



Friday 22nd December 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians.

School closes today for the Christmas break and so I am writing to you with season's greetings and best wishes for the coming weeks.

Thank you all so much for your contributions to Mission Christmas. Miss Graham delivered school's collection and her car was full to bursting point. Many children will have a happier Christmas because of your generosity. Thank you again.



Friends Christmas Hampers and Santa dash. Thank you to our Friends of Meadowbank group who organised Wednesday's fund raising Santa Dash and the recent Chocolate Hamper raffles. There was a buzz of excitement when the raffle prizes were announced and all looked forward to the 'Dash Day'. Thank you to all of you who helped to make these events a success and those who bought tickets or sponsored a runner.

Like many of you, we were very excited to meet the Grinch at the start of the school day last week. As you would expect he was so busy talking with the children and their families that he made the school day begin a few minutes late! He is very naughty. A big thank you to him for making our day start with wide smiles. I think that Mr Cunningham was even more excited than the children!



The children's Christmas performances were, as always, wonderful and I thank you for being there. We know that this time of year is extremely busy however, so many of you were able to join our celebrations. Life long memories were made and the spirit of Christmas seeped through our walls and corridors.



Health Snacks - It is important to instil the best eating habits that we can in our young children and Meadowbank is proud to be a healthy school champion. This includes the healthy packed lunches and snacks that our children eat. Healthy snacks at break time have been a part of school's expectations for many years but we have noted recently some snacks coming into school that are not fruit. When we return to school in January can we please all follow the snack list below.

- Foundation Stage** – no snack from home as each child is provided with a piece of fruit or vegetable to eat with their friends.
- Key Stage 1 (Yr1&2)** - no snack from home as each child is provided with a piece of fruit or vegetable to eat with their friends.
- Meadow Room** – no snack from home as each child is provided with a piece of fruit or vegetable to eat with their friends.
- Key Stage 2 (Yr3-5)** – children may bring a piece of fresh or dried fruit, chopped grapes or a chopped vegetable from home.

Only fruit and vegetables can be a snack and no other foods are allowed including fruit winders, humus, crackers, crisps, chocolate, cereal bars, peperoni sticks.

Also, please remember that we are a nut aware school and have some children with nut allergies. Please do not add nut products to your child's lunch box.

We are always so proud of how smart our children look in their school uniform and any visitor to school can see the pride that they have in their school. As the Christmas season passes and we return in January can we please ensure that uniform



accessories such as headbands meet with our blue head accessories uniform policy and coloured or sparkly headwear is left at home.

We were very saddened to share with our school musicians that our guitar teacher Gerry Malloy died unexpectedly a few weeks ago. Gerry has shared his passion for the guitar with our children from a number of years and we will miss hearing the music that he made and the talent that he generated across school. Our thoughts are with his family.

At this time of year we often see a decline in the weather, as our recent cold snap evidenced. Therefore, as every year, I am sharing our poor weather and emergency closure plans so that you know what to expect if there is heavy snow or we need to close during the coming months. Don't worry though, as this is very rare and if we need to put plans into action we will let you know via Class Dojo.

Snowy day plans – communicated via Class Dojo to parents

If there is very heavy snow the parent path will be closed and all children will enter school via the front, main school office door. They will be met by school adults and younger children will be escorted to their classrooms. Our older children will make their own way to their classrooms.

If the snow melts, during the day children will have their usual breaks outside and the parent path will be open at the end of the day.

If the snow does not melt children will stay in school but may be allowed to play in the snow for a few minutes before home time and they will leave school by the doors at the front of school, around the office area.

Emergency closure or partial closure plans – communicated via Class Dojo to parents

It is extremely unlikely that Meadowbank would need to close and all possibilities would be considered and put in place before a decision not to open or part close would be taken. A closure decision would only be taken if it was felt that school would be unsafe to open, for example if the boiler had broken and could not be repaired in a reasonable time scale, if there was a flood in school or if there was an illness effecting a significant number of staff and we did not have enough adults to care for our children.

If we did need to close we would communicate via Class Dojo and share whether all of school was closed or, if a partial closure, which classes would be effected. If a class was closed for some children all of their siblings would be expected to be in school. We will keep parents informed via Class Dojo about when children can return.

Finally, a continued request not to arrive at the school gate before the opening times. We are noticing that some families arrive before 8.30 am which is a long time to wait until the gate opens at 8.45 am. Please stay at home and have another cup of tea. There is no need to arrive before school opens.

Have a healthy and happy Christmas holiday, enjoy this special time with each other and we will see you back in school on Monday 8th January ready to begin the adventures of 2024. I have already had a little word with Father Christmas and he knows that as far as school is concerned, every child is definitely on the good list and we are very proud of each of them. Merry Christmas.

Kind regards

Janine Appleton





Dates for this half term –Spring 1 (Monday 8th January – Friday 09th February 2024)

Whole School events

School reopens after the Christmas break		Monday 8 th January 2024	8.55 am
		(Gates open at 8.45am & close at 8.55am)	
Year Three lead whole school charity fundraising for the NSPCC		Friday 2 nd February 2024	
National Online Safety day		Tuesday 6 th February 2024	
Friends of Meadowbank Cinema nights	Foundation stage	Thursday 18 th January 2024	3.30 – 5.00
	Key Stage One	Thursday 18 th January 2024	3.30 – 5.00
	Lower Key Stage Two	Thursday 18 th January 2024	5.00-6.30
	Upper Key Stage Two	Thursday 1 st February 2024	4.30 – 6.00
Celebration of Children’s Mental Health Week		WB 05 th February 2024	
School closes for the February half term break		Friday 09 th February 2024	3.20 pm
		(Gates open at 3.15pm & close at 3.25pm)	

Class events in school –children only

Class / Year	Event	Date
FS1	Visit from Local Firefighters Big Garden Birdwatch	WB: 29 th January 2024 Friday 26 th January 2024
FS2	Chinese New Year Workshop Big Garden Birdwatch	Wednesday 7 th February 2024 Friday 26 th January 2024
Yr1	Ambulance and Paramedics sharing how they help us	Date TBC
Yr2	Great fire of London Workshop	Monday 8 th January 2024
Yr3	Food Hygiene workshop with Kellogg’s	Wednesday 7 th February 2024
Yr4	Worlds Museum Liverpool	Tuesday 6 th February 2024
Yr5	Viking Adventure Chester	Thursday 18 th January 2024
Yr 6	Young voices	Tuesday 6 th February 2024
Meadow Room	Participation in a sensory story at Cheadle Library – 2 groups Visit to Jubilee Park	Monday 22 nd January 2024 & Monday 29 th January 2024 Weekly

Class events with parents

Please join us to find out about how we teach maths in school. The session will start in the hall where we will share some information with you about our approaches. This will be followed by an opportunity to join your child in their classroom to see maths in practice.

Maths fluency and Mastery				
	Foundation Stage 1& 2	FS1 & FS2Gi	Wednesday 10 th January 2024	9.00-10.15
		FS1 & FS2Gu	Wednesday 10 th January 2024	2.00-3.15
	Key Stage 1	(Year 1 and Year 2)	Monday 15 th January 2024	9.00-10.15
	Key Stage 2	(Years 3 -6)	Wednesday 17 th January 2024	9.00-10.15

Also our Foundation Stage parents will be invited to join in with nursery rhyme sessions during the half term. Further information will be shared via Class Dojo.

