



Moss Lane School Newsletter

Friday 31st January 2025

Happy Chinese New Year



Our Value for this half-term is Responsibility.

Dear Families,

The children (and staff) have settled back quickly into the routines of their class, and everyone seems very happy to be back and are ready to continue with their learning. It is still quite cold, wet and windy most days so please can you ensure that **all** children bring a warm coat to school every day. I know getting back into the routine of school is hard to do especially after a long break like Christmas. To ensure that your child has the best opportunities and chances to learn, without missing any input or key information, please can you make sure that they arrive at school on time. The gate opens at **8:40am** and the children are called in at **8:45am**.

If you would like any support or further information on helping your child at home, please do not hesitate to contact their class teacher who will be more than happy to offer advice and strategies to help you support your child's learning at home.

A reminder that Parents Evening is straight after half term on Tuesday 25th February and Thursday 27th February. Please sign up on ESchools for your appointments. Bookings open from Thursday 6th February- Thursday 13th February. This is an opportunity to discuss how your child is getting on in class All appointments are limited to 10 minutes. We value the partnership we have with you as parents, so we very much hope you will attend on one of the evenings.

Have a wonderful relaxing weekend.

Mrs Abbott
Headteacher

Word of the Year

Each year, the Oxford University Press publishes a Children's Word of the Year language report, delving into the trends in children's language and how that is shaped by children's engagement with topics from that year, ranging from politics, climate change, to cultural events. As part of this analysis, OUP also announces the Oxford Children's Word of the Year, *chosen by children*, this is the word that they feel has been important over the last 12 months.

At Moss Lane we were all heartened to hear that the word of the Year is [Kindness](#). It was chosen by more than six in ten children (61%). Kindness was chosen more commonly by children in the younger age groups (ages 6-8: 72%, ages 9-11: 64%, ages 12-14: 50%). Alongside valuing kindness and feeling that there was a need for more of it in the world. It's important to remember that kindness holds incredible power—it can make us happier, reduce stress, and improve our mental health. Kindness matters.

Safeguarding...

Updating Changes

If your child has a change in medical circumstances, please notify the school office as soon as possible so that we can keep our records up to date and ensure that all staff are aware of each child's conditions. It is also important that parents keep the school updated of changes in contact details, especially mobile phone numbers, so that we are able to make contact with you in an emergency.

Online Safety

This is a really useful toolkit which is helpful if you are unsure about what parental features are available on their children's devices. It only takes around 8 minutes to answer a few questions and then receive a tailored toolkit.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/little-digital-helps-toolkit/>

Receive a tailored toolkit packed full of resources to keep your children safe on connected devices.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

Open the Book Assemblies

As a Headteacher, I am responsible for the collective worship provision in this school. It is important for all children at Moss Lane School to experience a wide range of different religious beliefs and cultures. The majority of collective worship in a school needs to be of a broadly Christian nature or should give consideration to circumstances relating to the family backgrounds of our pupils. One of the many groups that we have in school is 'Open the Book Assemblies'. These assemblies happen once a month and are simply to educate – there is no expectation for any pupil to pray or worship.

Pupil Premium Grant (PPG)

Schools can receive additional funding for pupils whose parents are in receipt of certain income-related benefits. For any pupil entitled to Pupil Premium, the additional funding means that we are able to provide extra support in many ways. Any pupil whose parent/s are employed by the Armed Forces are also entitled to additional funding (Services Personnel Pupil Premium) – do let us know if this relates to your child. For more information, please visit the school [website](#)

Absence reporting

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please phone the school office **before** the start of the school day. There is an option to leave a message and report your child as absent. Please include your child's name, class and details of illness. If your child has had diarrhoea or vomiting, they must stay off school for 48 hours since the last bout of diarrhoea or vomiting.

Modelling Behaviour

Children are highly impressionable and often imitate the behaviours and speech patterns of those around them, particularly when the individual is an authority figure or someone they admire. Within the school environment, all adults are conscious of how we interact with one another. Fortunately, this is made easier by the positive rapport we share as a team. By consistently demonstrating kindness and respect in our interactions, both with colleagues and with children, we set a powerful example of the behaviour we hope to encourage in them. It is important to recognise that children who observe disrespectful behaviour or raised voices from parents or others may be more likely to imitate these actions themselves. Such behaviour can be distressing and triggering for both children and adults. To maintain a positive and respectful environment, rudeness, intimidation or aggression from parents or carers will not be tolerated on school premises.

What's coming up...

Friday 31st January

Chinese New Year

Monday 3rd - Friday 7th February

Children's mental health and well-being week

Monday 3rd February

Bumblebees Woodland School

Wednesday 5th February

Doodlebug Resilience Workshop in classes all day
FGB 6.15pm

Thursday 6th February

Doodlebug Resilience Workshop in classes all day
Time to Talk day

Friday 7th February

Dance Workshops

Monday 10th February

Otters Woodland School

Tuesday 11th February

Safer Internet Day
Zones of regulation training for parents – 5pm
Honeybees rescheduled Woodland School

Wednesday 12th February

Zones of regulation training for parents -9am

Half Term

17th – 23rd February

Monday 24th February

Children return to school

Monday 24th February

Hedgehogs Woodland School

Tuesday 25th February

Parent's Evening 3.40pm-7pm

Thursday 27th February

Parent's Evening 3.30pm-5.30pm

Monday 3rd March

Squirrels Woodland School

For more information, please see our website [here](#)

Packed Lunches

Please do not send your child to school with any nuts or products containing nuts such as peanut butter or Nutella as we have children in school who suffer from potentially life-threatening anaphylaxis if they come into contact with nuts. When providing a lunch box from home please also ensure that it does not include sweets, chocolate bars, sweets or flavoured drinks.



Swiped - Documentary



It is impossible not to notice that children are accessing devices and going online for more time, and from a younger age - especially since the Covid-19 pandemic. Recent [research from Ofcom](#) (2023) highlighted that 87% of 3-4-year-olds go online (an increase from previous years' data), with 92% of children in this group watching videos on streaming sites such as YouTube. When children go online, they are most likely to be using a tablet (75%), but in this report, parents suggest that 25% of 3-4-year-olds own a mobile phone. Ultimately, it is for parents to decide how much screen time is appropriate, however we know that in the first 5 years of a child's life, the focus should be on developing their communication, language, physical skills and emotional development. As such, the World Health Organisation recommends children should "sit less and play more". They recommend no sedentary screen time for under 2-year-olds. For children aged 2 - 4 years, a maximum of 1 hour per day sedentary screen time is recommended (but less is better).

With children accessing online devices earlier, it should be unsurprising that they are now also being exposed to risks from a younger age. Risks such as struggles with emotional regulation, overstimulation, being overweight due to increases in sedentary activity, experiencing bullying, accessing inappropriate content and taking sexual images. With regards to the latter, a 2023 [report from the Internet Watch Foundation](#), found that the biggest increase in concerns of children being coerced into taking sexual imagery of themselves, is within the 7-10-year-old group, where there has been a 360% increase of such concerns compared to the previous year's data. Most of this imagery (78%) is created without an abuser physically present, meaning children are usually using a device alone in their bedroom - a place where parents would consider children to be safest.

I know this sounds scary and you may be wondering why we are including this in our newsletter as we don't have children in this age bracket. However, many children at our school have older siblings and some of the habits that are established at a young age put children at greater risk as they get older.

Some of you may have seen the documentary "[Swiped](#)". It is a two-part documentary on Channel 4 which looks at the impact of a social experiment on a group of Year 8 pupils who gave up all electronic devices for 3 weeks. Although an older age-group, it makes for very interesting watching.

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/swiped-the-school-that-banned-smartphones>

Community news

Hello everyone 大家好！

(Scroll down for the Cantonese version!)

Guildford Hongkongers Lunar New Year Market is back! We are hosting the market on 8th February, 2025 at the Guildford Cathedral. This is the 11th day of the LNY to celebrate this festive moment with the Guildford community. You are invited and please kindly spread the word if you can.

Tickets are available via Eventbrite. <https://guildfordhkerslnymarket2025.eventbrite.com/>
[Facebook event link](#)

GHK social media for updates & more events [Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#)

This year we have over 60 stalls and various performing parties. This includes Hong Kong-style food, arts & crafts, service providers, and more! There will also be performances and activities throughout the day.

We have listened to your feedback and extended the opening time. To make sure everyone can enter the market without prolonged waiting outside, tickets are mandatory for admission. Ticket holders can enter the market at the assigned time slot presenting the electronic ticket.

So mark your calendars and celebrate the Lunar New Year at Guildford Cathedral!

Date: 8th February, 2025 (Saturday)

Time: 10 AM to 5 PM

Opening ceremony & Lion Dance: 10:15 AM

Last entry: 4:30 PM

Location: Guildford Cathedral, GU2 7UP

Peak hour entry: £1.5+ Ticketing platform fee

Off-Peak: £1+ Ticketing platform fee

One child under 12 can enter for free with each ticket holding adult

Online Purchase only - No walk-in or ticket at the door

Guildford

Hongkongers 嚟度同大家拜個早年！GHK將會於年十一（2月8日）舉辦元宵市集，齊齊與僑福社區慶祝新年！

今次市集有超過60個攤檔及不同的表演單位，包括港式美食、手工藝、服飾和服務供應商等等。仲有精彩的表演及活動環節，保證令你目不暇給！

我們聽取了大家的意見，今年會延長了開放時間。為避免排隊等候入場時間過長，所有參加者必須憑票入場。持票人士只需出示電子門票，即可於指定時段直接入場。

門票於Eventbrite平台公開發售，大家一齊參加元宵市集歡度新年！

日期：2025年2月8日（星期六）

時間：10 AM - 5 PM

開幕儀式及舞獅表演：10:15 AM

最後入場：4:30 PM

地點：僑福座堂 Guildford Cathedral, GU2 7UP

繁忙時段門票：£1.5 + 平台費用

非繁忙時段門票：£1 + 平台費用

持門票成人可免費帶同一名12歲以下兒童入場

只限網上售票-現場不設售票處或Walk-in入場

Courses for families run by Waverley Centre

<https://www.barnardosfamilycentressurrey.org.uk/groups-and-courses-at-waverley>



Cygnets in Surrey

A support programme for parents and carers of children and young people, aged 5-18, who are autistic.

Parents of autistic children face the usual positives and challenges of parenting and quite a few more. Attending a Cygnets autism support programme gives parents and carers an opportunity to develop their understanding of autism and consider ways to support their child. It also provides the opportunity to meet other people in a similar position and hear about their experiences in an informal but supportive atmosphere.

When and where is Cygnets delivered?

Courses will be taking place all over Surrey at a range of times and locations. Some courses will be delivered online. When you complete the application form, tell us what you would prefer and we will contact you when a suitable course becomes available.

Who can attend cygnets sessions?

Parents, carers or other family members who have responsibility for your child. Your child needs to be between the ages of 5-18 and live in Surrey. They may have a diagnosis of autism, or be waiting for one.

What does Cygnets involve?

The **core** Cygnets programme is delivered over six two and a half to three-hour sessions which include:

- Introductory session
- An overview of autism with parent and carer experience
- Thinking & Sensory
- Social Interaction & Communication
- Understanding and supporting behaviour
- Analysing behaviour

Who will deliver my Cygnets course?

Surrey's Cygnets offer is coordinated through the Autism Outreach team, based at Freemantles school, but our team of trainers are made up from professionals working across Surrey in education, health and charity organisations.

How do I sign up?

Complete the application form and we will get in contact when a suitable course becomes available for you. You can download the form from

<https://www.autismoutreachforschools.uk/Cygnets-Parent-Programme/>

Can I ask some questions?

Email us on parenttraining@freemantles.surrey.sch.uk





A helping hand for a *healthier family*

Do you need help to achieve a healthy weight for your child or teenager?

*Be Your Best is a **funded** healthy lifestyle programme for Surrey families with children & teenagers aged 5-17 years, who are above the healthy weight range.*

We can help you make a positive difference to your child or teenager's health and wellbeing.

The programme is made up of one-to-one and group sessions:

Sessions include

Live cooking workshop
Meal planning for the whole family
Easy food swaps
Managing screen time
How to become an active family
Importance of sleep

One-to-one sessions

With a health & wellbeing advisor at a mutually agreed time & location

Group sessions

Week days after school via Zoom

Family Fit sessions

Wednesdays 4.30 - 5pm via Zoom

"Me and my boys are really enjoying this programme and we are so grateful to be taking part." Mum

For more information, visit bybsurrey.org or email us at BeYourBest@surreycc.gov.uk



