


MOSSY LEA MESSENGER


Monday, 2nd March 2026 II.III. MMXXVI

🌿 This Week at Mighty Mossy 🌿


Acorn Class


 **English:** The children have been working on Talk for Writing, building up ideas and language ready for their independent write based on One Snowy Night.


 **RE:** Acorns learned the story of Noah's Ark and discussed its meaning and messages.

 **Reception:** Our youngest learners also enjoyed creative play, building dens and cars using the construction equipment — lots of teamwork and imagination!

Oak Class

 **English:** The children innovated their own settings and characters based on the story Anansi and the Yam Hills, preparing for their own versions of the tale.

 **Science:** Oaks became taxonomists, classifying animals as they designed categories for a brand-new zoo.

 **Art:** Inspired by the artwork of M. C. Escher, the class explored repeating patterns in their own designs.

Bikeability:

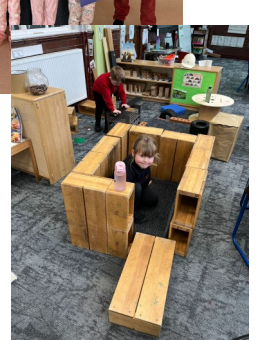
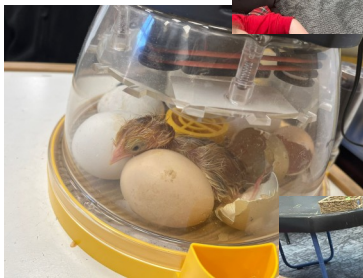
Our Year 5 pupils joined their friends at St George's for Bikeability, learning how to ride their bikes safely on the road. Well done to everyone for showing great focus and responsibility.

World Book Day:

We enjoyed a fun, reading-filled day based around bedtime stories. The children also joined Simon Blower from the Pobble team and Kate Sayer for an exciting writing workshop, creating ideas inspired by their own personal preferences for a story.

A Very Special Arrival:

This week also saw the arrival of our chick eggs, and the children have been fascinated watching the process unfold. So far five chicks have hatched, and the excitement in school has been wonderful to see! It has been a brilliant real-life lesson about life cycles, with lots of curious questions and careful observation from the children.



Attendance Update

Your overall attendance
95.8%

You are in decile 3, the top
20-30% of schools

Thursday, 12th March ~ Parents' Evening 15:40-18:00

Antonella and Siobhan will be available to meet with you from 15:40 to 18:00. To book your time slot, please send a Class Dojo message and we will do our best to accommodate. If your child is in Year 3, then you will meet with Siobhan, as she teaches their English and Maths.

Please note that we are unable to supervise children during your appointment, However, after school club will be on until 16:30 as normal.

Strong schools aren't built by accident — they're built by people who care enough to be involved.

Diary Dates

	March
9th	Governors' Meeting 18:30
11th	Year R and 6 School Nurse Visit
12th	Parents' Evening 15:50-18:00
27th	Easter Egg Hunt
	Break up

READING

is to the

MIND

what

exercise

is to the **BODY.**

Sir Richard Steele



Weekly Awards



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Jot down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.



2 WIDEN THE SELECTION



Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.

3 GIFT A BOOK



One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.

4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS



Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as Authorly and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.

5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE



Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.

6 TALK BOOKS



There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS



As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.

8 GO DIGITAL



With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like PolyLino and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.

9 RECONNECT



There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go All In' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.

10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE



Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. Is it to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

Meet Our Expert

Carl Pattison is a literacy advisor and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.



See full reference list on our website