

MOSSY LEA MESSENGER

Monday, 29th September 2025 XXIX.IX. MMXXV

🌿 ✨ This Week at Mighty Mossy ✨ 🌿

It's been another fantastic week of learning and creativity across our classes!



Acorn Class

In Science, we were inspired by Katherine Johnson and her incredible role in helping the first rocket land on the moon.

In Maths, we explored length and height by measuring all sorts of objects around our classroom.

In English, we've been working hard on our stories about the man on the moon, making sure to include noun phrases and past tense verbs.

In DT, we've started making our very own alien puppets — fabric has been cut and we're excited to begin designing next week!



Oak Class

In English, we've been asking: Can I write an additional chapter for Percy Jackson? The children have been brilliant with their modelled write.

In Science, we looked at late adulthood and were amazed to discover the oldest marathon runner was 101 years old!

In History, we studied the Battle of Marathon in Ancient Greece and learned why today's marathon is 26 miles. (Ask your child if they can explain it to you!)

In PE with Chorley SSP, we had great fun developing and improving our rugby skills.

On **Forest Friday**, we made creative bird feeders using apples and sunflower seeds to help our local wildlife.



Harvest Assembly at Tunley Church

A huge thank you for your generous donations to the food bank and for supporting our Harvest Assembly. The children loved performing The Enormous Turnip, reminding us all about the importance of teamwork, sharing, and the journey our food makes before reaching our tables.



A Note on Attendance and Leave Requests

As you may be aware, there have been national changes to how schools handle unauthorised absences. These changes — which have been in effect for 12 months now — reduce our ability to use discretion when it comes to authorising time off. We'll always share the latest guidance, and you'll find a summary of the new rules included in this newsletter.

That said, we want to reassure you: our door is always open. We'll always try to work with you, not against you. We'd much rather have honest conversations than awkward stand-offs. We ask, please, that you don't ask children to cover for adult decisions — it puts them in an uncomfortable position and teaches them the wrong lesson about truth and trust. If something's going on, just let us know. We'll do our best to listen, support and advise.

Above all, please keep attendance as high as possible, and remember to send a Class Dojo message if your child is absent. Every day in school really does matter — and together, we're giving them the best chance to thrive.

My thanks, as always, Andy and Antonella



Important Update – Changes to Education-related Penalty Notices

Information for Parents

You may be aware that the Department for Education has announced national changes to the use of penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence in term time. These changes come into effect on 19 August 2024.

The changes to be aware of are:

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice **must** be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period¹. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions).
- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.

Absences can have a lasting effect on learning

Missing a week of school means your child will miss around 25 hours of learning

This creates gaps in their knowledge and could mean they will not meet their full potential

Young Voices 2026

I am pleased to confirm that once again, alongside St. George's, we will be attending Young Voices this academic year, with the concert due to take place on Friday 13th February, 2026 at the Manchester CO Op Arena (more details will follow).

We will be running the choir after school club every Tuesday from 3:30pm – 4:30pm, beginning next half term. The choir is open to children in Years 4, 5 and 6. If your child would like to participate, please send me a Class Dojo message by 9.00am on Wednesday, 1st October 2025.

Please note, places are limited and messaging does not automatically guarantee a place in the choir. We will work on a first come basis.

☀️ Year 6 PGL Residential – What an Adventure! ☀️

Our Year 6 pupils had an incredible time on their residential trip to PGL! Over the long weekend, lots of fun was had, fears were overcome and wonderful new friendships were made. 🤝 ✨

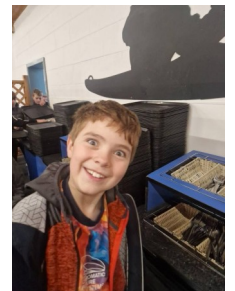
Highlights included:

- ⚡ Zooming down the zip wire
- 🎯 Taking aim at rifle shooting
- 🧗 Conquering the high ropes
- 🌲 Den building and fire lighting
- 🛶 Teamwork on the canoes




Not even the rain on Saturday could dampen spirits—it just added to the adventure! ☁️ ➡️ 🌈
A massive thank you goes to the fantastic staff and children from our collaboration school, St George's, who we joined forces with to make this trip such a success. 🤝

We are so proud of all the children for their resilience, teamwork and enthusiasm throughout. This will be a trip to remember forever! 💖



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.



Attendance Update

Current academic year up to Friday 26 September 2025

Number of pupils 27	Overall attendance % 96.5%	Overall absence % 3.5%	Unauthorised absence % 0.2%
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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
2nd	EYFS Early Reading Meeting 15:40
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