



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



Moat Farm Infant School

Newsletter February 2026

Thank you to all the parents who have attended our workshops this half term. I hope that you have found them useful and enjoying getting involved in some hands-on learning with your child. We also held our Spring Term Parent Consultations recently, a huge thank you to all who attended. It was lovely to see so many families having conversations with staff and supporting your child's education at our school. I hope you were pleased and found the discussions informative. Your involvement plays such an important part in their success and development.

Parent Feedback Spring 2026

We gave questionnaires to all parents that attended in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. We received 174 responses which were very positive. Your comments will support our school improvement process. Please see the results from the spring term Parent Consultations.

100% said that their child felt safe and well cared for whilst at school.

100% said their child feels safe at school.

100% said that their child was happy at school.

99% felt that the school promotes good behaviour and supports their child's well-being effectively.

99% felt that their child makes good progress and receives the support that they need.

99% felt that the school communicates clearly about what their child is learning and how to support them.

99% felt that the school provides a broad and engaging curriculum.

89% felt that their child has been bullied at school and it was dealt with quickly and effectively and 67% were unable to comment.

100% felt that the school provides a range of activities, experiences or trips to enhance the curriculum.

100% felt that the school celebrates diversity and meets the needs of all learners.

100% felt that teachers and staff listened to their child and responded to their needs and worries.

100% felt that concerns have been dealt with properly.

100% felt that when the school makes decisions, it has the child's best interests at heart.

100% felt that their child with SEND is supported well in school.

98% of parents would recommend the school to another parent.

Here are some of the comments we received:

- Informing you if your child is struggling.
- Teachers interaction with parents.
- Supporting and keeping families informed.
- Has my child's best interests and encourages her to learn.
- Supporting children's need individually.
- The school is providing a safe and welcoming environment for my child.
- This school gives good support to pupils.
- Extra-Curricular activities.
- Learning is engaging, fun and memorable.
- Teachers communicate well and form strong relationships with parents.
- Looking after the children's wellbeing.
- Supporting children with their learning.
- Having parent workshops to see what the children are learning.
- Workshops and residential opportunities.
- Keeping the children at their highest priority at all time.
- Communication with families and parents.
- Listens to my concerns when issue is raised.
- Teaching and support.
- Supporting them with learning and growth.
- Dealing with anti-social behaviour.
- Communicating issues and curriculum to parents.

- Very good at communicating with parents on children's progress and problems.
- Pastoral care for pupils.
- Bespoke support for SEN, making SEN visible, removing stigma.
- The workshops are good to see how children are learning.

Improvements that you would like to see:

- Communication and letters to be sent to all.
- SEN related clubs - music, animals, outdoors (gardening) planting, building strength, peanut/gym balls, agility ladders.
- To be able to include separated parents in all events.
- More parent workshops in the morning.
- Buildings need a bit of TLC in places.
- Separated dad's being involved in decision making.
- More variety of books that they bring home to read.
- More practical sessions.
- More trips.
- More communication regarding the curriculum.
- Seeing more of my child's work done at school.
- Parent workshops held after school.
- More sports after class - like cricket etc
- Both parents able to attend events.
- Set more challenging tasks to match her ability.
- Juniper app to provide better communication around school/ class activities.
- Juniper app not always working.
- I would like my child to get more homework - at least weekly
- More interventions and workshops
- More parent updates about child's progress.
- Reminders about activities /workshops.
- More toilet training support.
- More writing homework.

Phonics Workshop – Reception

A massive **71% of parents** attended the most recent **Phonics Workshops** in Reception. **Thank you 😊**. The teachers work hard arranging and delivering these sessions and we are so pleased that you find them worthwhile and informative. Everyone felt the session was worthwhile. Here are some of the feedback comments: *“It was great to see the children taking part in lessons and doing the work. It was helpful seeing how to spell, read words, spot digraphs, read tricky words. I now know how to support my child at home. Hearing the sounds. Seeing the structure of a lesson. Watching the teachers teach in a warm and friendly atmosphere”*



Our next workshop is focusing on Reading. These are being held on Wednesday 4th (Fox & Robin) and Thursday 5th March at 2.15pm in the school hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

[For parents | Letters and Sounds](#)

National Story Telling week was 31st Jan - 8th Feb

😊 We read stories every day at Moat Farm Infant School. These are our favourites! 😊



School Values

Our school motto is 'At Moat Farm Infants every day; we learn, achieve, have fun and play!' Our school has 6 core values: **Collaboration, Respect, Creativity, Perseverance, Caring and Reflectiveness**. So far this school year we have focused on Collaboration, Respect and Creativity. In the next Spring term, we will be focusing on:

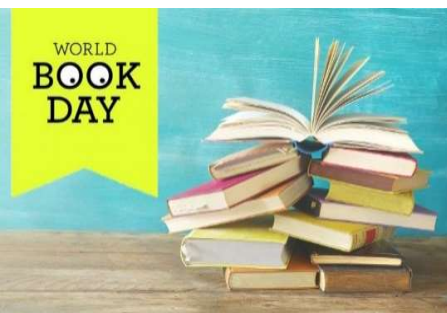
Perseverance

To show we persevere we need to show:

- We don't give up
- We try our very best
- We are not afraid to make mistakes
- We learn from our mistakes, even when things are difficult!

Please encourage your child to be resilient towards challenges and encourage them to persevere with things they find tricky. Praise their efforts, practice positive self-talk, use 'yet' language when they can't do something straight away, this will help break the cycle of negative thinking.

World Book Week 2nd - 6th March 2026



There will be a range of story time and book activities this week. We will be holding the book fair and there will be an *extreme reader* competition.

We are also lucky to have a drama workshop again facilitated by an outside drama group. How exciting!

Children have been asked to wear clothes to represent a word e.g., mythical, magical, vibrant, glamorous etc., with the aim to enhance vocabulary. Parents have been invited into classrooms to read with their children before school.

Busy week!

Coffee Morning

We enjoyed welcoming families to our school coffee morning on Thursday 5th February, along with several agencies who came to offer support and advice. We were joined by SENDIASS, the School Health Nurse Team, Autism West Midlands, Barnardo's. The Police also delivered a helpful presentation on keeping children safe online. Thank you to all the agencies who supported the event, and to the parents and carers who attended. We look forward to more events like this in the future.



Reminders

- **Parking:** May we 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.
- **Reporting absence:** If your child is absent from school please telephone the school office on **each** day of absence by 9am, choose Option 1 to report the absence, or Option 2 to speak to the school office. Please ensure that you state your child's name and class and the reason for the absence.
- **PE kit:** Children should wear black joggers/short/leggings and their school jumper or cardigan and white t-shirt for PE days. Children should not be wearing other non-uniform style clothes for PE. Thank you to the families who adhere to this uniform policy.

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 Miss Evans , alternatively you can email her direct on: jayne.davis@mfi.school or elise.evans@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) Eligible working families will be able to get 15 hours free places too. 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.

www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

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

Wellbeing

Mindful March 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Set an intention to live with awareness and kindness	2 Notice three things you find beautiful in the outside world	3 Start today by appreciating your body and that you're alive	4 Notice how you speak to yourself and choose to use kind words	5 Bring to mind people you care about and send love to them	6 If you find yourself rushing, make an effort to slow down	7 Take three calm breaths at regular intervals during your day
8 Eat mindfully. Appreciate the taste, texture and smell of your food	9 Take a full breath in and out before you reply to others	10 Get outside and notice how the weather feels on your face	11 Stay fully present while drinking your cup of tea or coffee	12 Listen deeply to someone and really hear what they are saying	13 Pause to watch the sky or clouds for a few minutes today	14 Find ways to enjoy any chores or tasks that you do
15 Stop. Breathe. Notice. Repeat regularly	16 Get really absorbed with an interesting or creative activity	17 Look around and spot three things you find unusual or pleasant	18 Have a 'no plans' day and notice how that feels	19 Cultivate a feeling of loving-kindness towards others today	20 Focus on what makes you and others happy today	21 Listen to a piece of music without doing anything else
22 Notice something that is going well, even if today feels difficult	23 Tune into your feelings, without judging or trying to change them	24 Appreciate your hands and all the things they enable you to do	25 Focus your attention on the good things you take for granted	26 Choose to spend less time looking at screens today	27 Appreciate nature around you, wherever you are	28 Notice when you're tired and take a break as soon as possible
29 Choose a different route today and see what you notice	30 Mentally scan your body and notice what it is feeling	31 Discover the joy in the simple things of life				

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

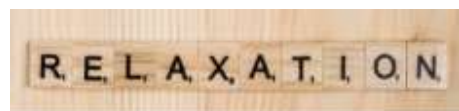
Happier · Kinder · Together

The NINE most important minutes of your child's day

- ♥ The first 3 mins after they wake up
- ♥ The first 3 mins after nursery/school
- ♥ The last 3 mins before bed

Relaxation Activity: The Shoulder Shrug

- Ask your child to sit or stand in a comfortable position.
- Ask them to breathe in and lift their shoulders towards their ears. Hold this position.
- Then they are going to breathe out with a big sigh and release their shoulders.
- Repeat three times



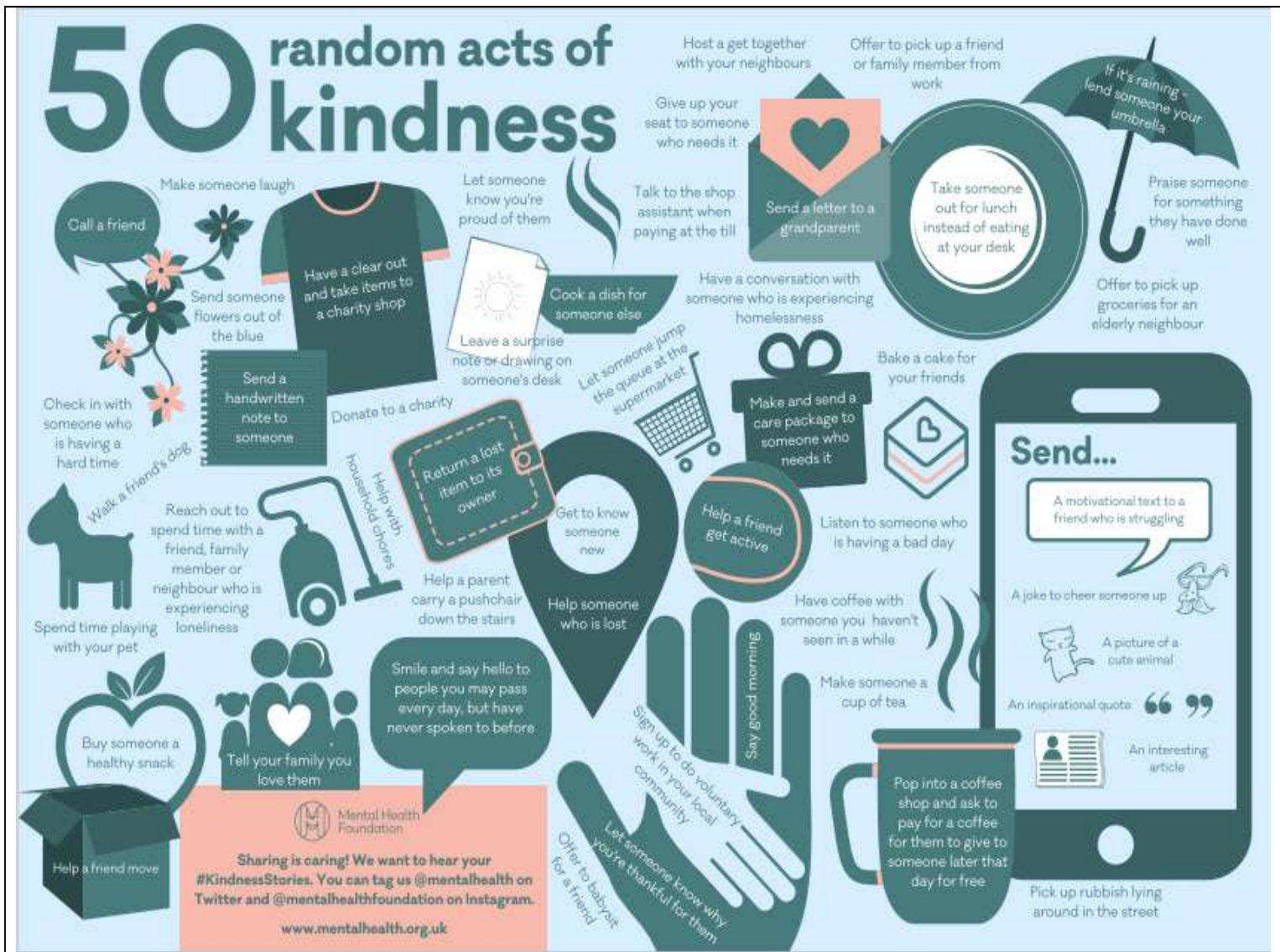
Random Act of Kindness day – Friday 17th February

It's Random Acts of Kindness Day on Friday 17th February and we want to know how you're celebrating!

The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation says that acts of kindness can include "just about anything" and that no gesture is too small.

Research shows that helping others can be beneficial to our own mental health. It can reduce stress, improve our emotional wellbeing and even benefit our physical health.

Today, why not take action within your schools, workplaces and local neighbourhoods to help people and communities thrive? It's so important to look after each other within our communities. This is how we protect and sustain good mental health for all.



Year One 'Animal Man' Visit

On Thursday 12th February, year one were visited by 'The Animal Man'. The children thoroughly enjoyed their workshop and it was so wonderful to see how excited they were. They learnt lots of facts about animals and had the opportunity to handle an owl, cockroach, lizard and a honey bear. Some of the children were even brave enough to put a snake on the back of their necks! A big thank you to the year one parents and carers for your contributions so that the children could have this wonderful experience.





Attendance Matters



We have had such a great half term with our school attendance, averaging above 95% each week this half term! Thank you for all your support with prioritising your children's education and attendance at school. Over 230 children received a certificate for being in Band 1 (95-100%) in Half Term 3. The classes with the highest attendance for the half term 3 were

Year 2 – Frog 97% attendance!

Year 1 – Squirrel 97% attendance!

Reception - Fox 97.3% attendance!

We are not quite meeting our whole school attendance target for the year, so we will have to work really hard in the second half of the year to be get closer to our school target of 96%. Currently we are on 95.4%. Please, keep talking to your children about good hygiene practices of hand washing to avoid to spread of germs which cause sickness and diahorrea.

Advance notice:

Moat Farm Infant School is open as usual on Friday 20th March. Pupils who have siblings in Moat Farm Junior School are expected to attend school as usual.

Eid is expected to be on Friday 20th March, we will authorise one day absence for Religious Observance for pupils who are celebrating Eid if this is their religious body their parents belong to. This will be coded as R on the register. Please make sure you have informed school if you child is off for Eid.

HOW MUCH SUGAR DO YOU DRINK?



Welcome to

Healthy Body, Healthy Me 2026!

Healthy Heroes

Encouraging physical activity and healthy habits from an early age is a wonderful way to support children's growth, development and well-being. Young children learn about their bodies through movement, active play and exploration. These experiences strengthen their muscles and bones, support balance and coordination and boost their confidence as they try new things. Alongside staying active, healthy everyday choices - such as enjoying nutritious foods, getting plenty of sleep, drinking water regularly and building positive relationships - provide children with a strong basis to thrive physically and emotionally and be ready for learning. Oral health is equally important. Simple routines like brushing teeth twice a day with fluoride toothpaste, removing sugary snacks and drinks and visiting the dentist regularly help protect children's developing smiles while fostering independence and confidence in daily self-care.

Being a 'healthy hero' means exploring everything that helps our bodies and minds feel their best: moving, eating well, resting, drinking water and connecting with others. During the week, children can take part in fun, themed activities that bring these ideas to life in playful, memorable ways. Munching Monday invites children to explore delicious, nutritious foods, while Toothtastic Tuesday helps them understand how to look after their teeth. On Workout Wednesday, children get moving through energetic physical activities and Thriving Thursday focuses on overall well-being and the importance of relaxation and calm. The week ends with Five-a-day Friday, a celebration of colourful fruits and vegetables and the value of variety in keeping our bodies healthy.

To extend this learning beyond the classroom, families can use the Healthy Heroes at Home Learning Pack, which offers a simple activity and recipe to support healthy habits at home. Together, these experiences create a strong, positive foundation for children to grow, be healthy, active and happy.



Healthy Body, Happy Me
Munching Monday



Healthy Body, Happy Me
Toothtastic Tuesday



Healthy Body, Happy Me
Workout Wednesday



Healthy Body, Happy Me
Thriving Thursday



Healthy Body, Happy Me
Five-a-day Friday



Healthy Body, Happy Me 2026
Healthy Heroes at Home



Valentine Discos

During the last week of this half term the children had the opportunity to attend the Valentine Discos. The children arrived at school in their party clothes and throughout the day they took part in a range of different activities. From creating their own Valentine cards to completing Valentine crafts and some children even had their faces painted. Thank you for all your support, we were able to raise a huge £1009.65! The money will be used towards for resources within school.





Sandwell School Term Dates 2025-2026

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

Train to Teach in the Black Country








**Are you considering a career in teaching?
Do you want to make a difference to children's lives in your local
community?**

ABOUT US

Stour Vale Academy Training Hub for the Black Country provides high-quality Initial Teacher Training PGCE opportunities for degree holders considering a career in teaching. We provide both Primary and Secondary routes, combining excellent school-based experience with expert training and academic study.

OUR PROGRAMMES

Our programmes are designed to help aspiring teachers develop strong classroom practice, confidence and a deep understanding of teaching and learning. We host regular online and face-to-face information events throughout the year, including opportunities to observe live lessons in schools.

Why Teach With Us?	What We Offer:
 A fulfilling career that shapes futures	 Develop strong effective practice
 Make a real difference in the local community	 Classroom practice
 High-quality training with extensive school-based experience and academic study	 Regular online and face to face information events
	 School visits and open days

FIND OUT MORE

Train to teach: <https://www.svat.org.uk/train-to-teach/>
Information events: <https://www.svat.org.uk/train-to-teach/information-events/>
Alternatively contact Kelly Glass (kglass@svat.org.uk).

Dates for your diary – Spring Term 2026

<p>February 23rd Children return to school Wk beg. 23rd Easter raffle tickets on sale 27th Nursery 'love of reading' parent workshop</p>	<p>April 13th School reopens to all pupils for the Summer Term</p>
<p>March 2nd World Book Week 2nd - 6th Book Fair 2nd and 3rd Drama workshops in school 4th Robin and Fox reading parent workshop 2.15 5th Owl and Mole reading parent workshop 2.15 5th World Book Day 8th International Women's Day 9th Science Week 9th Fizz Pop Science assembly 11th Year 2 trip Black Country Museum Rabbit & Frog 11th Mother's Day Stay and Read – Reception 8.30-8.45 12th Mother's Day Stay and Read – Year 2 8.30-8.45 13th Mother's Day Stay and Read – Year 1 8.30-8.45 16th Neurodiversity week 16th Year 1 Art gallery 3pm 17th Rocksteady parent concert 18th Year 2 trip Black Country Museum Kingfisher & Otter 20th Red Nose Day 20th Eid 23rd Autism Awareness week 26th Year 1 Parent OPAL play morning 9-10:30 26th Mole and Owl Easter Bonnet parade in class 2:45-3:10 27th Nursery Easter Bonnet parade for parents in the hall 9am 27th Robin and Fox Easter Bonnet parade in class 2:45-3:10 27th Spring Term Ends Easter School Holiday</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SCHOOL HAS TO ALLOCATE 6 DAYS EACH YEAR FOR STAFF TRAINING.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL PUPILS ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">We have had 4 already at the beginning of this term, 2 are remaining.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Monday 1st September Tuesday 2nd September Monday 3rd November Friday 5th December Monday 1st June Monday 20th July</p>