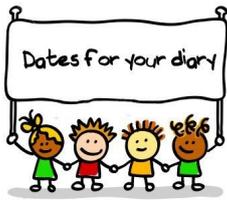


Moulsham Infant School



Motivate, Inspire, Succeed

September newsletter— 26th September 2025

Important Dates

Sept 29th— Flu immunisations

Sept 30th -SMILE

Oct 3rd - Harvest

Wk beg Oct 20th - no KS 1 clubs this week.

Oct 21st—Parent's evening 5.00-8.00pm.

Oct 23rd—Parent's evening 4.00-7.00pm.

Oct 27th-Oct 31st
Half term break

Nov 3rd—return to school.

Nov 3rd- Clubs restart

Nov 14th— Children in Need

Wk beg Nov 24th— Last week of school clubs

Dec 10th— Y2 Christmas Play

Dec 11th— Y1 Christmas play

Dec 12th— EYFS Christmas Play

Dec 15th— Smile Christmas Market

Dec 17th— Christmas Dinner

Dec 19th— Christmas class parties and Santa visit.

Welcome back everyone and welcome to all our new families.

We are so proud of how quickly the children have settled back into school and into the new academic year. Our new EYFS children are all now in school and are becoming familiar with school routines. They are coming into school in the mornings happily. We have also welcomed several new children into KS 1 – it already feels like they have always been part of Moulsham.

As well as welcoming our new families, we would also like to welcome a new staff member – Mrs Nicola Kell is covering Mrs Chapman's maternity leave - teaching in Willow Class.

Over the Summer holiday Mrs Chapman had her baby, a healthy baby boy, Huxley. We are looking forward to her visiting with him—hopefully soon.

Mr Fenech, our school caretaker, has decided after 18 years working at MIS, that it is time for him to hang up his paint brush, drain rods and leaf blower and take his well deserved retirement. We will be very sorry to lose him from the MIS team but wish him a long and healthy retirement—no doubt a fair amount of this time will be spent in Malta.

Next Tuesday we are holding our first SMILE meeting for the year—as parents you are all members of SMILE. We would really benefit from some more parents to be part of the group that meet regularly to organise events—look forward to seeing you there.



Message to the children— What a fantastic start to the new school year, keep up the great work. Remember TEAM -together everyone achieves more.



SCHOOL DINNER

As you know, our menu is on a 3-week cycle.

Next week we will be on Week 2 of the menu.

If your child is not having a meal from school, please provide them with a packed lunch.



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.

Drop Off 8.35 a.m. – 8.45 a.m.

Children can arrive at any time between these times. If parents stagger their arrival time this will reduce the amount of people waiting and congregating on the site.

Please ensure that children stay at the **bottom of the steps** until the door is open. Even if the Junior school bell is ringing.

There is always at least two members of staff on each entrance to welcome the children and there are members of staff in the corridor to help children if they are unsure.

At **pick up time** please stand back from the exits so that the staff and children can see where their grown-ups are waiting. Thank you.

Please also be respectful at these times to others around you—we have unfortunately in the past had incidents where parents have reported that they have over-heard conversations that are not appropriate around children and families.

Parking for Dovedales

Can we please remind you that for safety reasons parents are **not** permitted to bring their cars into the staff car park when dropping off or collecting



Important Information

Please remember all newsletters, important dates, forms and other information are available on our website at www.moulsham-inf.essex.sch.uk.

SMILE also post reminders about upcoming events on their Facebook page, just search for SMILE Parent's Group.

First Day Contact

If your child is unable to come to school because of illness, please ensure that you telephone the school office on each day of their absence, preferably before 9.05 a.m. If you telephone outside school hours, there will be an answer phone switched on for you to leave a message. If no message is received, we will need to contact you.

Late Arrivals/Collections

If your child arrives at school after their entrance has closed please bring them to the office and sign your child in. Children will be recorded in the register as late and if they arrive after 9.05 a.m., they will be recorded as an unauthorised absence for the morning session. If your child is collected late from the school office, you will be asked to sign them out.

It is **not acceptable** to have your children collected by older siblings from MHS unless it is an emergency and by prior arrangement. School finishes at 3.15p.m and this is the time the children must be picked up.



BACKPACKS

Thank you again to everyone who has followed our request not to bring backpacks into school. The cloak-rooms are definitely tidier and more importantly they are safer.

We really appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

Entrances at start of day

EYFS will enter the school via the side gate between 8.35 a.m. – 8.45 a.m.

Year 1 & Year 2 will enter through the main front door between 8.35 a.m. – 8.45 a.m.

Exits at end of school day.

EYFS classes will exit via the side at 3.15 p.m.

Year 1 classes will exit via the old front door at 3.15 p.m.

Year 2 classes will exit via the main front door at 3.15. p.m.

Family Support Worker

Sarah Mansell, our Family Support Worker is in school every Tuesday and Wednesday. To make an appointment to meet with her please contact the school office.

School Nurse

Our school nurse Louise Skelcher can be contacted on 03300 2470014.

Office hours

The school office is open from 8.35 a.m. – 3.30 p.m.

Outside of these hours, please leave a message on the school answerphone.

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 whilst in the school building.

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.

Social Media groups

These groups are a useful way for parents to share reminders, however any concerns regarding your child's education must be discussed directly with the school (via the school office or directly with your child's teacher /Headteacher) . Thank you.

Collection Arrangements

Please can any regular collection arrangements by after school clubs or other relatives/adults be put in writing to your child's **new** class teacher.



We do not carry information on from the previous year as the information is not always up to date. If we have not been notified of who is collecting your child we will not allow your child to leave for safe-guarding reasons.

Parent Helpers in School

We are always keen to welcome Parent/grandparent helpers in school. A letter with details on how you can volunteer will be circulated shortly.



Achievements out of school

If your child has a certificate / award from an activity they do out of school eg—swimming, football etc, that they would like to share with us in school, they can bring it in and we will take a photo of them with it that can then be added to our achievements board.

Correspondence

When emails, letters, messages are sent into school please can parents ensure that the child's first name, surname and class is stated in the correspondence. Thank you

Charities

We are very keen to support charities throughout the year and will respond to events and incidents as they occur. We will continue to support the normal charities that we raise money for e.g. the Poppy appeal, Marie-Curie, Children in Need and Comic Relief but our main charity this year is the Little Edi Foundation.

School Code and Values

The children will continue to follow the Moulsham Code and work to live by our core values - Independence, Curiosity, Ambition, Resilience and Empathy (I CARE).

These values are incorporated into every aspect of life in school, including the cube jar reward. They are also the focus of assemblies in school for KS 1.

Harvest

On Friday October 3rd the whole school will be taking part in a Harvest celebration in school. More details were sent out in a separate letter.



Car Park & Parking on the school site

Please can all parents and visitors be mindful of how and where they park on the school site. The site is very busy at the start and end of the school day. Ultimately, safety has to be a priority to other drivers and pedestrians.

Cars **should not be parked** on grass verges or where they block entrances or exits.

Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

Footwear

We have noticed that there are a couple of children who are wearing crocs or trainers to school. These styles of shoe are not suitable to be worn in school all day.

Please refer to the uniform guidance for suitable footwear or ask a member of staff.

Key Stage 1 after school clubs

These started on, Mon 8th Sept. This half term they will run each week apart from the final week (wk beginning 20th Oct due to Parent's eve) and then during the 2nd half of term until 24th November.

You will have received notification from the club provider if your child has secured a place. If you were not successful your child's name will be placed on a waiting list and if a space becomes available you will be informed.

Clubs finish at 4.15pm.

Please ensure your child is picked up promptly at the end of the club.



**After School
Clubs**

Children late to school

Last year the number of children late to school in the mornings increased dramatically.

Please remember that the school day starts at 8.45 am (door/gate opens at 8.35am).

Children will be missing the start of their learning if they are not in school at this time.

Frequent lateness adds up to a considerable amount of lost learning.

5 mins late every day = 3.4 days in a year

10mins late every day = 6.9 days in a year

15 mins late every day = 10.3 days in a year



SMILE

The SMILE AGM will be held on Tuesday 30th September at 7.00 p.m. at the school.

Please come along and see how you can be involved. We will be discussing ways to raise money this year and our next fund raising project. Everyone is very welcome, all parents are part of SMILE. We rely on the support of parents for SMILE to organise events and raise vital funds to enhance the children's experiences in school.

SMILE can be contacted at :-
smilepta2021@outlook.com.



Healthy snack

You are probably aware that the children are allowed either a piece of fruit or vegetable for a mid morning snack. Last year we found that some children did not eat the snack provided as they did not like it, and there was not enough provided for all children in year 2.

Due to this we are allowing children to bring in a snack from home for snack time if they prefer. It must be either fruit or vegetable and something that the children can eat without any preparation by staff in school. If sending grapes, please ensure they are cut, to avoid choking.

Please note school snack is still available.

Any questions please ask.



We are very excited to share that Rose Kitui (Oak class) is joining the rest of her family in the race for the kids in October in order to raise funds for Great Ormond Street Hospital. It is the first time she's done this event and is very excited. The link for donating is below.

<https://race.gosh.org/fundraisers/RoseKitui>

Good Luck Rose!

Things from home

Please do not allow your child / children to bring toys etc from home into school.

Such items can easily become mixed up with school equipment or get lost.

Thank you for supporting us with this.

Spare clothes

We are running short of supplies in school for if children need changing.

We would be grateful for any contributions—particularly girls pants and boys pants, socks, vests and tights.

If your child comes home in spare clothes from school, please wash them and return them to school in a bag. They can go direct to the teacher or can be handed into the school office.

Thank you

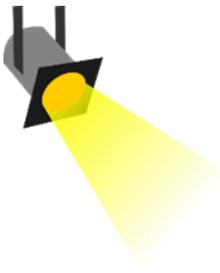
Meet the teacher, drop ins

It was lovely to see so many of our Year 1 and Year 2 families coming in after school on 10th and 11th of September. We also welcomed the new reception parents into school for a drop in coffee and chat.

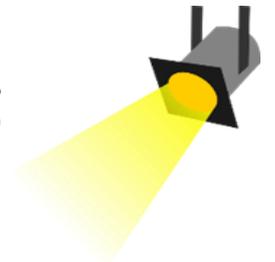
Please let us know your thoughts on these events as we are constantly looking at ways to improve the information we share with parents and the opportunities you have to come into school.

Thank you





Spotlight on year groups



EYFS

We are all really proud of the Reception children and how well they have settled at school. Getting to know new adults and becoming comfortable in an unfamiliar environment takes time, but the children have handled this really well.

We have had our first P.E. lessons and, following completion of Reception Baseline Assessment, we have begun teaching Phonics and Maths. The children now come into class by themselves and are developing their independence and self-help skills. The children are enjoying being in our Outdoor Classroom, as well as continuing their learning indoors.

Lunchtimes are also going well and the children have made many new friends across all year groups.

Mrs Keogh

Year 1

Year 1 have made a fantastic start to the new school year! The children have settled in brilliantly, getting to know their new class staff and exploring their classrooms with enthusiasm. They've especially loved using the outdoor learning area, where the new playground markings have been a big hit—encouraging lots of active play and movement.

In Year 1, we continue to enjoy continuous provision through 'COOL' time (Choose Your Own Learning), which has sparked wonderful creativity, curiosity, and social development. Our theme this term is all about nature and the changing seasons, and the children have been busy making autumnal observations. Well done to all our Year 1 children—you're off to a great start!

Mrs Mobbs

Year 2

The children have settled well into Year 2. They are all enjoying this term's topic of The Great Fire of London. In English they have been writing a non-chronological report about the fire, including interesting facts about how it started and why it spread so quickly.

Our Design and Technology (DT) project is to make a model with a moving part. So far we have cut and painted our boxes and created a fire collage using tissue paper – we are all enjoying making these and are looking forward to sharing our projects with our families when they are completed.

In maths we are working on improving our knowledge and understanding of place value by partitioning numbers, placing numbers on a number line, and comparing and ordering two-digit numbers. We are moving on to counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, and then to addition and subtraction.

It has been a great start to year 2, well done to all of the children!

Mrs Palmer

Health Advice Drop-in for 5–19 year olds

Drop-in sessions at your local Family Hub/ community venue to get advice and support for your school aged child with a member of our school 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

FREE drop in. No booking needed

T: 0300 247 0014

www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk

Last Tues of the month (Term Time)

2.45pm–4pm

Location: The School House',
Moulsham Junior School, CM2 9DG

Every Tuesday (Term Time)

2.30pm-4.30pm

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

Every Wednesday

2.30pm-4.45pm

Location: Chelmsford West Family
Hub, CM1 2AQ

Every Thursday (NEW LOCATION)

2.30pm-4.45pm

Location: Morrison's
Community Room, Regiment
Business Park, Eagle Way, CM3 3FY