Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to this bumper newsletter that covers the events that have occurred since half term and lets you know what's coming up in the new year. We've had a fabulous build up to the Christmas holidays, huge thanks to you all for your support and we hope that we've managed to get you in the festive spirit! We return to school on TUESDAY 9th JANUARY, but until then from all the staff at Mosscroft we wish you a very merry Christmas and Happy and peaceful New Year.

Mrs. France

ATTENDANCE

Our attendance target this year is 96+%

Whole school attendance to date: 95.3%

Don't forget that tomorrow is a school day and any absences have a big negative impact on overall attendance. Support us in your child's classes Punctuality Pound purses in the New Year (see additional letter)

PARENTS EVENING: November 2017

Many thanks to all the Parents who came out to Parents' Evening on 14th November. Overall the turnout was really positive — thank you for appreciating the importance of this early opportunity to report on your child’s progress and to share areas for focus. Class by class turn out was as below:

- Reception: 100%
- Year 1: 78%
- Year 2: 70%
- Year 3/4: 79%
- Year 5: 83%
- Year 6: 81%

It was interesting for me to see that the lowest attendance was in one of the years where the children have statutory assessments to complete at the end of the year (SATs) and would very much urge these parents to attend at our next meetings (February) as both the pace of work and expectations required in these year groups (as with others) is very much improved with the help of parent knowledge and support.

We will be looking to build some stronger parental links in January through a process called structured conversations that aim to improve pupil outcomes through strong school and parent partnerships.

Check out the website for the outcomes from the Parents’ Questionnaire.

FORTHCOMING IMPORTANT EVENTS / DATES

- 20.12.17: Break up for Christmas holidays at 1.30p.m.
- 8.1.18: INSET day for teachers
- 9.1.18: Return to school for Spring Term
- 11.1.18: Y3 & Y4 Gymnastics competition
- 15.1.18: Reception Admissions Deadline
- 16.1.18: KS2 Swimming Gala
- 17.1.18: Whole School E safety day
- 23.1.18: Reception & Year 6 Height & weight health checks
- 26.1.18: Y2 Healthy Eating Workshop
- 30.1.18: Reception Healthy Eating Workshop
WHAT’S BEEN GOING ON?

NEW GOVERNORS
Following terms of office ending, and other related factors, I am very pleased to welcome a number of new Governors to our school’s Governing Body who are drawn from the local authority and community. So a warm welcome goes out to Mrs. Hampson, Mrs. Cashman and Mr. Broeders who are eager and enthusiastic to move the school forward to best meet the needs of your children.

MRS SPENCER'S REMEMBRANCE ASSEMBLY
At the end of November we warmly invited a number of Mrs. Spencer’s family members to join the school for a celebration of Mrs. Spencer’s life. This was very much a celebratory event and the children performed one of Mrs. Spencer’s favourite songs: “Over the Rainbow”; shared memories and performed poems all in her memory. We were then able to present to the family a Memory Book from all the pupils and the book of condolences that many of you wrote in at Parents’ Evening. We then revealed the school bench, complete with commemorative plaque, we had bought in memory of all Mrs. Spencer. The family were extremely touched and thrilled to hear that the McMillan coffee afternoon we held straight after the remembrance assembly raised an impressive £201.03 for cancer research. Thank you.

KS2 MATHS PUZZLE DAY & MATHS CHRISTMAS BINGO!!!
As part of the wonderful work Miss. Adcock is setting up linked to the school working towards gaining Liverpool Maths Quality Mark we have had two wonderful events. The first was in November for all the junior pupils where the Puzzle Company came into school and the pupils worked collaboratively to solve a whole range of maths problems. Then on Monday we had our maths inspired Christmas Enterprise Fair followed by our family maths bingo. It was a great day—thank you once again for all your support.

AFRICAN DANCE WORKSHOPS
We were absolutely thrilled to be one of the schools in Knowsley who benefitted from a police based project and funding to build community cohesion, understanding and harmony.

As a result we were so lucky to have the wonderful performers from OSUNARTS join us for a whole day of workshops, where the African performers taught the children about Africa and explored with them African drumming and dancing. The day built to a wonderful assembly at the end of the day where some of the pupils performed.

Thank you to those parents who joined us—I was very impressed with all your African moves too! Thank you so much for your good sport and joining in!!

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY
To remember all those lost in wars and conflicts, this November we were joined by the ex service men from Military Style Education Ltd who delivered a really fascinating assembly for the children. They not only explained about Armistice Day but developed the children’s understanding and awareness of all the different poppy colours that exist and which groups they help us remember including civilians and of most interest to the children, animals lives that were lost in the wars who helped the forces including, pigeons, dogs and horses.

We held our 2 minutes silence and the children showed great empathy and understanding.

THE READING CORNER
Looking for any last minute Christmas presents or stocking fillers. The following are new books or old favourites out for children now:
- Bad Dad: David Walliams
- Guinness World Records 2018
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Getaway: Jeff Kinney
- There’s a Snake in my School! : David Walliams
- The Bear: Raymond Briggs
- Father Christmas and Me: Matt Haig
- Good Night Stories for Reel Girls Elena Favilli & Francesca Cavallo

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