



Meadowbank Messenger

March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We close for the two-week Easter break today and so I am pleased to share with you this term's edition of the Meadowbank Messenger. As usual, you will find a section sharing news about each of our year groups recent learning and other information that we think will be of interest, including next year's dates.

As all schools, we are still in the process of moving forward from the Pandemic, living with it in our community and striving to manage staff & children's absences as they occur. Despite challenges, this has been a very positive term as we have been able to reintroduce events that have created a buzz of excitement around school. Due to this, we will begin the break feeling very positive and excited for the remainder of the year.

One of the things that we have really enjoyed this term is that you, our families, have returned to school as we have opened up to our community visiting us again. It has been lovely to see you joining us for events that we have been unable to hold in school for the past two years. Seeing you on our corridors, in our classrooms and in the hall during recent parent / teacher consultation evenings, classroom parent events and parent training sessions has really been exciting. We have missed you and are so pleased to see you all again.

Our Parent Forum held its first meeting since the start of the Pandemic and although the group was small, the discussions were rich and very helpful. A range of important topics were discussed from school uniform and mental health to the growth of allergies in schools.

We have also been able to resume educational visits this term, which are such an important aspect of our curriculum as experiences bring learning alive. There have been visits to a Synagogue, Hindu and Buddhist temples along with fieldwork in our local environment. There has also been an exciting online reading session with author Tom Percival, some of our children enjoyed spending time with snakes and lizards when Safari Phil joined us in school and Manchester Museum has visited.



Writing with Tom Percival

As we have been adventuring out more we have been able to re-engage in into-school competitions such as hockey, dodgeball and cross-country. We were particularly proud when the children from our Meadow Room won the Stockport Kurling competition and our Year Five children came an impressive second in the local Spelling Bee, held at The Kingsway School.

We have been pleased to welcome back Mrs Adshead from her maternity leave this term and Mrs Ball will re-join us after Easter. They are happy to be back supporting the learning of our Key Stage One children, particularly as we move towards the Key Stage One SAT and Year One Phonics weeks during the summer term. I am also happy to share that Miss Bailey has welcomed a baby daughter, whom she has named Nieve and both mother and baby are doing fine. Our family is growing.

We are saying goodbye to two team members this Easter. Mrs Bamford is leaving us to join another school and we wish her well in her new ventures. Special mention must however be given to Mrs Hewitt who has worked as a Teaching Assistant at Meadowbank for twenty-seven years and is retiring. We wish Mrs Hewitt the very best for the future and thank her for the time and kindness that she has given to the hundreds of children that she has supported over the years, particularly the children in our Meadow Room.

I wish each of you a happy Easter with sunshine and some chocolate. We will see you back in school on Tuesday 19th April.

Kindest regards
Janine Appleton



Hindu Temple





OUR MISSION

AS LIFE LONG LEARNERS



Limitless Learning: You never stop learning. New knowledge and skills excites us and makes us want to find out about all the things we don't even know.



Belonging Together: Working as a team together and cross our schools with a shared mission and vision so we are all on a learning journey together. When we learn as one family we are more powerful.



Nurturing Ambition: Following your dreams and goals because they make life exciting. Having goals makes you challenge yourself. Having ambition helps you find your way so you can aim for whatever you want to achieve.

AS LEADERS OF CHANGE



Change Makers: We change things for the future so the world is a better place for everyone. We make a difference to improve lives for all.



Developing the minds of tomorrow: Influencing the lives of others to achieve goals.



Empowering Everyone: Building trust and valuing each other in school and across our schools so that we can make positive contributions. We act as one team, one family who learns.

OUR LASTING LEGACY



Excellence For All: A curriculum that helps to prepare you for your life. Learning that makes you buzz with excitement.



Making it Matter: Being the best that we can be so that we are ready for our future. Making every moment special and trying our best. We are proud of our achievements and of each other.



Ready For the The Future: We stretch ourselves preparing for the future so we are ready for new adventures.

Along with our Vision and Mission above everyone in school works towards the same expectations.

We are all:

Successful - we already have many successes that shows we can achieve much.

Hopeful - we hope for further successes.

Resourceful - as we are already successful we have the resources to achieve more.

Caring - we are a family who care for each other.





Foundation Stage One

This half term the children in FSI have been exploring our big question 'How Do Things Move?' focusing on the key concepts: our bodies, road vehicles, trains and trams, water vehicles, air vehicles and springs.

The children have been very busy investigating a variety of different objects and how they move, using non-fiction texts to deepen their knowledge. We particularly enjoyed exploring the story of 'Paper Planes' last week, looking more in depth at different forces and how they support air vehicles to move. The children created their own paper planes and investigated flying them and measuring the distance travelled, spotted a variety of different planes in the sky and explored gravity with a game of keeping the balloons in the air!

After finding a mystery plane ticket in our classroom, the children also came up with some amazing responses to our question of the week 'if you could fly anywhere in the world, where would it be?' sharing their experiences of some of the countries they have visited with their families.



Foundation Stage Two

FS2 have worked successfully this term to explore our big question 'Is the world alive?' We have learnt about different animals and the children were keen to discover why some animals are endangered and what we could do to help to protect them. We used a variety of maps and globes to locate where the animals lived and have discovered lots of interesting facts about different habitats using the internet and a range of non-fiction texts. We used the information that we found to help us to create our own non-fiction book about habitats that we have added to our 'Book Nook'!

After reading the book 'Above and Below', we explored what lives above and below the ground. The children all helped to make a wormery by adding soil and sand in layers and digging in the vegetable patch to find some worms. We observed a range of plants and flowers using magnifying glasses to identify different parts of the plant including the petal, stem, and root. The children wanted to find out how plants grow from bulbs and seeds so we decided to grow our own broad beans and planted them in a jar so that we could observe the seeds as they germinate.

We utilised our wonderful outdoor learning environment during our Spring Welly Walk and were delighted to discover the huge variety of living things that had made a home in our school grounds, including different trees, plants, insects and animals. They were very excited to record their findings using the I-pads and demonstrated how caring and hopeful they are when deciding how best to look after these things.





Year One

Exploring our big question 'What lurks in the deep dark jungle' led us to learn about rainforests, David Attenborough, and the world around us!

Studying and using Henri Rousseau's 'Tiger in the Tropical Storm' as a stimulus, we have learnt the skill of printing. Developing and building on our new skill we were able to produce our final pieces. It was lovely to have the opportunity to showcase these in our exhibition.

Science has been particularly enjoyable, learning plant structures, discovering deciduous and evergreen trees and even planting our own beans. We waited in anticipation to see whose would start to sprout first!

What a wonderful way to finish this half terms learning with a visit from Safari Phil and his exciting exotic creatures. I'm sure all the children will agree this was the highlight of our half term!



Year Two

This half term we have been answering the big question 'What is the world's greatest invention?' Our lines of enquiry began as we explored a selection of artefacts from the past. We noticed how computers, Walkmans and video players have all developed into the technology we use today.

Through the use of local maps we have investigated how the infrastructure of Cheadle has changed over time due to the development in architecture and the needs of the community. Making links between the familiar wooden sculpture of Scotch Bob and facts about his real life was a particular highlight of our exploration.



We have rounded off our RE studies this half term with our visit to the local Jewish Synagogue. We were filled with excitement as we embarked on our journey by coach. Once we arrived at the synagogue, we were able to consolidate all of our knowledge of the Jewish faith and make connections between what we have learned in school and the artefacts and information we experienced during our visit. What a busy and exciting half term we have had!





Year Three

Year 3 have had a wonderful half term deepening their knowledge of Ancient Civilisations, especially Ancient Egypt and considering the impact of this time on life today. In Literacy, we have studied the story of the Egyptian Cinderella, compared it to the traditional tale and written and performed our own play scripts. We have also studied a variety of non-fiction texts and written our own non-chronological reports.

We enjoyed sharing our DT learning with our parents and testing and evaluating our shadufs to move water as the Ancient Egyptians would. In maths, we have found fractions of pictures and quantities and started to recognise equivalent fractions. We have also learn new expanded written methods of calculating for addition and subtraction and use the grid method for multiplication.



We thoroughly enjoyed participating in World Book Day and were lucky enough to join in a live lesson with Tom Percival, the author of our class text *The Invisible*. We have also embraced the wonderful opportunity to be part of a pilot project for Manchester Museum learning in their 'pop up museum'.

We cannot wait to see what exciting learning opportunities next half term brings.

Year Four

This half term Year 4 have investigated our big question, 'Was Life Similar for the Romans and Greeks?' As part of our learning, we studied significant figures such as Julius Caesar, Alexander the Great and Boudica, making connections and comparisons between these powerful rulers. The children developed a good understanding of the lasting legacy these empires still have on life today.



In Literacy, we devoured the stories of Theseus and the Minotaur and Odysseus and the Cyclops to help us plan and write our own engaging myths. One of our favourite tasks was to create and describe our very own mythical beasts! Celebrating reading through World Book Day activities was a particular highlight for us all!

Our visit to the Gita Bhawan Hindu Temple in Manchester, was a great way to consolidate our RE lessons this half term. During the visit, we made connections to our learning in school and asked thoughtful and relevant questions. We are very proud of the efforts Year 4 have made this term!





Year Five

Another amazing term has passed by and Year 5 have impressed us even further with their resilience, enthusiasm for learning and curiosity to know more when exploring our Big Questions. The children have loved learning about the Anglo-Saxons, which has included writing some superb stories, retelling the tale of Beowulf; designing, making and evaluating Anglo-Saxon coin purses; further developing their Geography and History skills when identifying the impact the Anglo-Saxons had on our country and what geographical legacies still stand today; and so much more! In PE, Year 5 have loved developing their gymnastic skills this half term, which they have enhanced even further when the children have transferred their floor skills onto the large apparatus to create and perform sequences. We have also addressed some really important issues during PSHE, such as the effects of smoking and alcohol misuse. The children have shown great maturity and shared their thought-provoking views on how to respond to peer-pressure and what an informed decision is, sharing their understanding of why it is so important to be informed on such issues. Finally, I must mention the enjoyment the Year 5 children have felt when immersing themselves into the class text this half term: Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. They have really strengthened their ability to use evidence from the text while discussing and summarising the text.



Year Six



Wow - how quickly has the term flown by? Year 6 have been fabulous yet again showing determination and curiosity to learn more about the world around them. Our Big question this half term has been, "Where in the World?" focusing on the rivers and deserts of the world, in particular The Sahara and the Amazon River. The children have enjoyed writing non-chronological reports and powerful descriptions of the Sahara. They also impressed us with their deepening knowledge during Oracy when discussing the difficulties posed for those living in the dry and hyper-arid conditions. Within Geography, we have looked at the features of rivers and explored how they differ as they travel along from the source to the mouth, following its journey using Google Maps to identify key landmarks and countries along the route of some of the world's major rivers. Within Maths, the children have become experts at area, perimeter and volume, developing their systematic thinking and reasoning. It has been a busy but incredibly rewarding term and Year 6 are raring and ready for their next big question focus on "The Power of War".





Meadow Room

The Meadow Room children have had another wonderful half term. Many of them have taken part in weekly swimming sessions and have made super progress in the water. In literacy, we been reading and writing instructions: 'How to make the most disgusting sandwich' (which we made!) and then 'How to make my favourite sandwich' (which we also made and then got to eat!).

As part of our geography and history work we walked into Cheadle village to see how different buildings are used. The children completed tally charts and then used their data to create a bar chart back at school. We then looked at lots of photos from the past to identify how Cheadle High street has changed over time.



Safety and well-being

Allergies in school

We have become a nut aware school this term due to the rising number of children that have allergies and can be effected if there have been nuts or seeds around them. It has become clear that we need to raise awareness across our school and families in order to protect children who have known allergies and as our children are young, to also protect those who do not yet know that they are allergic to nuts and seeds. We are adapting our curriculum to ensure safety and would like our parents help by asking them not to include nuts in packed lunches. Thank you for your support.

Smart Watches

We have made an addition to our Mobile phone policy in light of children and adults owning Smart Watches that link to mobile phones.

'School understands that technology advances and many staff members and children now have smart watches that receive emails and text messages. Staff must not respond to alerts, answer calls or look at photos during working time and remain in their professional role.'

Covid update

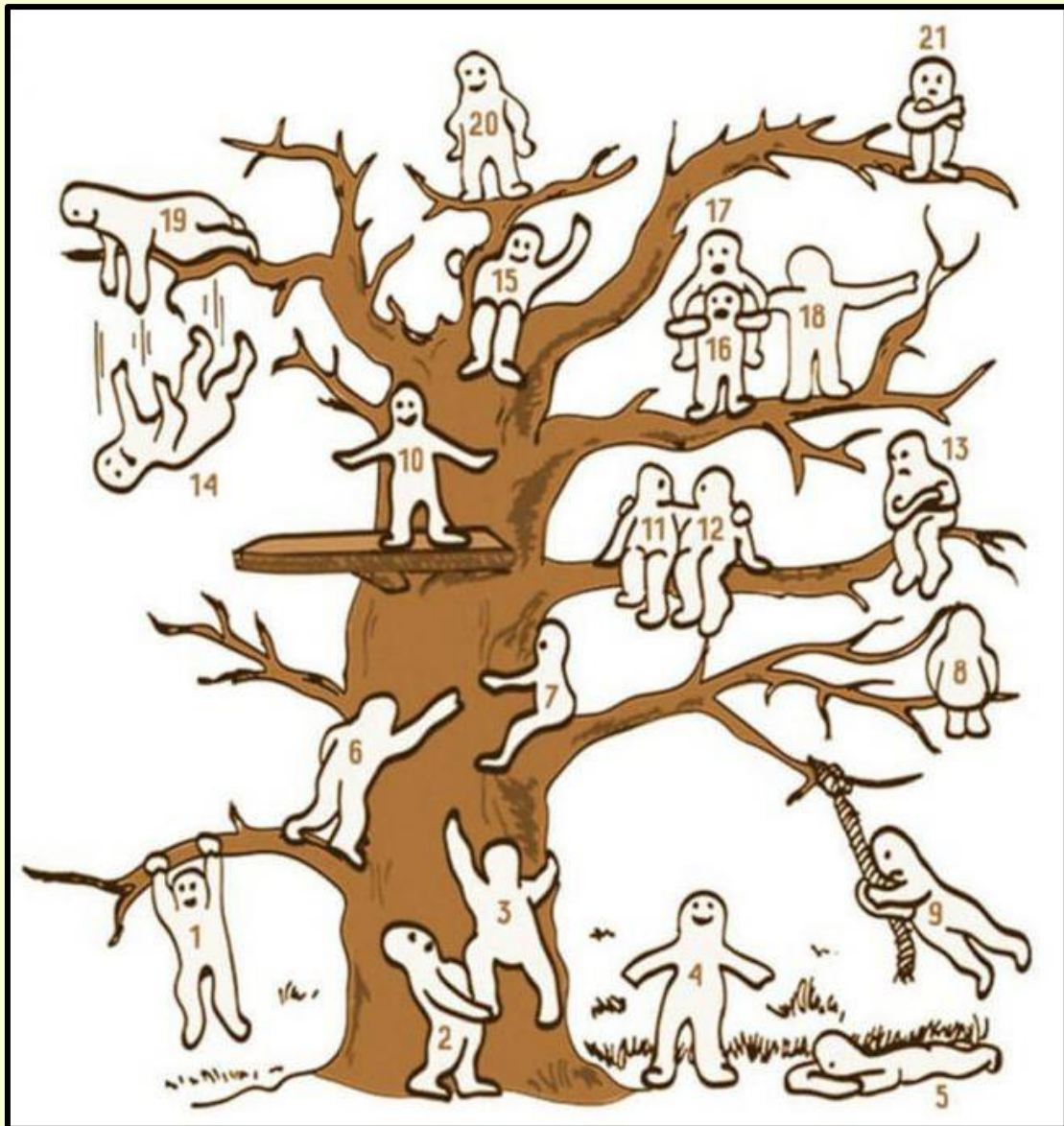
We continue to ensure that we clean regularly and hands are routinely washed, as covid-safety practice is now part of daily life in school.





Curriculum

In school we use this Well-being Tree Of Life with some children to help them articulate how they are feeling. Life continues to be very busy for everyone at the moment so why not take a minute to place yourself on the tree and sit with your children to see where they feel they are. Remember, there are no right or wrong answer and no perfect positioning. Talking about where you have chosen is the key thing



Academy Local Governing Board

Following a governor election this year we have been please that Mr. Julian has joined our Academy Local Governing Board as a new Parent Governor. Mr. Julian has already completed his induction and attended his first board meeting and has become our Foundation Stage link governor.

Mrs. Wardle, who is a Deputy Headteacher at The Kingsway School has also joined us as a Co-opted Governor. Mrs Wardle is a Specialist Leader in Education (SLE) for Special Educational Needs and so has a wealth of experience that school can draw on.



Term Dates and Holidays

2022 – 2023

INSET 1&2 - Staff Development Days Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd September 2022

Autumn Term 1 2021	Monday 5 September 2022	-	Friday 21 October 2022
Mid-term Holiday	Monday 24 October 2022		Friday 28 October 2022

Autumn Term 2	Tuesday 1 November 2022	-	Wednesday 21 December 2022
Christmas Holiday	Thursday 22 December 2022	-	Wednesday 4 January 2023

Spring Term 1	Thursday 5 January 2023	-	Friday 17 February 2023
Mid-term Holiday	Monday 20 February 2023	-	Friday 24 February 2023
Spring Term 2	Monday 27 February 2023	-	Friday 31 March 2023

Good Friday - Friday 7 April 2023 Easter Monday – Monday 10 April 2023

Easter Holiday	Monday 3 April 2023	-	Friday 14th April 2023
Summer Term 1	Monday 17 April 2023	-	Friday 26 May 2023

INSET 3 – Friday 28 April 2023 – school closed

May Day Holiday Monday 1 May 2023

Whit Holiday	Monday 29 May 2023	-	Friday 9 June 2023
Summer Term 2	Monday 12 June 2023	-	Wednesday 26 July 2023

INSET 4 - Staff Development Days Thursday 27 July 2023 – school closed





Our Community



Year six led on our Comic Relief Fundraising!



Kurling Champions!



Super Scientists!



Yes, that is a snake on their heads!

We all enjoyed sharing our Favourite books on World book Day.



Our new Netball Team



We hope that there will never be a fire but if there is we know what to do!

There has been lots of baking this term!
























We know that some parents with fast growing children may be looking to supplement their uniforms during the holiday so here is a copy of our uniform list with acceptable and not acceptable items - (All uniform should be free of any form of logo or brand name, apart from the school logo)
Our uniform can be purchased from F.R. Monkhouse or Supermarkets


Winter Options	<p>Foundation Stage – Year Five Royal blue sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan (sweatshirts no hoods) White polo shirt Navy blue trousers, skirt or pinafore dress (girls may wear trousers) Navy blue or white socks Sweatshirts and polo shirts, with the school logo,</p>	<p>Children should bring coats to school every day. Year Six children As younger children except: Year Six children wear a school tie and shirt rather than a polo shirt. Ties are available from the school office (During the Summer term we will be consulting on all KS2 children wearing ties)</p>
		 
Summer Uniform	<p>In the summer girls may wear a blue and white gingham check dress / playsuit Children may wear navy blue shorts. These are trouser shorts and not be P.E. shorts Navy blue or white ankle socks</p>	
		 
Hair accessories	<p>Longer hair must be tied back at all times and elaborate styles /coloured bands are not allowed. Hair must not be coloured. Simple royal blue headbands, scrunches and bobbles are acceptable school accessories. Elaborate or colourful accessories will be put in lockers to take home</p>	
		 



Footwear	<p>Sensible black shoes, suitable for wet weather. No heels, platforms, trainers, boots or shoes with insecure footings should be worn in school. <i>Shoes should be comfortable and safe. It is dangerous for children to wear shoes with high heels, open toes, platforms or strappy sandals. Children should not wear trainers but can change into them for playtimes in order to keep shoes in a good condition. Boots can be worn to and from school but are not suitable to be worn all day. Children should bring another pair of shoes to change into.</i></p>						
							
Swimming Kit	<p>Swimming trunks (no shorts) or 1 piece swimming costume and swimming cap. Large towel No goggles (unless prescribed) Swimming cap for longer hair</p>						
							
Physical Activities including PE, sporting events and after school sports clubs	<p>PE kits should be brought into school on the first day after each school break and taken home to wash at the start of the next holiday. White T Shirt Royal Blue shorts Trainers Hair tied back with royal blue scrunches or bobble.</p> <p>Winter - between November and February (Optional) Grey or black tracksuits bottoms School Royal Blue Sweatshirt</p>						
							





Other Options	Blue School Book Bag / Small backpack Small water bottle – 0.5l – 1l As all bags are of Meadowbank's design, we encourage children to have a small, special key ring attached.
Valuables & accessories 	Please do not bring valuables as school will not be held responsible. Small Stud earrings may be worn only if the child can remove them independently for PE and swimming. A watch/fitness monitor may be worn. Year 6 children who walk home alone may bring a mobile phone which will be handed in on arrival to school and locked in the school office. Smart watches which can record or take pictures are not permitted. Make-up, nail varnish and stick on tattoos are not allowed in school.

Note: Please label all items of uniform, including PE kits, coats and bags clearly with your child's name

