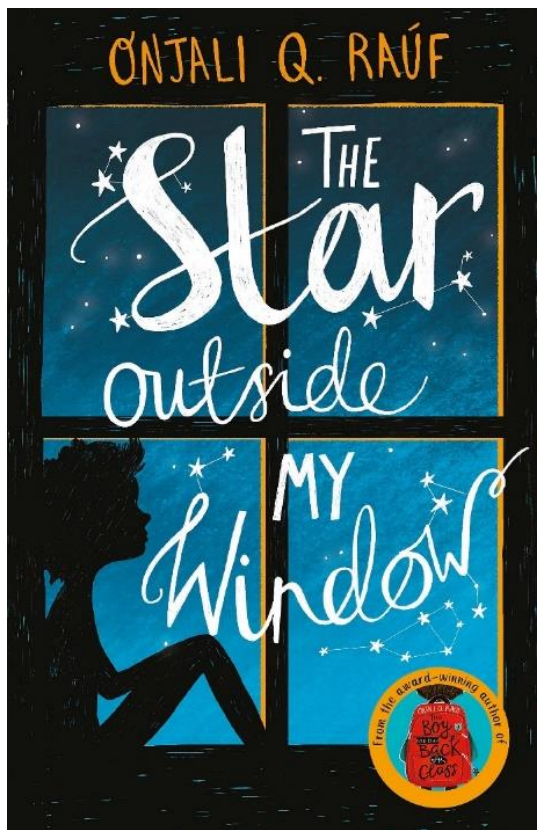
All children who have not attended an after school or out of school club will be consulted in what clubs would interest them. We will then liaise with Active Schools and make offers of clubs based on these results.



Physical Education (Reminder)

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.



Digital Update

Pupils and teachers from our senior classes have reported a positive impact the 44 new iPads are having on the quality of teaching and learning in the classrooms. We have invested in a further 10 new iPads which will be used in our junior and infant classes to support learning and teaching.

Over the next month, Mrs Lamont will consult with Digital Leaders on what the next steps for the school are in terms of digital improvement. We will keep you posted with what we decide to improve on.

Reading Schools

Pupils' Book Recommendations

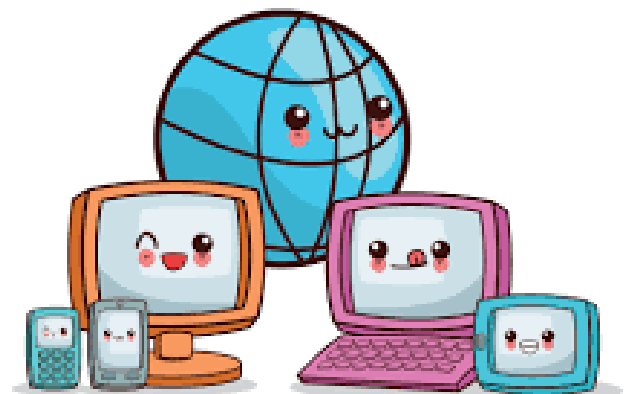
Maya in Primary 7 highly recommends the book, "The Star Outside my Window" by Onjali Q. Rauf.

The book is about a boy who loves stars and wants to be a star hunter who can find his mum, who passed away, in the sky. The boy then struggles with new family dynamics.

Maya likes the book as she was not expecting the themes of family and loss and there were lots of twists and turns. She said if you do not read books, then this would be a great one to start with.

She recommends the book for older children, perhaps P3 and upwards. Younger children might struggle to understand the themes of the book.

Maya has also read and enjoyed the book "The Boy at the Back of the Class," by the same author.



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!



P7 Lockerbie Residential 2026

We now have 30 P6 children confirmed to attend a residential trip to Lockerbie Manor in March 2026. We will be welcoming Alessandro from Lockerbie to a Parents Meeting on Thursday 27th March (during the Spring Disco) to provide more information on the trip and to answer any questions.





Parents Portal

As of August 2024, we are now completely paper and cash free in line with North Lanarkshire Council policy. All communication and money collections will be processed online via Parents Portal. This includes the completion of the annual data check, EV5 forms for school outings and photograph permissions. Currently, we have 88% of our school community signed up for Parents Portal, however it is necessary for **all** parents to be signed up. We would encourage you to access the following link and ensure that your account is set up.

<https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/nl-digital-school/parents-portal>

If you are having any issues, signing up or accessing anything, please contact clerical staff at the school office.

Parent Council Area (Spring Disco)

On Thursday the 27th of March, the Parent Council will host a glow themed Spring Disco in the school. The P1-3 disco will begin at 6pm and end at 7pm. The P4-7 disco will begin at 7.15pm and end at 8.15pm. Tickets will cost £2 (plus £1 for additional siblings) and will include a tuck bag. The Parent Council have been consulting pupils on what they would like for their disco. At the disco, pupils can also pay an additional £1.50 for entry to the photo booth room and there will be a mix of glow sticks and food available to purchase on the night.

Our next Parent Council meeting will take place on Monday the 28th of April at 4.45pm. This will take place in person in the school.

All parents are able to attend as part of the parent forum. If you would like to attend, please let us know.



Opal

As the weather is beginning to improve, we are continuing with our OPAL playground developments and are looking for donations to further improve break times to make them as exciting and engaging as possible. We are looking for some of the following items, which can be dropped off at any time or can be left in our OPAL donation corner in the gym hall during parent consultation evening.

We are looking for:

Cardboard boxes, arts and crafts supplies, suitcases, scooters and helmets (these must be in safe working condition), dolls' prams/buggies and full-size buggies, action figures, dolls, teddies, cars and trucks, old hats, scarves, bags, costumes, old brushes and brooms, pots and pans, instruments, storage boxes, Ikea bags/tonne bags, building blocks, Lego, yoga balls and old computer keyboards.



Toys in School

We have noticed an increasing number of children bringing their own toys and other possessions to school each day to take out to play at break and lunch. However, there have also been reports of children's possessions becoming lost or damaged and this can be very upsetting for children. We are asking that children do not bring any personal toys or possessions to school as there are plenty of toys in the school for them to play with. This also means that children should not be bringing football or Pokémon cards to school. We appreciate your support with this.



Dates for your Diary

March

Wednesday 5th – P2 trip to Summerlee Museum

Thursday 6th – Parent Consultation Evening

Wednesday 12th – 5 children to attend the Cross Country Finals (am)

Friday 14th – P5 and P6/5 Book Showcase at 1.45pm

Wednesday 26th – P3 Daffodil Tea Parent Showcase at 2pm

Thursday 27th – P5/4 trip to Summerlee Museum

Thursday 27th – Parent Council Spring Disco (Lockerbie 2026 meeting to be held at 7.15pm)

April

Wednesday 2nd – Easter Crafts Morning at Unitas Court

Monday 7th – Spring/Easter holiday

Tuesday 22nd – Pupils to return to school

Thursday 24th – P3 trip to Stirling Castle



Dates for your Diary

April

Friday 25th – Photographer visit for
Nursery pupils only

Monday 28th – Parent Council Meeting at
4.45pm in school

May

Thursday 1st – P4/3 and P4 trip to the
Science Centre

Thursday 1st – P5 play at the park with
Holy Family PS

Monday 5th – May Day Holiday – school
closed

Tuesday 6th – In-service Day – school and
nursery closed to pupils

Thursday 8th – P4 play at the park with
Holy Family PS

Tuesday 13th – P6/5 trip to Dynamic
Earth

Thursday 15th – P3 play at the park with
Holy Family PS

Friday 16th – P5/4 Teddy Bear Enterprise
Showcase (time tbc)

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 21st – New Primary 1
Enrolment – Parent Information Session at
9.15am

Thursday 22nd – P2 play at the park with
Holy Family PS

Friday 23rd – May Weekend – School and
Nursery closed

Monday 26th – May Weekend – School
and Nursery closed

Thursday 29th – Parent Consultation
Evening

June

Tuesday 3rd – P6/P7 Football Tournament
with Holy Family

Wednesday 4th – New Primary 1
Enrolment – School Parent and Child
Lunch Visit at 11.15am

Tuesday 10th – Sports Day

Tuesday 17th – P4 Parent Showcase (am)

Friday 20th – Nursery Graduation at
10am

Monday 23rd – End of Term Service at
10am

Wednesday 25th – School closes at 1pm

Please note that dates for the diary
are subject to change. Any changes
will be communicated as and when
required.



Contact Details

Website: www.mossend.n-lanark.sch.uk

Email: enquiries-at-mossend@northlan.org.uk

Telephone: 01698 274905



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