

# MOSSY LEA MESSENGER

MONDAY, 12th October 2020 XII· X · MMXIX

Once again both Antonella and I have had a great week. School's fab. There's no doubt about that. Antonella and Lindsay have been doing some great dinosaur themed work with Reception and Year 1 kids, and are very, very well settled into school life, and are, as always great company—you should be very proud of the kids - they're amazing little people, who have so much to offer.

The older kids have been really being challenged in their work this week, learning about soundproofing in Science, and writing persuasive adverts in their English. They had fun on the computers with Naomi Harrison on Wednesday and as always with Coach Mayers and Pearl in PE.

We have lots of exciting events planned for this week, especially the visit from Teach Rex and a hearing awareness talk by the Children's Deaf Society.

What a great week—remember, please, spread the word. It's time to come back to Mossy Lea. Back to goo. Here for good.

## Admissions:

If you have a child who should start school in September 2021 please ensure that you have read the admissions process on the website at school.

We're still recovering from our bad times, 4 years ago now, we, as a school, have more than bounced back, but reputational wise, to those who don't know us, we're still recovering. Help us spread the word about Mossy. Its qualities, it's quaintness, its beauty. We're on the up with numbers, but we would like more.... Even full we'd only have 50 kids, so don't worry, we won't explode, we won't lose our village feel, or our village qualities.... But please. Spread the word. Back to good. Here for good. It's time to come back to Mossy Lea now.

**Why kindness is the theme for Mental Health Awareness Week 2020 - and why it could be the most important week we've ever run.... So important that I want to carry it on for another week!**

Last week, I waited in a socially distanced queue outside the supermarket as the rain started to fall.

One of the staff noticed I was getting wet. He scurried away to find a pile of umbrellas, carefully disinfected the handles and passed them out with a smile. To my surprise, my eyes started to well up. At a time when I felt alone, I suddenly felt connected.

If I asked you the last time you gave or experienced kindness, you would tell me stories of when you felt moved, protected, held, seen, loved.

So, for a week that could be difficult for many, let's focus on the value of kindness. Kindness not just to others, but to ourselves

**Kindness has the singular ability to unlock our shared humanity. Kindness strengthens relationships, develops community and deepens solidarity. It is a cornerstone of our individual and collective mental health. Wisdom from every culture across history recognises that kindness is something that all human beings need to experience and practise to be fully alive.**



## Seesaw was sent home a few weeks ago — PPPLLLLLLLEEEEEAAAASSSSEEEE

Download the APP following the instructions we sent out (not Reception children, you use Tapestry). This is different from the Class app which was used for completing work during lockdown. A teacher or your child will add work to Seesaw, to share some of their wonderful learning with you. Seesaw is private. You'll only see posts for your child. It is a great way to keep up to date with what's going on in school and see some of the lovely work taking place.

If in the event of a school closure, work will be set and uploaded on the Seesaw Class app, alongside Zoom lessons, but for now you only need the Family app.

Any problems with it, or you need help—pop into school, with a mask on, and we'll help you! No problem.



### Reading

We appreciate that life can be busy, however, it is so important that children read at home. They are learning lots of specific reading skills in school and they need time to practise these skills.

Parents can support this 'reading journey' through regular reading at home. Reading to and with your child every evening for at least ten minutes can make a dramatic difference to a child's achievement within school. A report from the Oxford University Press highlighted the importance of parents reading with their children. 'Children who read outside of class are 13 times more likely to read above the expected level for their age'.

The report also offers six tips for reading with your child at home, including:

1. Make time to read- even ten minutes a day
2. Choose different types of books
3. Take turns to read
4. Talk about the book- asking your child questions
5. Pay attention to the language
6. Enjoy reading

In order to support parents the Reading Records have questions and ideas you can talk about with your child. Every time you hear your child read please make a note and we will also do the same school. The children can even earn Dojo points for reading at home. Lets work together to foster a love of reading within our children.



**Have you ever picked up your child from school,** dying to know how their day went, only to have a conversation that goes a bit like this...

'How was your day?'

'Fine'

'What did you do today at school?'

'Nothing'

And that's it. The conversation comes to an abrupt end and you still have absolutely no clue about what they got up to. Sound familiar?

Well, if you're keen to get some answers, try asking these kid-friendly questions instead. I bet you'll find out a whole lot more!

1 What game did you play at playtime?

2 What made you smile today at school?

3 What was the funniest thing the teacher said?

4 Who do you want to make friends with in your class, but you haven't had a chance yet?

5 Who brought in the yummiest thing for packed lunch today?

6 Tell me one cool thing you learned today.

7 What was the hardest rule to follow in class today?

8 If you got to choose, who would you want to sit next to/not want to sit next to in class?

9 Tell me three different times you used your pencil today.

10 And did you use your rubber?

11 Did anything make you cross at school today?

12 Who did you help at school today?

13 What rules do they have at school that are different to the rules we have at home? Are they fair?

14 Did any of your classmates do anything funny today?

15 How would you rate your day at school out of 10? Why?

16 When did you feel most proud of yourself today?

17 Which lesson do you think I would have enjoyed most today?

18 Does your teacher remind you of anyone we know? Who and why?

19 Was anyone feeling sad or worried at school today?

20 Which new words did you learn?

Please help our collaboration school and send in any clean, de-labelled 2 litre plastic bottles...



**WE NEED YOUR CLEAN  
2L PLASTIC  
BOTTLES**

**FOR OUR SCHOOL  
GREENHOUSE PROJECT**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR 2L BOTTLES IN TO  
SCHOOL BEFORE **FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER****

**WE ARE GOING  
GREEN!**

