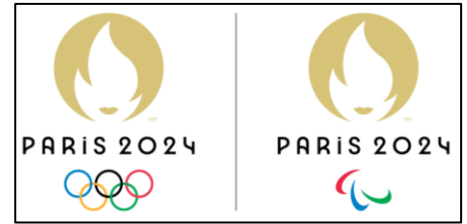


Olympics & Paralympics

This summer sees a number of sporting events taking place. We have planned a number of activities to celebrate the Olympics & Paralympics. Classes will have the opportunity to experience fencing, archery and wheelchair basketball next half term.



We are also inviting parents to our **Olympics & Paralympics Picnic on Friday 12th July from 12pm**. The children will sing a number of Olympic inspired songs and then families can picnic together on the field.

Picnics can be purchased on Parent Pay at £2.50 per picnic - make sure to indicate your sandwich choice in the 'notes' section as well as any allergies. Due to allergies, only school picnics can be eaten at the event. Spaces are limited to two adults per family, plus any younger siblings not currently at school or nursery - please contact the office to let us know and we will make the sibling lunch available to buy.

You are free to take your child home once you have finished your picnic. Any children who are not collected will be taken back to class and can be collected at the normal time.

General Election 2024



The school will be once again be used as a polling station on **Thursday 4th July** because of the general election. Due to the predicted high voter turnout, the school hall will be needed and therefore the **school will be closed** to all pupils. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

Sports Day – Friday 28th June

Juniors 9:15 – 11:15am

Infants 1:00 – 2:30pm



'Working together to
achieve success'

Home Reading Reminders

Home reading is essential for children to develop their vocabulary and reading fluency so they can access the full curriculum and learn. **In the juniors, we recently scrapped additional homework so that families can prioritise home reading.** Please read daily for at least 20 minutes, regardless of age, with your child so you can support.

Junior children (and some Y2) will be expected to read at least one book and score 80%+ in their reading quiz every week – this is **monitored every Thursday**.

In the **infants**, staff monitor home reading every Friday and will contact parents if they are concerned. Reading records are **monitored every Friday**.

The **MORE** that you
READ, the more things
you will **KNOW**.
The **MORE** that you
LEARN, the more places
you'll **GO**.

Staffing Updates

Today, we sadly say goodbye to Mrs Brock who leaves us after seventeen years! Yesterday, we held a special assembly to thank Mrs Brock for hard work and dedication in her many roles at Mossgate. Mrs Brock's fun, enthusiasm and caring nature will be very much missed by the children and staff and we wish her all the best for the future.

We have recently appointed three new teaching assistants. Miss Kitchen, who has worked in Y2 and recently in Reception, has been appointed as a level 3 teaching assistant. After the half-term break, Miss Kitchen will continue to work across the infant classes in the morning and also supporting in Y5 in the

afternoons. Mrs Lackey will be joining us after the half-term as a level 3 teaching assistant, and she will be supporting children across the infants with phonics and early reading. As level 3 teaching assistants, Miss Kitchen and Mrs Lackey will be covering classes if teachers are absent. Miss Machulen will also be starting after the break and will be based in the Reception classroom to support children with their learning.

There will be **no changes to class teachers from September**, but teaching assistants will be finalised next half term and I will notify parents as soon as possible. **Transition arrangements** have already started for our younger children, with teachers leading story times and other activities. All children will spend two days with their new class teacher and teaching assistant(s) on **Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th July**.

Oftsed Inspection & Report

We are delighted with our recent ungraded Ofsted inspection and I hope you found the inspector's report useful. During the two-day inspection, the inspector had nothing but positive things to say about the school, but unfortunately, due to the standardised nature of published Ofsted reports, much of what she said did not make the final edit of the report!

Highlights from the report for me include:

"Pupils thrives in the school's calm and nurturing environment. They arrive each morning happy and eager to learn. Pupils know staff care about them. This school helps pupils to feel safe."

"Children in the early years enjoy trying new activities alongside their friends. They **blossom** in the **inspiring surroundings** that staff have created."

"Pupils with **SEND** achieve well. The school ensures that they identify pupils' additional needs early. Pupils with SEND are supported well by **skilled staff**. They access all that the school has to offer, including clubs and after-school activities."

"The **curriculum** has been **carefully designed** to enable pupils, including those with SEND, to become **successful learners**. Subject content is ordered carefully from the early years to Year 6."

"Pupils are **polite** and **well mannered**. They treat each other with **kindness** and **respect**. Pupils know what makes a **good friend** and how to use the internet safely."

"Pupils **work hard** and focus on their learning. This helps them to **achieve their best**. They **strive** to live up to the school's **high expectations** for their **academic achievement**."

"Governors are **proud** to be part of this **thriving school**. They are well informed about the work of the school."

The only next step the inspector gave us was taken from our own school improvement plan which is to continue to review each curriculum area and reduce the content so that we can provide more time to teach fewer things in greater detail.

The **Parent View** survey results were fantastic so thank you for taking the time to complete this. Responses ranged from 94% to 100% in agreement for all of the questions which is brilliant.

- 100% The school has **high expectations** for my child.
- 97% My child feels **safe** at school.
- 97% The school makes sure its pupils are **well behaved**.
- 94% The school deals with bullying quickly and effectively.
- 97% My **child does well** at this school.
- 98% The school lets me know how my child is doing.
- 97% The school supports my child's wider development.
- 94% I would **recommend** this school to another parent.
- 100% The school makes me aware of what my child will learn through the year.
- 94% My child is **happy** at this school.
- 100% There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.



Penalty Notices for repeated absences, lateness and holidays

The local authority has asked for the following information to be shared with parents regarding repeated absences, lateness and holidays. The government have made national changes to the use of penalty notices, fines, and these procedures take effect from August 19th.

Important Update – Changes to Education-related Penalty Notices Information for Parents

You may be aware that the Department for Education has recently announced national changes to penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence in term time. These changes will come into effect on 19 August 2024.

The changes to be aware of are:

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice **must** be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period¹. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions).
- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.

Absences can have a lasting effect on learning

Missing a week of school means your child will miss around 25 hours of learning
This creates gaps in their knowledge and could mean they will not meet their full potential

Mon 03/06	School opens after the May half-term Clubs restart from last half-term Y4 Ancient Greece Workshop – all day
Tues 04/06	Y3 Viking Workshop – all day
Wed 05/06	Parents' Evening – by invitation only
Thurs 06/06	Y5 Baghdad Workshop – morning only
Thurs 06/06	Y4 'Worry' Workshop with Kate from Barnardos
Mon 10/06	Y4 Ghyll Scrambling all day – see text about clothing needed
Mon 10/06	Y5 & Y6 Bikeability days this week
Wed 12/06	Reception walk to the post box Y6 watching Aladdin at Manchester Theatre, 12:30 – 7:00pm
Thurs 13/06	Y4 'Worry' Workshop with Kate from Barnardos
Fri 14/06	Y5 & Y6 Haffner Orchestra at Lancaster Town Hall, 1:45 – 4:15pm
Wed 19/06	Y6 London Visit
Thurs 20/06	Non-uniform – see poster for colours and items
Fri 21/06	INSET Day – school closed
Mon 24/06	Islam visitor for assembly and workshops



Fri 28/06	Sports Day: am juniors and pm infants
Tues 02/07	Y6 visiting Bay Leadership to watch Aladdin performance
Wed 03/07	Reception visit to Williamson Park
Thurs 04/07	General election – school closed
Fri 05/07	Summer Fayre, 3:15 – 5:15pm
Thurs 11/07	Helen Yates, local artist, working with Y4 Environment Song Writing Workshop with Y5 & Y6
Fri 12/07	Olympic Picnic with songs for parents, 12pm start End of year reports go home
Tues 16/07	Y6 Aladdin performance to parents at 1:30pm and 6:00pm
Wed 17/07	Transition Day (1 of 2) News starters in Reception, 9:30 – 11:15am Y6 Leavers' Party at the Globe, 5:00 – 7:00pm
Thurs 18/07	Transition Day (2 of 2) News starters in Reception, 9:30 – 11:15am Colour Dash Run, after school
Fri 19/07	School closes for the summer holidays

Recent Curriculum Highlights



Reception showing respect and responsibility for our local environment by litter picking.



Y6 using their value of courage when kayaking and paddleboarding on Lake Windermere.



Y1 designers (with the help of their parents) creating their hand puppets and decorating their clay penguins.