



Teddy Bears' Picnic lunch.



Y2 sketching.



Children learning about Islam.

Teddy Bears Picnic Themed Lunch

Yesterday the children enjoyed eating their lunch on the field and children who signed up for our themed lunch with the kitchen, also brought in a teddy / soft toy from home. We will be holding similar themed lunches in October and May which are organised by Lancashire County Council to coincide with census day. We want to encourage as many children as possible to take part and order a school dinner on these days, as this is one factor in deciding the school budget for the following year.

Home reading and homework

We continue to monitor home reading weekly in school and I am pleased to see the vast majority of children meeting their reading target each week. Research shows us that daily reading not only boosts vocabulary but also academic success across the curriculum.

- If a child reads for **20 minutes every day**, they are exposed to **1.8 million words** in a school year.
- If a child reads for **5 minutes every day**, they are exposed to **282,000 words** in a school year.
- If a child reads for **1 minute every day**, they are exposed to **8,000 words** in a school year.

To build on the improvements with home reading this year, we will be raising the bar and expecting families to read a minimum of four times each week – and also record this in reading records. We already have many children who read four, five and even six times a week so we know this is achievable.



We are aware that a lack of time can be a barrier to home reading, so we will be reducing the amount of other homework we send home so reading can take priority. Children will receive weekly spellings, and in years 2 → 6, we will also expect children to learn their times tables which can be completed by using Times Tables Rock Stars online.

Staffing update

We have been working hard to finalise staffing plans for September. Where possible, we want to keep staff in their current year groups to provide continuity with the curriculum, so apart from the few changes detailed below, teachers and teaching assistants will remain in their current year groups.

We are pleased to welcome Ms Lyon back after the May half term following her maternity leave. From September, Ms Lyon will job share with Mrs Robinson in Year 1.

Mrs Boswell, Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Coordinator - SENDCo, will no longer teach in Years 1 and 4 but will instead utilise her skills and expertise in Year 6.

Mr Houghton and Mr Begley will move into Year 5 and continue to support a group of pupils in the morning with Mr Begley also supporting in class in the afternoon.

There will be some movement of Teaching Assistants in the younger years. Mrs Strong will move up with her class into Year 1. Mrs Cassidy will also move up with her class into Year 2 and Miss Price will move from Year 2 into Reception.

Sports Day

Information will be in a separate letter about Sports Day on Friday 7th June.

PE Kit

Following parent feedback, we have improved the school PE kit and moved away from white cotton t-shirts to a navy polyester sports top with Mossgate logo and red shorts. Tops cost £5.99 and shorts £2.99 and can be purchased from Young Ones, 226 Marine Road Central. A sample can be viewed in the school office. We will be phasing out the old PE kit over the 2019 / 2020 academic year with the new PE kit being mandatory from September 2020. Please speak to me if you have any financial concerns regarding these changes.



Slip on plimsolls with light coloured soles for indoor PE and trainers for outdoors. Children in Reception do not need plimsolls and will only need trainers in the summer term. A navy blue tracksuit may be worn for outdoor games, but is not suitable for indoor PE lessons. Please name all items.

School shoes and trainers

Black leather shoes and plain black leather trainers (no visible logos, detail or coloured soles) are allowed as school uniform from September 2019. Children will be required to change into pumps if they are not wearing suitable footwear or trainers which are not completely black.

Children should only have laced footwear if they can tie them independently. We strongly recommend that children in Reception, Year 1 and 2, and those who cannot tie laces, buy Velcro shoes / trainers. All shoes and trainers should be suitable for physical activity during playtimes. Boots, high heeled shoes and slippers/ballet style shoes must not be worn for school.

Shoes and Trainers Allowed



- ✓ Plain black leather shoes or trainers with black soles and no visible logos or detail.
- ✓ Velcro fastenings needed for children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 and those who struggle with laces.

Shoes and Trainers Not Allowed



No white soles.

No visible brand names (e.g. white or grey).

No detail.

No visible logos.



No fabric, suede or canvas trainers.

No bow detail.

No 'slipper' or ballet shoes.

Y6 SATs

We are very proud of our Y6 children who completed their SATs this week. Mr Thwaites has been posting messages on Facebook all week praising the children for their mature and determined approach. As with all tests, the Y6 SATs only provide a snapshot of attainment with your child's end of year report detailing other areas of the curriculum and their progress over the year.

Lessons and high expectations in terms of behaviour and work ethic continue for the rest of the year with a particular emphasis now on writing and supporting Y6 with their transition to high school. We also have the London residential, leavers' party and summer fair to look forward to – all of which are subject to good behaviour and work ethic.

Thank you to our wonderful and supportive parents during this week and throughout the year. One parent's Facebook comment summarised it for me: 'Well done everyone! And Thank you team Mossgate for giving them brilliant support and the positive environment they need!'

'Working together to achieve success.'

Polling Station – European Elections on Thursday 23rd May 2019

As you are aware, the school is being used as a Polling Station for the European elections on Thursday 23rd May 2019. We are opening as normal but are making a few changes to the normal procedures in school to ensure the safety of all children.

Entry to School will be through the **infant gate only** and all children will enter the building via the infant corridor as soon as they arrive at school. Staff will be on hand to direct children who come to school on their own. If your child is late, they must enter the building via the school office as normal.

Breakfast Club will take place in the Year 6 classroom. Entry through the Y6 external classroom door at the front of school.

End of the school day

Y1, 2, 5 and 6 will exit from their normal classroom doors. Children in Y3 and 4 will exit via the school hall so children will need to collect children from the hall fire exit doors. Children will remain with class teachers until a parent collects them so children are not wandering outside the building.



Diary Dates

Mon 20th May	Y2 SATs start until Fri 24 th May – mornings only
Wed 22nd May	Reception vision screening
Wed 22nd May	Y3 & 4 residential to Wastwater (Wed 22 nd → Fri 24 th). Mr Houghton teaching children not attending the residential in a mixed class.
Thurs 23rd May	European Elections – school used as a polling station but open to all children
Fri 24th May	School closes for May Half Term and reopens Mon 3 rd June.
Mon 3rd June	Reading certificates presented in assembly for last half term's targets.
Tues 4th June	Y5 Viking visitor - £2 donation required through ParentPay.
Tues 4th June	Y1 visit to Bolton Castle: Depart 8:45am and Return 4:30pm
Tues 4th June	2:20pm Recorder recital assembly
Tues 4th June	5:15pm Governor's Meeting – Finance & Resources Committee
Wed 5th June	Upbeats band in school – whole school performance and then working with Y2 and Y3
Wed 5th June	6-7pm PSA planning meeting for summer fair
Thurs 6th June	Celebration assembly moved from Fri 7 th June due to Sport Day
Fri 7th June	Sports Day: KS2 morning and KS1 afternoon
Mon 10th June	Reception visit to Williamson's Park: Depart 9:45am Return: 2:30pm
Tues 11th June	5pm Y6 London Residential Meeting for parents
Thurs 13th June	9:15 – 11:15am 'Ready Steady School' session for new starters – Breakfast room
Fri 14th June	Y3 ghyll scramble – final group

'Working together to achieve success'
Raising funds for new class computers.

★ Friends of Mossgate PSA ★

SUMMER FAIR

★ Friday 21st June ★
6pm – 8pm



Free entry by ticket only
sign up for free tickets using the School Spider app

Food & refreshments | Ice-lollies | Coconut shy
Raffle | Y5 & 6 Games | Face painting & transfers
Water or wine | Giant inflatables | and more ...

Volunteers needed! Please sign up at the office.

Parentkind
Member Association