

15th September

The Meadows Newsletter



Welcome Back

It has been so lovely to welcome the children back after the summer holidays. They have been excited to share what adventures they have been up to – from camping across Europe to dirt-biking! We know how important it is for our mental health to have a break doing the things we love. It is clear that many of the children have come back, refreshed and ready for the challenges ahead.

We have a lot of exciting events and activities planned through the term - from culinary adventures to Ancient Egyptian workshops! We are also working on ways to have you more involved in our school community this year. This involves reintroducing events (like our Father's Day and Mother's Day lunches) as well as our fayres. As always, if there are events scheduled that you would like to be a part of, please contact the office to let us know.

Seeing Is Believing Sessions

As you will be aware, our Seeing is Believing Sessions are an opportunity for you to experience how your child learns. However, our first session this year will look a little different. Instead of a lesson, this session will be an opportunity for you to see your child's work prior to the parent consultations. We will have a number of drop in points through the day, as well as a 'sibling' session after school. This session will run on **Tuesday 4th November** with the following timings:

9:00 – 9:20: Year 3
9:30 – 9:50: Year 4
10:00 – 10:20: Year 2
11:00 – 11:20: Year 1
1:30 – 1:50: Year 5
2:00 – 2:20: Year 6
3:30 – 4:00: Sibling Drop In*

*We have introduced this session so that parents who have more than one child at our school in different classes will be able to attend one session. This session can also be used by parents and guardians who are unable to attend during the school day due to work commitments.

This is a main-site event as EYFS have regular Feedback Friday sessions.



More Than Words - Brilliant Books

This year, we have revisited our 'Brilliant Books' thematic approach. This term we chose the book 'More Than Words' – a beautiful picture book that looks at ways in which we can communicate. It was a fantastic stimulus to get the children thinking about communication. They investigated braille, sign-language, written forms, verbal forms... even facial expressions. I have been lucky enough to see several sign-language performances by the children in Owls and Hawks – both of which brought a few tears to our eyes!

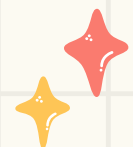
ELSA

We are thrilled to announce that Mrs Panagi has finalised her training to become an ELSA (Emotional Language Support Assistant). ELSAs are specialists with a wealth of experience of working with children and young people to support their emotional wellbeing. ELSAs are trained and regularly supervised by Educational Psychologists.

What areas does an ELSA help with?

- Loss and bereavement
- Emotional Literacy
- Self-esteem
- Social Skills
- Friendship issues
- Relationships
- Managing strong feelings
- Anxiety and worries
- Emotional Regulation
- Growth Mindset

Teachers, alongside our SENDCo, will decide half-termly who would benefit from this support.



A big thank you to Mrs Panagi for creating this lovely space within our school!



Lego Lottery

We have introduced an incentive in school to celebrate the children who follow our Secrets of Success consistently. This will be an opportunity, once a week, for class teachers to select children to add a section to our Hogwarts Castle. Once complete, this will then be raffled off!

Year 6 Roles

The children in Year 6 who wanted to apply for one of the roles within our school delivered fantastic speeches on Friday. It was clear a lot of care and attention went into these speeches. We will be reviewing the choices this week and announcing the roles on **Monday 22nd September** in a whole school assembly.



Health and Safety Update

As part of our routine health and safety monitoring we review a number of procedures early on in the start of the new academic year. An essential aspect of this is to practise our fire, lockdown and evacuation drills. Each of these are undertaken on a termly basis and reported to our local Governing Body and the Trust.

As usual, the first round of these will be taking place before the October half term. This will enable our new children to get to know our environment better and to understand what to do in the event of an emergency.

In the first instance, procedures are introduced in a calm and orderly way; where all staff and children get to 'walk through' the safety measures and practise any associated behaviours and actions. This is especially important for any children with additional needs as it helps them, and us, to support any concerns or associated anxiety with emergency planning. We then introduce different 'spot checks' throughout the year to enable our community to check their knowledge and skills...and put them to the test!

Following each of these 'drills', we will feature a brief article in our newsletter. So please do look out for these and any other relevant health and safety updates.

In addition, please rest assured that in the event of any real emergency or localised concern, our partners, local schools and the police will be in contact with our school directly. We will, of course, forward any relevant information on to our community at the first available opportunity via ParentMail.

In the meantime, if you have any concerns, however small, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Ready, Respectful, Safe

1
BE
READY

2
BE
RESPECTFUL

3
BE
SAFE

As you will already be aware, we introduced Ready, Respectful, Safe to our school community last year. These were three rules to support the children and staff to create a welcoming and thriving environment.

Being Ready to learn consists of...

- We arrive at school on time
- We have the correct uniform and PE kit
- We have our equipment ready
- We are ready to listen and try our best

Being Respectful consists of...

- We listen when others speak
- We look after the property belong to the school and other people
- We respect that other people have different ideas, beliefs and background to our own
- We respect that people may look different and have different needs

Being Safe consists of...

- We travel to and from school safely
- We move around the school in a safe manner
- We follow instructions to keep others safe
- We use our equipment safely
- We use our Internet Legends when online

At Lunch Time this may look like...



Calendar

As a way to ensure key dates are communicated efficiently, a public calendar can be found here: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=d44b40c5d3bb97d5ccaaf21db1ad3f304c133f3a4f4642e8cbef09af0c65d008%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=Europe%2FLondon>

I have tried to clearly identify in the title whether it is a whole-school event, main-site event, or specific to year groups and classes. Depending on the device, the title may be cut short. However, if you click the event, a box will appear giving additional information. If it states 'Whole School Event' then this includes EYFS (Badgers and Foxes). If it states 'Main Site Event' this does not include EYFS (Badgers and Foxes).

If you use Google Calendar, you should be able to add these events.

The below dates have been added to the dates that were already publicised:

- 2nd October – Madeley School Open Evening
- Bikeability Dates for Year 4 and 5
- 29th September - Height and Weight Check (Year 6)
- 20th October - Individual and Family Photos
- 21st October - Ancient Egyptian Workshop for Class 3
- 11th November - iRock Concert
- 17th December - Nativity for EYFS and KS1

