



'At Moat Farm Infant School everyday we learn, achieve, have fun and play'



Moat Farm Infant School

Newsletter November 2025



Cashback for you and your school

In association with

Sainsbury's

Argos

ESPO

My School Fund

We are excited to announce that we have signed up to My School Fund!

How does it work?

My School Fund links your spend to your chosen school, meaning every time you make a purchase at participating retailers you both benefit through an innovative cashback scheme.

What's in it for me and my child's school?

Both you and your child's school will receive eGift Cards to spend in participating retailers based on a percentage of your overall spend.

Getting Started?

Step 1: Visit <https://www.myschoolfund.org/#/> to sign up for free and link to your child's school.

Step 2: Register your credit/debit card to your account

Step 3: Spend at participating retailers

Step 4: Start receiving your eGift Cards

Click this link to watch the introduction video: [My School Fund for parents - YouTube](#)

School Values

Our school motto is 'At Moat Farm Infants everyday; we learn, achieve, have fun and play!' Our school has 6 core values: **Collaboration, Respect, Creativity, Perseverance, Caring and Reflectiveness**. This half term we have been learning about **Respect**. Next half term we will be focusing on **Creativity**. This is taught through our PSHE topic Dreams and Goals, and throughout our school curriculum. Children will be taught to share and express their own ideas, use their imagination, try new things and ask questions.



'At Moat Farm Infant School everyday we learn, achieve, have fun and play'



Anti-Bullying week

The week beginning Monday 17th November, we celebrated 'Anti-Bullying' week in school. This year the theme was 'Power for Good'. Throughout the week the children listened to stories, poems and music related to anti-bullying. All year groups read different stories which encouraged the children to celebrate their differences, as they make us unique. In our classes, we discussed who we could talk to if we; are being bullied, think somebody else is being bullied or are worried about bullying. To end Anti-Bullying week, we all wore our odd socks on Friday to celebrate being unique. Thank you to all of the children who have created wonderful posters for Anti-Bullying Week.



Staying active in School

We continue to promote children staying active in school and are delighted that our children are gaining additional physical activity daily. Throughout school our children take part in brain breaks, as well as physical playtimes and lunchtimes. The children now have access to a sledge slide and digging area at lunchtimes!

Physical activity sessions for all children are taking place weekly and we would like to thank parents for ensuring that children are sent in their school PE kits.

We would just like to remind you that now the weather is changing, children should be wearing weather appropriate clothing (plain black jogging bottoms, a school jumper/cardigan and suitable footwear). Year 1 children should be wearing velcro shoes due to taking shoes and socks off in gymnastics.

After School Clubs continue to be very popular amongst children and we are very appreciative of the support parents have shown. Our sports clubs have offered children a variety of new sporting opportunities which they are really enjoying! These will continue in the spring term with another range of sports clubs being available.

Armistice Day



On Tuesday 11th November, we held a two-minute silence in class. It is our responsibility to ensure that the younger generation are taught about the sacrifice and bravery of those who gave their lives for the sake of others and to make sure that our children understand the importance of a peaceful future for humanity.



Throughout school, children learnt about Armistice Day by watching a PowerPoint which explained Armistice Day in a child friendly way. We discussed the significance of poppies and showed our support by buying and wearing poppies in school.

Children created some Remembrance Art to commemorate all the people in the war. Nursery and Reception children created poppies by painting cake cases. Year 1 children printed poppies using apples and paint and year 2 children created 3D poppies by using plastic bottles and acrylic paint.



'At Moat Farm Infant School everyday we learn, achieve, have fun and play'



Thank you for all your kind donations for 'Children in Need'. We managed to raise £122 which will help children in a variety of projects across the region.

This year the theme was 'Challenge Yourself to 25'. Our challenges included; finding 25 words beginning with C, completing 25 press ups, 25 star jumps and EYFS took part in the Piggle Wiggle dance.

It was lovely to see the children wearing spots and yellow Pudsey attire to school to raise money for Children in Need. Thanks again for your generosity.



Rocksteady

Your child can learn drums, guitar, keyboard or singing during school hours. Each term there is a Rocksteady concert where parents are invited into school to watch their child perform. To find out more information on how to sign up please scan the QR code below.

Rocksteady lessons support wellbeing, grow confidence and build resilience, all in fun and inclusive environment.

Each lesson will build on your child's individual learning and motivational style, and they'll get to play real music in their own band from the very first lesson!



84%

parents say Rocksteady lessons supports their child's confidence

97%

children say they enjoy attending lessons or wish they could do more

100%

head teachers say Rocksteady lessons have a significant impact on children



SCAN QR CODE TO FIND OUT MORE

CLICK HERE TO SIGN YOUR CHILD UP NOW
WWW.ROCKSTEADYMUSICCHOOL.COM/INFO-FOR-PARENTS

Sponsorship Day

Thank you so much for all of your fundraising efforts! We have raised an incredible £2,873.20 which will be used to purchase outdoor equipment for EYFS. The children really enjoyed taking part in the fun run!



School Nursery Places

Applications are now being taken for nursery places for September 2026, January 2027 and April 2027 intakes. Registration forms are available at the school office or it can be emailed to you on request. Don't leave it too late to apply for your place.

If you would like to know more information, ask at the office for Mrs Davis or alternatively you can email her direct on: jayne.davis@mfi.school

This is the range of options for our families:

- **30 hour** funded places for working families of **3 and 4-year** olds (8:40 – 3:00pm) you can apply for the eligibility code on this website. www.childcarechoices.gov.uk
- **15 hour** funded places for **3 and 4-year** olds - children may start with us the term after they turn 3 (8:30 – 11:30am or 12-3pm)
- **15 hour** funded places for eligible 2-year olds (12-3pm) some families may receive an ELT code or letter offering them a free nursery place for their child.
- **15 hour** funded places for working families with 2-year olds (12 – 3pm everyday) You can apply for the eligibility code on this website – free childcare for 2-year olds www.childcarechoices.gov.uk
- We also have the option for families to pay for additional nursery hours, individual sessions will cost £25 for 3 hours from September 2024.



www.childcarechoices.gov.uk



[Family Information Service Hub \(sandwell.gov.uk\)](http://sandwell.gov.uk)

Free School Meal VOUCHERS

If your child is eligible, and registered with the Council, for Free School Meals (FSM) then you will be sent a £40 supermarket voucher ahead of the Christmas break. These vouchers are funded by Sandwell Council so, even if your child does not have a meal every day, it is worth ensuring you are registered by using the link below.

NB: If you are already registered, you DO NOT need to do anything else at this stage. Keep an eye out for further details, in the next few weeks, about the vouchers and when/how to download them.

[Free school meals | Sandwell Council](#)



HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) ID Codes are unique codes issued to every child that meets the eligibility criteria. This includes children eligible for Benefit Related Free School Meals, children with an EHCP, children we care for (looked after children) and children with NRPF (no recourse to public funding). Vouchers are issued through schools through email or text directly to parents.

If you meet the criteria, you will receive an E-voucher up to 3 weeks before the HAF holiday through email. Parents will be given a unique set of codes for each child, they need these codes to book activities. HAF only runs during the Easter, Summer and Winter holidays. No HAF codes will not be issued during half-term.



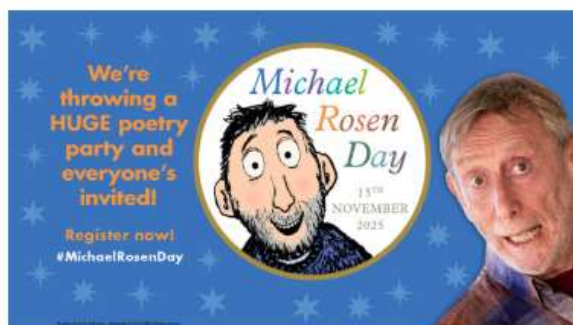
Thank you for supporting our recent Book Fair. We took an incredible £731.17. Just think of all those lovely books you and your children will be able to enjoy. This amount has given us £290.46 in commission to spend on *more* books for the school library.

The **MORE** that you
READ, the more things
you will **KNOW**.
The **MORE** that you
Learn, the more places
you'll **GO**.

Dr. Seuss

Thursday 13th November was **Michael Rosen Day**

The children in KS1 enjoyed a live link with the author and poet! They even joined in with his fabulous poem 'Chocolate Cake'. Mmmmm!



Reminders

- **Parking:** I would like to remind parents to park responsibly and safely when dropping children off at school and when collecting them at the end of the day. The safety of our children is paramount and your co-operation is appreciated. Can I also remind parents that you are only allowed to park on Tesco car park when you are shopping there. Please ensure that you are not blocking any driveways, so that we can remain considerate of our local residents.
- **Named clothing:** Can I remind parents to ensure that all children's clothing is clearly named to avoid 'mix-ups' with uniform.
- **Reporting absence:** If your child is absent from school you must telephone the school office on each day of absence before 9.30am. You can leave a message or speak to the office staff. Please ensure that you state your child's name and class and the reason for the absence, giving as much detail as possible.
- **Packed lunches:** our children in Year 1 & Year 2 who have a packed lunch for their dinner eat up in school in the hall now. Please ensure you add spoons to their lunch box for any yoghurt or jelly pots they may bring and also a drink for lunch time. This may be a carton of juice or squash in a bottle. This is separate to the water bottle children bring in for the classroom. Please do not send sweets in lunch boxes.

*****SCHOOL HAS TO ALLOCATE 6 DAYS EACH YEAR FOR STAFF TRAINING, SCHOOL IS CLOSED TO ALL PUPILS ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS*****

We have had 3 already at the beginning of this term

~~Monday 1st September~~

~~Tuesday 2nd September~~

~~Monday 3rd November~~

Friday 5th December

Monday 1st June

Monday 20th July

Maths Week England 2025!

Maths Week England was set up in 2019 with the goal of ensuring that no children miss out on the opportunities that being a confident competent mathematician can give them.

What is Maths Week England for?

1. To raise the profile of mathematics throughout England
2. Change the conversation about maths in the population at large to be more positive
3. Enable children and adults from all social and economic backgrounds to access and enjoy interesting mathematical experiences

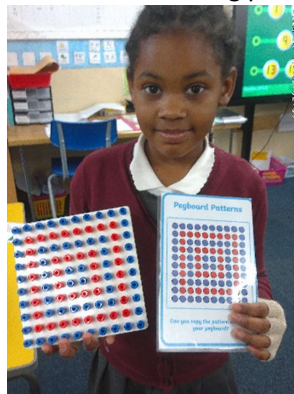
How Moat Farm Infant School did this!

Throughout school children have been celebrating maths week by seeing maths in different ways.

We have been on scavenger hunts, solved puzzles, solved brain teasers and used maths whilst playing board games such as snakes and ladders, connect 4, Jenga, O's & X's, Uno, dominoes, cards as well as many more. Finally, children looked at how we use maths in the wider world and how every job will use maths as an important skill.

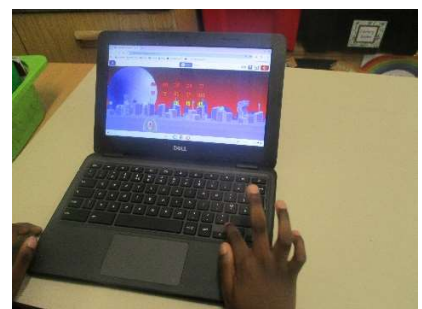


Well done to all our children for taking part and to our mathematicians of the week!



Notes for parents: Research has shown that board games enhance mathematical abilities for young children. Using board games can be considered a strategy with potential effects on basic and complex maths skills. In a new study, published in the journal *Early Years*, for 3- to 9-year-olds, the format of number-based board games helps to improve counting, addition, and the ability to recognise if a number is higher or lower than another. Children having experiences of playing board games at home and in school will support their understanding of number, shape and measure in maths as well as social and emotional skill support.

Please visit our school website curriculum page for maths to see further guidance and support.



Wellbeing

December Kindness 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 Spread kindness and share the December calendar with others	2 Contact someone you can't be with to see how they are	3 Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment	4 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about	5 Give a gift to someone who is homeless or feeling lonely	6 Leave a positive message for someone else to find	7 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today
8 Do something helpful for a friend or family member	9 Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead	10 Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them	11 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank	12 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today	13 See how many different people you can smile at today	14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one
15 Say hello to your neighbour and brighten up their day	16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to	17 Give thanks. List the kind things others have done for you	18 Ask for help and let someone else discover the joy of giving	19 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated	20 Help others by giving away something that you don't need	21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you
22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed	23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness	24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh	25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!	26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature	27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat	28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy
29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people	30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why	31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2026				

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

Wellbeing App—Cove



Who is it for? Cove is for anyone who wants to express through music what they might struggle to say with words.

How does it work? Cove is like a mood journal, except instead of using words to express how you feel, you use music. To create music, choose from six different moods – calm, struggling, longing, playful, clouded and gentle. Once you've selected your mood, you can easily add and remove different musical effects.

<http://www.cove-app.com/#about>

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

10 Days of Happiness - Free online program to boost your wellbeing

10 Days of Happiness is a free online program to boost your wellbeing, through daily actions for happier living. It is designed for challenging times, based on the latest research from positive psychology, neuroscience, and behavioural science.

And it takes just a few minutes each day! Just click on the link: [10 Days of Happiness](#)

01 Every morning you receive a message with a new activity.

02 You write your response to each day's activity.

03 These simple actions boost your wellbeing day by day.

ALL YOUR RESPONSES ARE KEPT PRIVATE. WE WILL NEVER SHARE YOUR DATA.



LBC
OLDBURY

Acts of Care

There will be free food
available to collect from
the church every Friday

12.30-2.30pm

Bristnall Hall Road

Oldbury

B68 9NF



"...that there were no needy persons among
them... and it was distributed to anyone who
had need."

Acts 4v 34-35



Attendance Matters



We would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to all of our families who have consistently ensures their child's attendance and punctuality is good. Getting these important habits established early on in your child's life will make a difference to their future. There is a proven link between attendance and achievement, and we want your children to have the best possible start in life. A child should attend school every day that they are well enough.

Our whole school attendance to date is: **95.9%**. Our school target for 25/26 is **96%**.

When children's school attendance falls below 90% (19 days missed in a school year), they are classed as 'Persistently Absent' from school. If your child falls into this category it is vital you do all you can to help improve their attendance, as they will be missing on valuable learning time. At this stage in the school year, a child is 'Persistently Absent' if they have missed 6 days off school so far this year.

As we enter the colder months, we know coughs, colds and other seasonal illnesses can become more common. If your child has a very high temperature they should stay at home and rest, however there is no need to keep a child off school with a cough or common cold. To reduce the spread of germs in schools, we encourage children to practice good hygiene habits.

This is the guidance for school and families regarding whether or not children can attend school if they have a mild illness. If you are unsure, please contact the school office for advice. There are two marks a day for full time children, if you child has woken up slightly unwell but is better after a couple of hours, then please do not keep them off for the whole school day, you may bring them in late and the morning will be recorded as authorised (illness). Check out the link for more information about common children's illnesses.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

December Attendance Challenge
7-4th, 8th-12th, 15th-19th

#NoDaysOff
#BeOnTimeToWin

Children will have a countdown card and will receive a sticker at the end of each week for being in school on time every day on the countdown to Christmas!

PLUS...

A prize draw on Friday 19th for children who have #NoDaysOff and #NoLateMarks for the last 14 days of term.

Prizes include: 2 x £20 Sainsburys vouchers, a children's festive hamper and a festive food hamper.

From Monday 1st December we will start our countdown to the Christmas holidays, with only 14 days left in this term. We are running our annual December Attendance Challenge over the last 3 weeks.

Dates for your diary – Autumn Term 2025

November	January
<p>3rd Teacher Training Day – School closed 5th Rabbit and Kingfisher reading workshop 2.15pm in hall 6th Frog and Otter reading workshop 2.15pm in hall 11th Remembrance Day W/b 10th Maths week 14th Children in Need Day – letter to follow W/b 17th School’s Anti-Bullying Week – ‘Power for Good’ (a week after national anti-bullying week) 20th Nurse Team in to complete Reception health checks 21st Wear odd socks day for Anti -Bullying Week 21st Nurse Team in to deliver ‘Pants’ Session to Year 2 21st Nurse team in Reception - Hands and Teeth session 24th Year 1 DECCA assembly D&T workshop 9-10: 24th Rabbit, 25th Otter, 26th Kingfisher, 27th Frog 25th Fox and Robin PD early writing workshop 27th Mole and Owl PD early writing workshop 27th Year 1 Trip – Londonderry Church RE visit Squirrel & Heron 28th Year 1 trip – Londonderry Church RE visit Badger & Hedgehog 28th Flu sprays 28th Wear in Christmas accessory in exchange for chocolates</p>	<p>5th School re-opens for spring term</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">December</p> <p>3rd Badger & Heron Christmas celebration with parents 2:30pm 4th Hedgehog & Squirrel Christmas celebration with parents 2.30pm 4th Wear a Christmas jumper/t-shirt in exchange for a bottle 5th Teacher Training Day – School closed W/b 8th Rainbow and Sunshine parent consultations 8th Flu sprays 9th Rocksteady concert 9am for parents 10th Christmas jumper day and Christmas dinner day 11th Edgmond Hall residential trip parent meeting 9am 11th Wear tinsel and sparkle in exchange for a £1 coin 11th Owl & Mole Christmas crafts 2pm in hall 12th Fox & Robin Christmas crafts 2pm in hall 12th Pre-school Nursery Christmas Breakfast 9am 12th PM Nursery Christmas Crafts 12th Wear non uniform in exchange for a female/male gift 15th Otter Christmas concert 9am 15th Reception disco 3.15-4.15pm in hall 16th Year 1 disco 3.15-4.15pm in hall 16th Frog Christmas concert 9am 17th Year 2 disco 3.15-4.15pm in hall 17th Kingfisher Christmas concert 9am 17th Rainbow craft 2pm in hall 18th Preschool Nursery & Rainbow disco 3.15-3.50pm in hall 18th Rabbit Christmas concert 9am 19th Party day & non-uniform 22nd - 2nd Jan School closed Christmas holidays</p>	

Sandwell School Term Dates 2025-2026

Autumn term 2025

- Term starts: Monday 1 September 2025
- Half-term holiday: Monday 27 October 2025 to Friday 31 October 2025
- Term ends: Friday 19 December 2025
- Christmas holiday: Monday 22 December 2025 to Friday 2 January 2026

Spring term 2026

- Term starts: Monday 5 January 2026
- Half-term holiday: Monday 16 February 2026 to Friday 20 February 2026
- Term ends: Friday 27 March 2026
- Easter holiday: Monday 30 March 2026 to Friday 10 April 2026

Summer term 2026

- Term starts: Monday 13 April 2026 (Bank Holiday Monday 4 May)
- Half-term holiday: Monday 25 May 2026 to Friday 29 May 2026
- Term ends: Monday 20 July 2026 (Inset Day)
- Summer holiday starts: Tuesday 21 July 2026