

MOSSY LEA MESSENGER

Monday, 13th October 2025 VIII.X. MMXXV

✨ This Week at Mighty Mossy! ✨ 🌿

🍎 Acorn Class Highlights:

🔬 **Science:** We listened to the story of how Isaac Newton discovered gravity and carried out our own experiments! The children loved predicting and testing which objects would land first, thinking carefully about how size, shape, and weight might make a difference. Lots of curious scientists in the making!

✚ **Maths:** Reception: Exploring the number 4 through games and hands-on activities.

Year 1: Working hard on number bonds to 10.

Year 2: Subtracting 2-digit numbers using base ten blocks.

Year 3: Learning the column method for adding 3-digit numbers — amazing focus and effort!

🧵 **Design & Technology:** We've been learning different joining techniques and have begun sewing our very own puppets! The children have shown fantastic perseverance and care with their stitching — we can't wait to see the finished creations! 🧵

🚀 **History:** This week, we learned about Neil deGrasse Tyson and how he helped reclassify Pluto as a dwarf planet. We explored what it means to be curious and shared all the wonderful questions we have about space. 🚀

🌳 Oak Class Highlights:

📖 **English & Science:** Oak Class have begun planning and researching for their cross-curricular information booklet on human development. They are so excited to share their finished work with the children in Acorn Class soon!

✚ **Maths:** Year 4: Practising formal methods for addition.

Year 5: Learning how to use a protractor to measure angles accurately.

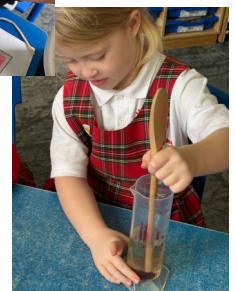
Year 6: Exploring the most efficient strategies for multiplication — fantastic problem-solving skills on show!

🏆 **History:** We've been using primary sources of evidence to learn about the ancient Olympic Games and how they've influenced the modern day. The children were shocked (and slightly amused!) to discover that the athletes competed naked!

🎨 **Art:** Inspired by Ancient Greece, we've been working with clay to create our own Greek vases — beautiful craftsmanship all round!

🌍 Whole School Topic Assembly:

This week, we explored why October is celebrated as Black History Month, learning about the inspiring life and impact of Nelson Mandela and his fight for equality in South Africa. ❤️



I stumbled across an article recently about something called “October Theory” — the idea that this month can serve as a natural pivot, a moment for reflection, for shedding what no longer serves, and for resetting one’s course in preparation for the year ahead.

In many ways, schools have their own October Theory. We begin the term with energy, plans, and new routines. Then October arrives — leaves turning, daylight shrinking — and we find ourselves in the middle, tested, adjusted, learning what works and what needs tweaking. It’s a built in checkpoint in our rhythm.

As we move through this season, I invite us all — staff, children, parents — to lean into the reset.

Ask: *What’s working? What’s not? What needs clearing out, what needs deepening?* Because that quiet re-valuation is often where real growth happens, not just in school, but in life.

We’ve already thrown ourselves into so much — Forest Fridays, changes in staffing, Year 6 PGL, 5 new kids in, up and running, and hopefully loving life, and lots more. Let’s use this moment in October not just to keep going, but to go with intention.


Thank you for being part of this community that’s brave enough to stretch, honest enough to reflect, and hopeful enough to reset together.




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We’re Hiring! Join Our School Team ☀️

Do you enjoy working with children and want to make a real difference in their day? We are looking for a Welfare Supervisor to join our fantastic team of staff and pupils.

 Monday to Friday (term time only)
11:30am – 1:30pm

If you’re caring, enthusiastic and enjoy working as part of a team, we’d love to hear from you.

 Find full details and how to apply, visit the school website.



Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are a big part of children's lives. While they offer many benefits, they also come with risks. This guide helps parents in the UK keep their children's mobile use safe and healthy.

General Mobile Safety Tips

- Talk regularly with your child about how they use their phone.
- Set clear rules about screen time and appropriate content.
- Keep devices in shared family spaces when possible.
- Encourage your child to come to you if something online makes them uncomfortable.

Recommended Parental Control Apps

Here are some trusted apps that help parents monitor and manage mobile use:

- Qustodio: Offers screen time limits, app blocking, and activity reports.
- Net Nanny: Provides web filtering, alerts, and location tracking.
- Norton Family: Helps monitor web use, search terms, and time spent online.

Social Media Safety

- Know which platforms your child uses (e.g., TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat).
- Set privacy settings to limit who can contact or view your child's profile.
- Teach your child not to share personal information or location publicly.
- Encourage respectful and kind behavior online.

Screen Time Management

- Use built-in tools like Apple Screen Time or Google Family Link.
- Set daily limits and schedule device-free times (e.g., during meals or bedtime).
- Model healthy screen habits as a parent.

UK-Specific Resources

- NSPCC: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
- Internet Matters: <https://www.internetmatters.org/>
- Childnet: <https://www.childnet.com/>
- UK Safer Internet Centre: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

Parenting Guide: Using Life360 to Secure Your Child's Phone

What is Life360?

Life360 is a family safety app that helps parents stay connected with their children by providing real-time location tracking, driving behaviour reports, and emergency alerts. It allows families to create private 'Circles' where members can share their locations and communicate securely.

Key Features for Safety

a. Location Tracking

Track your child's real-time location and receive alerts when they arrive or leave designated places like school or home.

b. Driving Reports

Monitor driving behavior including speed, phone usage while driving, and hard braking to ensure safe travel.

c. SOS Alerts

Your child can send an SOS alert with their location to all Circle members in case of emergency.

Attendance Update

Your overall attendance
96.4%

You are in decile 5, the top
40-50% of schools

Class Call In—Thursday, 16th October

We are delighted to invite you to our Class Call-In! This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to show you their classroom and share some of the fantastic work they have been doing this term. **Please note that on this day, only paid Wrap Around Care will be available..** We look forward to seeing you and celebrating the children's hard work together!

Break the Rules Day – Friday 24th October

As Halloween falls during the October half term this year, we won't be holding our usual party. Instead, to add a little fun and raise funds for school, we'll be hosting a **"Break the Rules Day"** on **Friday 24th October**.

On this special day, pupils will have the chance to bend the rules – all for a good cause! Each rule broken will cost **£1**, with a maximum of **£5 per child**.

Some ideas include:

- Wearing trainers instead of school shoes – £1
- Wearing hair down instead of tied up – £1
- Bringing a treat for playtime instead of fruit – £1
- Wearing a Halloween costume – £1

It's a chance for the children to get creative, enjoy a day of mischief and help raise money at the same time. We can't wait to see their imaginative rule-breaking!

Star of the Week



Diary Dates

	October
16th	Class Call In 15:30
23rd	Lancashire Fire Service visit to both classes
24th	Break the Rules Day Break Up
	November
3rd	INSET—School closed for children
4th	Children return