



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



Moat Farm Infant School

Newsletter September 2025

A Warm Welcome Back to Our Moat Farm Families!

We hope you all had a wonderful and restful summer break. A special heartfelt welcome to all our new families joining the Moat Farm Infant School community — we are delighted to have you with us!

Our children have been settling beautifully into their new routines, and I must say, they all look incredibly smart in their school uniforms. Thank you for your support with this.

As we begin this new term, I am excited to work closely with every child, family, member of staff, and our governors. Together, we will continue our journey towards excellence, ensuring the very best for all our children.

If you ever wish to discuss any aspect of your child's experience at school, please don't hesitate to speak with your child's class teacher. We are here to support you and your child every step of the way.

Please remember, our newsletters are shared monthly via Juniper, along with any important updates to keep you informed. We encourage you to check your inbox regularly. Additionally, our school website is updated frequently and contains lots of useful information for you and your family.

Thank you for being part of our wonderful school community!

*Warm regards,
Deborah Walker
Head Teacher*

Our School Values: Guiding Us Every Day

At Moat Farm Infant School, we believe every child is special and valued for who they are and what they bring to our school community. To help our children grow not just academically, but personally and socially, we focus on six important values: **Collaboration, Respect, Creativity, Perseverance, Caring, and Reflectiveness**. Each half term, we explore one of these values in depth, helping children understand how these principles guide their thinking and behaviour.

This half term, our focus is on Collaboration, which ties beautifully into our first Jigsaw topic, *Being Me in My World*. Collaboration means working together, listening carefully to one another, sharing, and taking turns. We teach our children how working as a team can make tasks easier, boost everyone's spirits, and help achieve great things. We also encourage them to have the confidence to speak up and gently challenge the team when needed.

We would love for you to join us in this learning journey by talking with your child about what collaboration means and celebrating those moments when they show teamwork and kindness at home. Your support helps deepen their understanding and makes our school values come alive every day.

Thank you for being part of our caring and collaborative community!



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School Nursery Places

Applications are now being taken for next year's nursery places – 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 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 **3 and 4-year** olds (8:40 – 3:00) 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 free nursery places for their child.
- **15 hour** funded places for eligible 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 have the option for families to pay for additional nursery hours, individual sessions will cost £25 for 3 hours.



www.childcarechoices.gov.uk



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

Friendly Reminders for Our Moat Farm Families

Parking:

Please remember to park thoughtfully and safely when dropping off and collecting your children. The safety of our children is our top priority, and your cooperation really helps us keep everyone safe. Also, kindly avoid blocking driveways so that we can be considerate neighbours to those living nearby. Thank you for helping us look after our community!

Named Clothing:

To help us keep track of your child's belongings, please make sure all clothing is clearly named. It makes it so much easier to return lost items when we know who they belong to. Thank you for helping us keep uniforms and belongings safe and in the right hands.

Reporting Absence:

If your child is unwell or unable to attend school, please call the school office before 9am on each day of their absence. You can leave a message or speak directly to our friendly office staff. When you call, please let us know your child's name, class, the reason for their absence, and when you expect them to return. This helps us keep everyone safe and well informed.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership!

Is your child due to start Reception or Year 3 in September 2026?

Online applications for Reception and Year 3 will be open soon!

Monday 15th September 2025 until 15th January 2026

Please ensure you make your application online before the closing date

Further information is available on the Sandwell Council website

[Applying for a reception place / Year 3 junior school place | Sandwell Council](#)

School Website

There is a wealth of information for families on our school website.

[Moat Farm Infant School \(MFIS\) \(moatfarm-inf.sandwell.sch.uk\)](http://moatfarm-inf.sandwell.sch.uk)

On here you will find information about each year group's curriculum, all the school policies, photo galleries, a virtual book library and lots more.

Healthy School

Moat Farm Infant School is a Healthy school, and as such we follow the School Food Standards that were revised in January 2015, we try to reflect the Eatwell Plate Model of Healthy Eating and support key outcomes of the School Food Plan.

We also support the Healthy Sandwell project. Please read our Healthy Food policy on the school website: [Microsoft Word - Healthy food policy \(moatfarm-inf.sandwell.sch.uk\)](http://moatfarm-inf.sandwell.sch.uk)

Reminder: Children should only have water in their class water bottle please, NOT squash.

PE kit Uniform

We have a set uniform expectation for children to wear on PE days. This consists of:

- white t-shirt
- school jumper or cardigan
- black bottoms

Please continue to support us to ensure your children are wearing the correct uniform to school every day. *PE days are not non-uniform days and children should be wearing their uniform.*

We do not allow the wearing of earrings during PE lessons. If children cannot independently remove them, they should no longer wear them to school on their PE days.

Any religious bangles also need to be removed or covered during PE. If they are to be covered, please provide a sweatband for your child.

Lunchtime

Can we please remind parents to order your child's dinner online on the Relish website. If you need any help please don't hesitate to speak to the office staff.

If you are sending your child with a packed lunch please do not over fill the lunchbox with food, as this can be overwhelming for the children when they have so much to try and eat. Children in KS1 with a packed lunch eat in the school hall at lunch time.

No food containing NUTS in lunch boxes please, as we do have children with severe nut allergies in school.



Attendance Matters



Good Attendance Matters!

Regular school attendance is a priority for us for all our children to enable them to get the best possible education. The link between attendance and attainment in school is very clear. We know that children who attend school regularly have the best chance of success in their learning, have better friendships and a better understanding of our rules and values.

At Moat Farm Infant School, we are passionate about our children's attendance and know that education is the most effective way to ensure children reach their full potential and future opportunities. We expect all children to attend school regularly and are here to support where families have difficulties with school attendance.

Punctuality is just as important. Lateness can cause your child to feel embarrassed when they come into the classroom, and can count towards an unauthorized absence if they are more than 30 mins late.

How you can help

You can:

- Ensure they have an early bedtime during the week
- Create a good routine for mornings at home so that your child can arrive to school on time
- Avoid absences from school wherever possible unless your child is too ill for school
- Make appointments for children out of school hours
- Make time to encourage and show interest in their school work
- Attend parent/carer events and meetings
- Share any education concerns with your child's teacher or appropriate school staff as soon as possible

Holidays/leave in term time

Holidays in term time are not allowed. Parents/carers must apply for the authorisation of any leave prior to travel. Leave of Absence requests must be applied for on the correct form and given to the school office at least 10 days prior to the absence. This form should be completed by the parent/guardian the child usually lives with and include the names of all adults who have Parental Responsibility. You can request a form from the School Office.

Leave for other circumstances such as family illness abroad may also not be authorised.

All schools will be required to consider referring parents/carers for a penalty notice for an unauthorised term time leave of absence, or when there has been irregular attendance over a 10-week period. This is when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence. The Department of Education has significantly toughened the laws and increased the fines.

Only 2 penalty notices can be issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period and any second notice within that period is charged at a higher rate of £160 per child.

A third penalty notice cannot be issued to the same parent for the same child within 3 years of the date of issue of the first. If there is a third occurrence of poor attendance or term time holiday that meets the legal threshold, alternative action will be taken by Sandwell School Attendance Service.

[School attendance | Sandwell Council](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/schoolattendance) www.sandwell.gov.uk/schoolattendance

Our school attendance policy is available on the school website, on the school policies page.

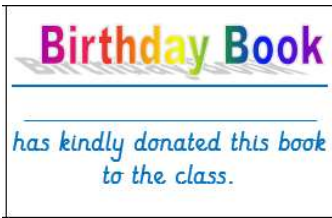
[Attendance Policy September 2025-2026](#)



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Rather than bringing in sweets or treats to celebrate your child's birthday, you may choose to purchase a new book for the class to enjoy over and over again. The gift that keeps giving!



The idea is that you buy a book, wrap it up and your child opens it in front of the class as a present to the class. We will then put a nameplate on the inside cover explaining who has donated the book to the school.

Last year we had **113 birthday books** given to the school for the children to enjoy. Thank you to you all!

The books can be any age-appropriate book, children's favourites or you can choose from the Reading Spine for your year group (please see the school website under Reading Materials).

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

Dates for your diary – Autumn Term 2025

September

9th Reception curriculum parent meeting 9:00 in the school hall
 9th Year 1 Welcome to Year 1 parent meeting 2.30 in the hall
 10th Year 2 Welcome to Year 2 parent meeting 2.30 in the hall
 11th Reception curriculum parent meeting 9:00 in the school hall
 12th Rainbow curriculum parent meeting 9:00-10.00 in the hall
 16th Individual photographs for children

October

Bring in harvest food donations until 23rd
 1st Black History Month
 2nd Census day
 2nd National Poetry Day
 8th Coffee morning for parents with invited visitors – in the school hall at 9am
 8th Kingfisher & Rabbit Yr 2 trip to Gurdwara & library
 9th Frog & Otter Yr 2 trip to Gurdwara & library
 9th – 16th Book Fair
 10th World Mental Health Day - wear yellow accessory with school uniform
 13th Owl & Mole Phonics, brain-break, story parent workshop 2.15pm in class (letter to follow)
 13th Year 2 DECCA assembly
 14th Robin & Fox Phonics, brain-break, story parent workshop 2:15pm in class (letter to follow)
 15th Parent Consultation Meetings 3:15-7.30pm
 20th Heron & Squirrel parent phonics workshops 2:15pm in hall
 21st Hedgehog & Badger parent phonics workshops 2:15pm in hall
 23rd Harvest Festival Assembly – donations to go to Black Country Food Bank
 24th PE sponsored event day (EYFS funds)
27th- 31st School closed half term holidays

November

3rd Teacher Training Day – School closed
 5th Rabbit and Kingfisher reading workshop 2.15pm in hall
 6th Frog and Otter (Year 2) reading workshop 2.15pm in hall
 10th Flu sprays
 11th Remembrance Day
 W/b 10th Maths week
 14th Children in Need Day
 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
 21st Nurse Team in to deliver 'Pants' Session to Year 2
 21st Nurse team in Reception - Hands and Teeth
 24th Year 1 DECCA assembly
 W/b 24th Year 2 D&T workshop (details to follow) 9-10
 27th & 28th Year 1 Trip - walk to the church
 28th Flu sprays

December

3rd Badger & Heron Christmas celebration with parents 2:30pm
 4th Hedgehog & Squirrel Christmas celebration with parents 2.30pm
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 Owl & Mole Christmas crafts 2pm in hall
 12th Fox & Robin Christmas crafts 2pm in hall
 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

January
5th School re-opens for spring term

*****SCHOOL HAS TO ALLOCATE 6 DAYS EACH
YEAR FOR STAFF TRAINING*****

**We have had 2 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