

MOSSEND PS & NC

Newsletter

August / September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the first edition of our school newsletter for session 25/26. As we begin the new academic year, we are filled with excitement for the opportunities and experiences that lie ahead. It has been a joy to welcome back all of our children, and to welcome all of our new families not only in P1, but across many stages of our school community.

Our newsletters will be your window into the life of our school – celebrating achievements, sharing important updates, and keeping you informed about upcoming events and initiatives. We are proud to partner with you in creating a positive, inclusive, and engaging learning environment where every student can thrive.

As the 'Named Person' for all the children in the school, please contact me directly if you have any worries or concerns about any child. There is nothing more important to us than the care and protection of each child. The role of the named person has been discussed with children during our assemblies.

If you have queries about any aspect of the school's work, please contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Tracey McCulloch



Establishment Improvement Planning Session 2025/2026

Following last session's consultation and evaluation, our improvement priorities for the forthcoming session are below. A copy of our progress report from last year can now be viewed on our website.

Establishment Priority 1:	By June 2026, all learners will benefit from an enhanced quality of pedagogy aligning learning, teaching and assessment to support all learners and a consistent application of high-impact teaching strategies.
Establishment Priority 2:	By June 2026, staff will have an increased confidence in recognising, understanding and supporting all dimensions of additional support needs which will result in all learners enjoying enriched experiences which are relevant, challenging, and responsive to all needs and aspirations.
Establishment Priority 3:	By June 2027, we will strengthen meaningful parental engagement by fostering inclusive, collaborative partnerships with families and communities. In line with QIs 2.5 and 2.7, we will develop and embed effective family learning opportunities that empower parents as active partners in their children's learning journey, this will support all learners to achieve their full potential.

Birthdays

A big 'happy birthday' to the following school children who celebrate their birthdays in August or September: Brodie, Emilia, Jake, Amelia, Benjamin, Adam, Sarah, Kai, Adam, Anna, Jessica, Amara, Olivia, Reeve, Lana, Dorca, Arhaan, William, Hayley, Zara, Adam, Jessica, Aryia, Jacob, Sapphire, Jaxon, Jude, Lucy, Yousaf, Lottie, Eli, Louie, Amy, Katie, Freya, Luna, Lara, Lexii, Theo, Ivy, Cole, Molly, Zachary, Sophia, Arlo, Aiela, Aliy, Gianna, Arli, Aileigh, Mohammad, Mila and Harrison.

And also, to the following nursery children who celebrate their birthdays in August or September; Mason, Ewan and Louis.

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 let you know that over the summer holidays Mrs Gordon welcomed (a little earlier than planned!) a beautiful baby girl, Thea – a wee sister for Grace. Huge congratulations!

Earlier this year, our local authority reviewed the role of additional support needs assistants and created a new 'Learning Assistant' role. We are pleased to inform you that Mrs Carolann McLaughlan has been appointed as the permanent learning assistant for Mossend Primary. Mrs McLaughlan is a well-known face around our school and popular with many of our children. Well done to her!

The children have been thrilled to welcome back Mrs Mandy Reid to our school, who will be based in Mossend for the remainder of Mrs Smith's maternity leave.





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 2025/2026

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.

Management Team Contacts – Pastoral Care Remits

If you have any questions or queries about your child, please speak with your child's class teacher first. Please note that teachers should not be approached in the school playground when they are attempting to welcome or dismiss their children. Please call the school office where a telephone call or appointment will be made for you. See below for a note of the relevant management team staff member with pastoral responsibility for each stage:

Nursery Class, P1, P2/1, P2 and P3/2 Mrs Brownlie/Mrs McCulloch

P3, P4a, P4b and P5 Mrs Lamont/Mrs McCulloch

P6/5, P6, P7/6 and P7 Mrs Cole/Mrs McCulloch

The management team will be in contact with families of children who have GIRFME plans this year. GIRFME plans will be reviewed October/November and January/February.



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 your child comes to school with a water bottle.

Pupils will have access to water throughout the school day to fill up their bottles.



Appointments (Reminder)

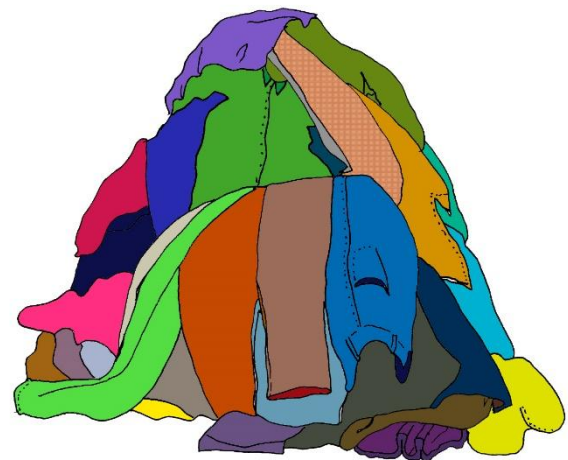
Where possible, appointments should be made out with the school day. If this is not possible then an appointment letter should be produced in advance of when your child needs to be excused from class time. Please call in advance and inform us of appointments.

We have an increasing number of children with afternoon appointments, particularly on a Friday. This 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.

Clothing

Can you please ensure that all clothing is labelled with your child's full name as this would reduce the amount of 'lost' property we have. All unclaimed uniform will be recycled and sent to charity at the end of every month.



Health and Wellbeing

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 month of September, we will focus on the indicator of Safe. This may be from a Healthy Lifestyles angle, Food and Health or Physical Education and Physical Activity and Sport. We have also requested to participate in the NSPCC programme; more information will follow on this.

Health Plans

Mrs Brownlie will be in contact with all parents/carers to update current Health Plans. If you feel your child requires a Health Plan, please call the school to arrange a meeting.



Mossend Nursery Class

We have welcomed 7 new children into our playroom, they have all settled extremely well in their new environments and are becoming familiar with their new routines.

Parents will be invited in to meet with their child's key worker/practitioner to set targets for their personal plan. These dates will be shared with you over the next week. These targets will be set around the SHANARRI indicators.

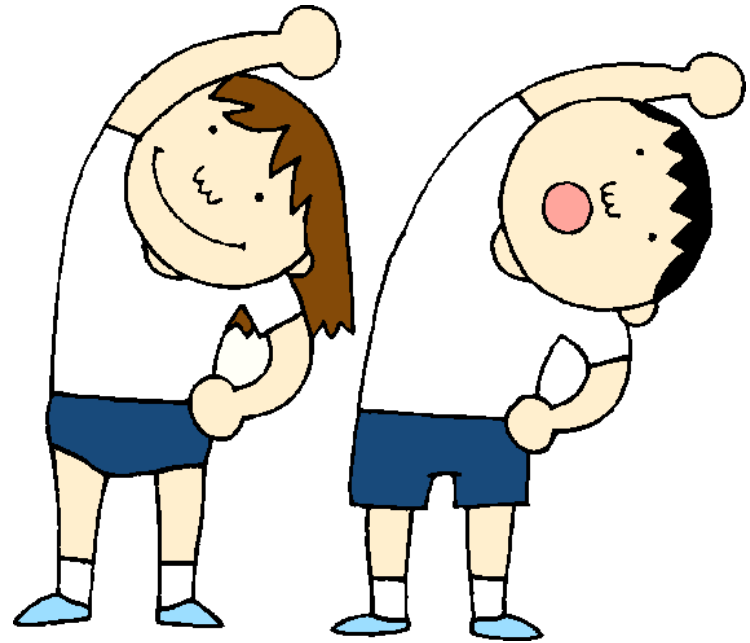
Nursery photographs are booked in for February 2026, after all our new pupils have joined. We will provide you with an exact date in the coming months. Pupils with siblings in the school will be able to get a family photo in September, or in February if they are joining later in the year.



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.

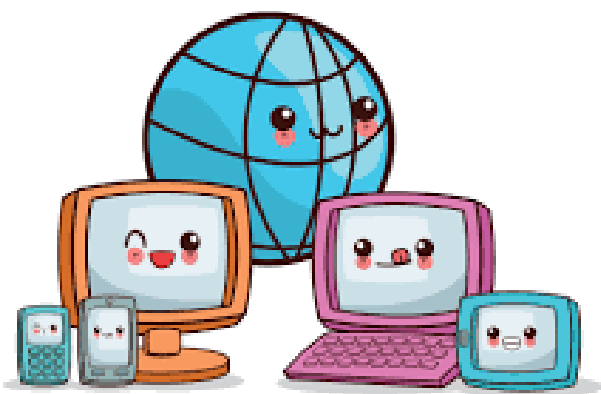
In relation to new piercings, these must be covered with a plaster either prior to coming to school, or children need to apply themselves in school. This is in accordance with NLC guidelines to ensure that children can access their entitlement safely.



Digital Update

Each school year, pupils and parents/carers are asked to sign a digital agreement, outlining the school's and authority's expectations when using technology in school. **Pupils will not be able to use any technology unless this is completed.** This year, the digital agreement can **only be completed on Parents Portal**, as we move away from paper copies. If you need assistance in doing this, please contact our clerical staff at the school office.

As we begin the new session, Mrs Lamont is looking to recruit Digital Leaders to help embed digital technologies across the school. Pupils in Primary 4 to Primary 7 can apply for the role by filling in an application form. These forms have been offered out to the classes and should be returned to Mrs Lamont no later than **Friday the 5th of September.**





**Support us through
easyfundraising**

Parent Council Area

Our Parent Council AGM will be held on Monday 22nd September at 4:30pm, in school. If you would be interested in joining our Parent Council, or in finding out more, then please send an e-mail to enquiries-at-mossend@northlan.gov.uk. The work of our Parent Council is invaluable in supporting the development of our school and we are so grateful to the active and committed members that we have here at Mossend. We have several vacancies on our Parent Council.

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!



We are a
**Reading
School**



Reading Schools

As you will no doubt be aware, we are a Silver Reading School and currently on our journey to Gold. I would like to remind you of our Community Lending Library at the entrance to the building which is free for anyone to borrow from.

We accept donations of pre-loved books, both adult and child fiction and non-fiction, all year round. These can be handed in directly to the school office.

We will soon be recruiting for our 'Reading Champions', keep your eyes peeled for news.



We are a **Reading School**



Mobile Phones

We have discussed our mobile phone procedures with the children during recent assemblies. Please see below for a reminder of these procedures:

- In the first instance, we would prefer if all children could avoid bringing mobile phones to school where possible.
- If a child in P4-7 does need to bring a phone to school then this must be switched off as they enter the school grounds.
- All phones will be collected by the class teacher during morning registration and stored throughout the day in the school office.
- Phones will be returned to children just before the end of the school day.
- Phones can be turned on again when the children exit the school grounds.
- Mobile phones are not allowed to be used in the school playground.





Parents Portal

In Mossend, 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 digital agreements. Currently, we have 90% 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 need any assistance, please contact the school office.

Administering Medicine

Inhalers and Medication

A form can be obtained from the office if your child requires medication. All medication must have a pharmacy label with your child's details. All inhalers must be kept in their original box in the office. If your child has an Asthma Plan, can you please send an up-to-date copy into the office. Our Administration of Medicines Policy can be found on our school website.



P7 and P7/6 Great Mossend Bake Off

Primary 7 and Primary 7/6 will be hosting our annual 'Great Mossend Bake Off' on Tuesday 23rd September. All profits made will be split between MacMillan Cancer Support and Primary 7 activities throughout the year. Tickets will be priced at £2 each and will be initially limited to 2 per P7 and P7/6 child. These will be sold via Ipay on a first come, first served basis from Monday 15th September.

More info will follow about the Bake Off in the coming weeks.

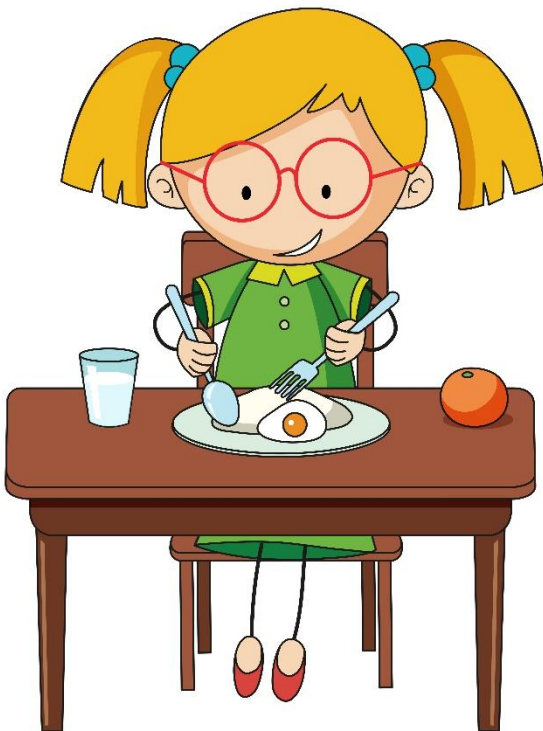


Breakfast Club/School Dining Room

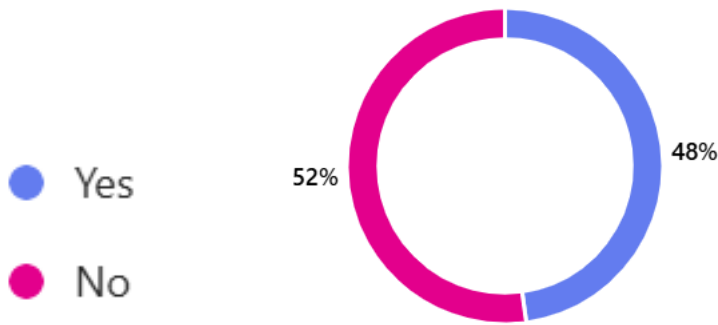
Breakfast Club is open to all children from 8.15am. This costs £1 but is free to all children in P1 – P5, and for any child with Free School Meal Entitlement. Please note that children should only attend if they require breakfast service.

Playground supervision for children not attending breakfast club begins at 8.45am. Children should avoid entering school grounds until this time and arrive as close to their entry time as possible.

Do you know that school meals are now free for all children in P1 – P5? Each day there is a good selection of hot and cold options on offer. The menu for the school dinner hall can be accessed on North Lanarkshire's website, however, Mossend staff will email out the menu each Friday which will allow you to review the options for the following week with your child.



3. Do you think children should receive homework?



NL Virtual Classroom

House System

We are happy to announce that the P7 House Captain and P6 Vice-Captain elections will take place in September. P6s and P7s have been encouraged to write their manifestos and run for the role of Captain/Vice-Captain. Manifestos must be handed in to Mrs Lamont by Friday the 12th of September. The P7 House Captain elections will take place on Thursday the 18th of September. The P6 Vice-Captain elections will take place on Friday the 19th of September. The winning Captains will be announced at assembly on Wednesday the 24th of September. Good luck to all pupils running!

Homework

In June 2025, we consulted our school community on current homework practices and views for the future. As in previous consultations the views were fairly evenly split. Nonetheless, the majority of 140 respondents (52%) have opted that children should not receive homework for session 2025/2026.

As a Reading school we firmly believe in the power of reading regularly and so class teachers will continue to send reading books home weekly. Children in P1 will continue to be issued with literacy tasks as in previous years.

Should any parents/carers wish for extra home learning for children, you can access materials on the Virtual Classroom, which can be found on Glow. On the following address:

www.glow.rmunify.com

Shortly, you will be provided with your child's Glow details and colour of classroom to access for your child.

For further Maths consolidation, pupils can also access Sumdog, again this login will be provided in due course.



We are a
Reading School

Contact Details

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

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

Telephone: 01698 274905



@MossendPS

