

Moulsham Infant School



Motivate, Inspire, Succeed

May Newsletter— 22 May 2026

Wishing everyone a lovely half term

Important dates

1st June— Health and Fitness week

4th June— Sports day

5th June— Reserve sports day

17th June— Class photos

Yr2 to MJS for lunch

19th June— NPD school closed

27th June— Family fun day

29th June— Sycamore to Oaklands museum

YR 2 mini games at Melbourne Athletics

30th June— Hawthorn to Oaklands Museum

1st July— Chestnut to Oaklands museum

It does not seem possible that we are now at the end of another half term, leaving only 7 weeks of this academic year left.

As usual it has been a very busy half term in school. One of the highlights had to be the delivery of 5 duck eggs. Within 2 days of the eggs arriving we had 5 healthy ducklings. Every class had the opportunity to hold the ducklings, with some classes putting them into a tuff tray to watch them develop their swimming skills. Thank you to parents for contributing to this experience for the children.

Our three Year 1 classes all performed their class assemblies and it was wonderful to see how their confidence has grown and them working together as a team to share their work and learning with their visitors. Thank you to all the families who were able to join for these assemblies—we had a great turn out.

Thinking ahead to next half term, we start with our annual Health and Fitness week which will culminate with our Sports day. You will have received information about this week already. I would like to thank Mrs Robinson for all her hard work organising and timetabling the events for the week.

We will also be planning ahead for the next academic year which will include our new children who will be joining us in September in EYFS as well as internal transition and transition to junior school.

Then finally there will be our normal end of year celebrations, for example Year 2 leavers assembly and the year 2 festival. It is clearly going to be a very busy half term.



SCHOOL DINNERS

When we return after the holiday we will be **week 3** of the menu. Please ensure your child brings a packed lunch if they have not ordered a hot meal. Please inform the office if there are any changes to your child's choices.



Please remember to name all your children's clothes – then we can return them.

THIS SCHOOL IS
NUT FREE



THANK YOU

This includes food products with nuts in them, such as Nutella and cereal bars.

Please ensure there are no nut products brought into school.

REMINDER

Snack brought in from home, should be fruit or vegetables. Fruit strings and similar fruit based items like these are not acceptable and the children will be asked to take them home and given a snack from school.

Thank you for your co-operation with this.



Attendance — March



This winners of the best class attendance are as follows:-

EYFS - Oak —98.3%

Year 1 - Hawthorn — 95.3%

Year 2 – Holly —97.2%

Well done to these 3 classes.

Attendance — April



This winners of the best class attendance are as follows:-

EYFS - Tulip —98.5%

Year 1 - Chestnut —97.8%

Year 2 – Hazel —98.2%

Well done to these 3 classes.

Parking on the school site

Please be respectful and mindful of where and how you park.

We have yet again had reports of individuals being rude and aggressive over parking. This really is not acceptable.

We are extremely lucky to have parking facilities for parents within the school site —many schools in the area do not have these facilities. Please do not abuse them.

Also the turning circle is a **one-way system**. No vehicle should be parked at the edge of the turning circle the wrong way, to leave the site without going all the way round. This is extremely dangerous and could cause a serious accident.

Please also be respectful when parking in the surrounding area of the school. We have also had complaints from local residents of cars being parked over driveways.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.



Reminder

Please remember we are a non-smoking site - that means anywhere within the school gates.



Scooting or cycling to school

Please make sure that when on the school site at start and end of the day when it is very busy, that scooters and bikes are **pushed not ridden** to ensure that pedestrians are safe.

Also please enter the storage area via the path—not across the grass. The grass is going to become damaged if it is constantly ridden / walked across. Thank you

Social Media groups

Whilst these groups are a useful way for parents to share reminders, and social matters. Please ensure that any concerns regarding your child's education are discussed directly with the school (via the school office or directly with your child's teacher / Headteacher) as per our complaints policy.

Thank you for your co-operation.



Mobile phones

Please adhere to our policy in school that when visiting school for open mornings / afternoon and event days **mobile phones must not be used / in sight whilst in the school building**. You will be challenged by staff if you are seen to be using your phone in school. The only exception to this is that during a class assembly / school production we allow you to take photos / videos. As always stated at these events we ask you not to post anything that has other children in them.

Thank you.



Backpacks

Reminder—backpacks **should not** be brought into school. We do not have the facilities to store backpacks safely in the classrooms or cloakrooms. Children should bring their reading book and reading diary into school in a book bag—these are then stored in trays in the classroom and PE bags are hung on the children's pegs. Both book bags / reading folders and PE bags are available to buy in the school office.

Thank you.

Achievements Board

As you will hopefully know we have an achievements board in the corridor by the hall.

If your child receives a certificate for an activity they do out of school please encourage them to bring it in so we can take their photo and added to the board.

We feel it is very important to recognise and celebrate all children's achievements.

Second hand uniform

Second hand uniform is available to buy through the school office.

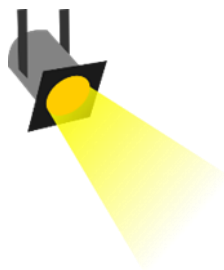


Request for spare clothes

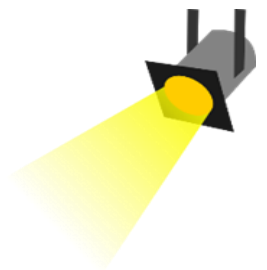
If your child borrows clothes from our spare clothes stock in school, please can you wash and return them as soon as possible.

We are running short of supplies—especially underwear and tights so any donations that are no longer used / fitting please pass to the office to replenish our stocks.

Many thanks



Spotlight on Early Years



Year group update

This term our theme has been 'Amazing Animals' and we started with a visit from Eden Oasis. We experienced rabbits, a blue tongued skink, a false chameleon, and a very friendly rat! We also learned about ducklings and watched them hatch at school. They visited our classrooms and we were amazed to see how quickly they grow. To support our learning, we read Monkey Puzzle and found out that some baby animals look very different to the adults. When we read 'Sharing A Shell', we focussed on friendships, sharing, and considering another person's point of view. We also created some amazing artwork, including wax resist pictures and collage. During the last couple of weeks of term, we have been retelling the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. In our Outdoor Classroom, we have found lots of evidence of caterpillars in the form of holes in leaves! As the weather is still a little chilly, we will wait until June to have caterpillars in our classrooms. We are looking forward to watching them change from caterpillars, to pupa, and finally become a beautiful butterfly.

Mrs Keogh

What are we learning next?

Mathematics

Subitising – perceptual, conceptual, auditory.
Comparing quantities to 10 in different contexts; recognising when amounts are equal/not equal; generalising 1 more/1 less; understanding the magnitude of amounts.

Making a whole number from 2 parts; splitting some numbers into 2 equal parts; recognising that 2 equal groups can make a double; understanding that double patterns are even; understanding that odd numbers cannot be split into 2 equal whole numbers. Automatically recall number bonds to 5 and some doubles facts to 10. Knowing that 5 is a key anchor in our number system.

Literacy

Continue to learn how to read and spell Phase 4 words.

Write a short sequence of sentences, sometimes for a real purpose and audience.

Develop a neat and legible handwriting style, joining letters when ready.

What we can do at home to help.

Mathematics

Practice counting and ordering numbers to 20.

Practice all of the different ways of splitting a number to 10 into two amounts.

Watch Number blocks.

Play dice games using doubles.

Literacy

Complete Phonics homework which is posted on the school website each week.

Read with your child, practising blending sounds.

Practise writing words and short phrases, forming letters correctly, leaving spaces between words and including capital letters and full stops.



Spotlight on Year One



Year group update

We have had a very busy and exciting half term in Year 1 and the children have worked incredibly hard across all areas of learning. One of the highlights for everyone was watching our duck eggs hatch. The children were fascinated by the process and showed great care and curiosity as the ducklings grew. Everyone enjoyed having the opportunity to gently hold them, which created some very special memories for our classes. In PE, we have been practising a wide range of skills in preparation for Sports Day. The children have shown fantastic enthusiasm, determination and teamwork, and we are very proud of their efforts. In our history learning, we explored the lives and achievements of Charles Darwin and Sir David Attenborough. We even celebrated Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday! Inspired by their work, the children became 'explorers' themselves and created their own weird and wonderful animals, combining different features in imaginative and creative ways. In art, the children have produced some fantastic work using paper sculpture techniques. They have enjoyed experimenting with folding, cutting and shaping to create unique designs. In maths, we have been learning about position and direction. The children have developed a great understanding of how to describe movement and location, so they are now well prepared for any half-term outings!

It has also been lovely to welcome parents into school for our class assemblies and classroom sessions. The children were so proud to share their learning with you, and we really appreciate your continued support.

After such a busy and successful half term, we are all ready for a well-earned rest. We hope you have a wonderful break and look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for more learning.

Mrs Mobbs

What are we learning next?

Next half term, we will continue exploring our wonderful world, with a particular focus on nature, growth and materials. The children will build on their curiosity about the environment and develop a deeper understanding of how things grow and change around them. In art, we will be using our sketching and observational skills to carefully study natural objects. The children will practise looking closely at details, shapes and textures, and will create their own drawings inspired by what they observe. We are excited to see their confidence and creativity continue to grow.

In science, we will be learning about the properties of different materials. The children will investigate and compare materials, exploring questions such as which are strong, flexible, waterproof or suitable for different purposes. This hands-on learning will encourage them to think like young scientists. In English, we will be focusing on story writing. The children will begin to plan, write and edit their own stories, developing their imagination and improving their sentence structure and vocabulary.

We also have lots of exciting events coming up. Health and Fitness Week will take place in the first week back, and we have a trip to Oaklands Museum planned for the end of June. Lots to look forward to!

What we can do at home to help.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support at home—it makes such a difference to the children's learning. Reading remains a key focus, so please continue to read regularly with your child and talk about the stories together to build understanding and enjoyment.

In science, you can support learning by discussing the properties of different materials you see at home or when out and about (for example, why objects are made from certain materials). Encouraging observational drawing—carefully looking at and sketching everyday objects or nature—will also support their art learning. Finally, please continue to practise tricky words regularly to build confidence in reading and writing.



Spotlight on Year Two



Year group update

Year 2 have had a great start to the Summer Term. In the mornings we have been working hard on our reading, spelling, phonics, English and maths.

Our most recent English work has involved us writing instructions to help people make a fantastic mini greenhouse. We thoroughly enjoyed this and are looking forward to bringing our greenhouses home to watch our seeds grow. We have also learnt about moths and we have written poems about how they move.

At the start of this term we learnt about fractions in maths, moving on to learning more about telling the time. This week we have started our statistics topic which involves tally charts, tables and graphs.

Our other subjects have been great too, with the highlight being our wonderful creations in art! We created our own versions of Henri Rousseau's 'Tiger in a Tropical Storm', using tile printing for the background and drawing skills for the tiger. We are all incredibly proud of these!

Well done Year 2!

Mrs Palmer

What are we learning next?

In maths, after half term we are continuing to learn about statistics. We will also be revising all previously taught strategies such as addition, subtraction and multiplication.

It is always helpful to children if they can consistently be exposed to everyday maths skills of time and money. In school children learn to tell the time using an analogue clock, starting with o'clock and half past. With money, we learn about the different coins and notes, and how to give change.

We will continue to send home a reading book and a library 'treasure' book every week. We read every day in school. We are starting to learn more about comprehension and answering written questions about what we have read.

We are continuing to practise using our phonics knowledge and we are learning new spelling rules. Within our English, we are continuing to embed sentence structure, spelling and handwriting.

What we can do at home to help.

Please continue to use the Hit the Button website to practise maths skills including times tables. [Hit the Button - Quick fire maths practise for 6-11 year olds](#)

It would be very helpful if you could please try to show your child how to read an analogue clock—starting with o'clock and half past. Even just exposing them to hearing you say what the time is at different parts of the day will help them to start to understand this quite tricky concept. Please also try to expose them to how money works, and if possible, the value of different coins and notes.

Please continue to hear your child read regularly. Also, please read stories to your child as we know listening to stories is beneficial to their reading development. Asking questions about what you or they have read helps develop their comprehension skills.

Please encourage your child to write whenever possible. We have worked a lot on improving our writing by adding adjectives to describe, and writing longer sentences. Notes, lists, cards etc are all a good way of practising handwriting and spelling. We have been working

Health Advice Drop In for 5-19 year olds

Drop-in sessions at your local Family Hub or community venues. An opportunity to get advice and support for your 5-19 year old with a member of our health team, where you can discuss things which may be concerning you.

Areas of support

- Managing worries, low mood, stress or anger issues
- Bullying and friendship issues
- Diet / Nutritional support
- Improving sleep
- Day and night wetting
- Behavioural concerns
- Personal hygiene
- Sexual health
- Information and signposting regarding medical conditions

t: 0300 247 0014

w: essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk

Every Tuesday 2pm-4pm
(term time only)

Location: Writtle Infant school,
Lodge Road, CM1 3HZ

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Every Weds 9am-10.30am

Location: Chelmsford West
Family Hub, Dixon Ave, CM1
2AQ **(For parents/ carers)**

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Every Friday 4pm-5pm

Location: Chelmer Gate youth
group.193 Moulsham Street,
CM2 0LG

(For 11-14yr olds only)

Commissioned by

Headteacher
Mrs. Jane Landa-Arrese B. Ed. Hons;
Deputy Headteacher
Mrs Claire Palmer BA Hons QTS



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20 May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of a small change to our morning drop-off arrangements for children in Year 1 and Year 2, which will take effect from **Monday 1st June**. Please note this does not affect EYFS children coming in via the side gate.

From this date, Year 1 and 2 children should be dropped off via the **old front (red) door**. As always there will be members of staff to welcome them.

If you need to pass on a message to the school, we kindly ask that you either:

- Go to the school office via the **main entrance**, or
- Email your message directly to the office.

This change is being made to help us **maintain a safe and secure entry to the school building**, ensuring that all children can enter calmly and safely at the start of the day. Please note - the [pick up](#) arrangements / exits, at the end of the day will remain the same

We appreciate your support in helping this transition run smoothly.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jane Landa-Arrese
Headteacher








Moulsham Infant School is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales (company number 7610916). Registered office: Moulsham Infant School, Princes Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9DG
Moulsham Infant School fully complies with information legislation. For the full details on how we use your personal information view our online privacy notice at www.moulsham-inf.essex.sch.uk or call 01245 352742 if you are unable to access the internet.

May half term 2026

(Monday 25th- Friday 29th May 2026)

What's on in Chelmsford?

A guide to some free/ low-cost activities

<p>Essex ActivAte</p> 	<p>Throughout the school holidays</p> <p>FREE half term clubs for eligible school aged children- Holiday, Activity and Food.</p> <p>All attendees receive free lunch</p>	 <p>www.activeessex.org/children-young-people/essex-activate/</p>
<p>Chelmsford Cathedral</p> <p>Chelmsford Cathedral New Street, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1TY</p>	<p>Trails of discovery tour - All week</p> <p>If you're visiting the Cathedral with children, make sure you pick up one of our free Trails of Discovery worksheets created in collaboration with The Arts Society.</p> <p>The trails are designed to help visitors explore the art, architecture and history of the Cathedral. We're delighted to have two sets of trails; a trail for preschoolers and one for primary aged children.</p> <p>You can pick up a trail at the desk outside St Peter's Chapel.</p>	 <p>www.chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk/whats-on/children-and-family-ministry</p>
<p>Essex Police museum</p> <p>Essex Police Museum Essex Police Headquarters, Springfield, Chelmsford CM2 6DN</p> 	<p>Open Wednesdays in school holidays And every Saturday Open 10am-4pm</p> <p>FREE admission</p> <p>NO car park</p> <p>Lots of free activities and interactive exhibits for children of all ages</p>	 <p>https://www.essex.police.uk/museum</p>

<p>Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service</p> <p>Support for families with children aged 0-19</p> <p>All activities listed here are FREE, no booking is needed- just pop along. Parents/ carers to stay for the sessions.</p>	<p>Weds 27th May 2026 1pm-2.30pm Baby Beginnings Group for 0-12 month olds FREE admission and NO booking needed Sensory Play, baby toys, stories, songs and more</p> <p>1pm-2.30pm Little Explorers Group for 9-18 month olds FREE admission and NO booking needed Sensory Play, toys, soft play, stories, songs and more</p> <p>1pm-2.30pm: Infant Feeding Support Drop in for support with all things feeding- whether breastfeeding, formula feeding, combi or more- we can support</p> <p>All @ Chelmsford West Family Hub, Dixon Ave, CM1 2AQ</p> <p>Friday 29th May 2026 10am-11.30am Stay, Play and Learn group for 1-8 year olds @ Chelmsford West Family Hub, Dixon Ave, CM1 2AQ FREE admission and NO booking needed Fun activities, crafts, outdoor play, singing and more!</p>	 <p>https://essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk/hubs/chelmsford-central-family-hub/</p>
<p>Messy Church</p> <p>Christ Church Chelmsford 164 New London Rd, Chelmsford CM2 0AW</p> <p>FREE event open to all</p>		<p>www.facebook.com/ChristChurchChelmsford</p>
<p>Museum of Chelmsford</p> <p>Oaklands Park, Moulsham Street, CM2 9AQ</p> 	<p>Open Daily 10am-4pm Children under 16- FREE (£4 per adult)</p> <p>2x free playgrounds in grounds of Oaklands Park</p>	 <p>www.chelmsford.gov.uk/museums/visit/chelmsford-museum/</p>