

Dear parents/guardians,

I hope you have had a fantastic summer and have made some new memories with your families to be cherished. I am so looking forward to welcoming our school community back for the start of the academic year on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September**, including the new children who will be joining our school family.

During the course of the holidays, the main site has undergone an internal transformation, including: the redecoration of the classrooms and the corridor; new internal fire doors throughout the school; a new internal door locking system; and a new external door onto the playground. This is the first stage in our reordering, which will continue throughout the year. We know that these changes will have a positive impact on teaching and learning, ensuring that our children are given the very best learning environment to enable them to thrive.

As we look towards the new academic year, I want to take the opportunity to reinforce our commitment to ensuring that every child in our school is successful, both personally and academically. During our INSET day on 25<sup>th</sup> July, the staff reviewed and refined our vision for The Meadows going forward. They are as follows:

**For our school:**

- A family ethos that creates a sense of belonging, a pride in our community and compassion for everyone in our school family.
- A positive culture promoting, 'Learning by caring and sharing'. A community that cares about education as well as caring for others around them: they are able to share resources, ideas and their knowledge with enthusiasm.
- A beacon of academic excellence.
- Inspire pupils to be successful; both personally and academically.
- An innovative, inspiring and inclusive curriculum where all learners become independent and resilient and have the possibility to exceed their potential.
- A thoughtfully designed, bespoke curriculum, alongside a range of enrichment opportunities, which enables our children to develop and retain a deep understanding of what they have learnt so that they are prepared for the next phase in their learning journey.
- Stimulating learning environments which promote 'Learning by caring and sharing', metacognition, celebrates success and scaffold learning.

**For our pupils:**

- Enthusiastic pupils with a life-long love of learning.
- Caring, reflective, tolerant and respectful global citizens of the future.
- All pupils feel noticed, valued and cared for.
- All are able to positively contribute to our school community.
- Positive mental wellbeing and an ability to self-regulate their emotions.

**For our school community:**

- A school which is the heart of the local community.
- Strong, positive relationships with all stakeholders based on mutual respect and integrity.
- To make a positive impact on our local community and on our trust family of schools.
- Strong connections with our local high school, aiding transition and enhancing our provision.

We have the highest expectations of our children so that they can flourish, and we recognise the importance of working hand in hand with our families – this is essential for our children's success. **This year, we aim to support our families to ensure that all children's attendance is at least 97%.** We urge families to promote positive attendance as well as strong punctuality because this is fundamental to academic achievement and personal success. Whilst we recognise that some absences due to illness are completely unavoidable, we also recognise the increasing number of

Mrs Emma Osei-Kuffour MA (Hons), BA (Hons). **Headteacher**

The Meadows Primary School, Newcastle Road, Madeley Heath, Staffordshire, CW3 9JX

**Tel:** 01782 750313 **Email:** [office@meadowsprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@meadowsprimary.co.uk) **Online:** [www.meadowsprimary.co.uk](http://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk)

requests for leave during the school term. Please remember that, under current regulations, **headteachers may not grant leave of absence in term-time unless there are 'exceptional' circumstances because of the impact that having time off has on a child's achievement, wellbeing and future success.** Exceptional circumstances tend to be one off events that are unavoidable and for short periods of time, for example the death of a close relative or a housing crisis that prevents attendance. Typically, family holidays do not fall into the category. In addition, where the attendance of a child is 95% or below, even absence classed as 'exceptional' may not be authorised due to the impact it would have on a child's learning. Please help your child to gain the most out of their learning experience by having a positive attendance at school.

Another of our aims is for every child to develop a strong sense of belonging and pride in our community. One way that **we foster this sense of unity is through our school uniform.** We politely request that children adhere to the school uniform policy and come in each day smartly dressed, in the correct uniform, taking pride in their presentation. Don't forget that the school does have some preloved clothing that can be purchased for a small amount that goes directly towards school funds. Just ask at the office for more information. If you can support other members of our school family by donating uniform that is no longer big enough for your child, please consider donating this to school rather than throwing it away. Donations can be made any day at the school office. Every item is thoroughly appreciated.

In addition, to help our children be caring and reflective members of our community, **our target for behaviour is 97%.** We firmly believe that positive learning behaviours are essential to academic success as well as a conducive learning environment for all pupils. At school, we actively promote our Secrets of Success through lessons, assemblies, our learning environments, nurture sessions and peer support. Please help us to **encourage positive behaviour** as soon as the children enter the school gates/leave the school gates and be respectful of others and the outdoor learning environment. We politely request that pupils **do not enter the school site before 8:30am and that footballs are not brought in from home and that school equipment is not played with before/after school.** This is due to the lack of space and is to benefit the safety of the whole school community. Please also **remember that pupils should only bring mobile phones into school in exceptional circumstances,** where they should be turned off and taken to the school office at the start of the day and can be collected at the end of the day. Pupils do require a letter of permission from their parents, with the rationale for the request.

In addition, we also aim for children to develop a life-long love of learning, which will prepare them to be secondary ready as well as to prepare them for adulthood. We continue to work hard to shape our curriculum, and well as our approach to teaching and learning, to ensure that the pupils in our school are provided with an innovative, inspiring and inclusive curriculum where all learners become independent, resilient, compassionate and reflective in order to exceed their potential. Last year, we trialed **'Seeing is Believing'** sessions for Kingfishers, Owls and Hawks, where parents were able gain a window into our approach to teaching and learning, as well as our high expectations. The feedback from parents attending these sessions was incredibly positive. As a result, we will hold **termly sessions** where you can come in to learn different subjects with your child. To support your child's learning, please also ensure that you **encourage them to complete their home learning activities to the best of their ability** and make time for regular opportunities to read together. Home learning activities are always consolidating learning completed in school and promote children to retain what they have learnt. If your child requires any support at all, please do not hesitate to contact their class teacher before the day on which it is due.

Should you have any worries or concerns, please remember that we are always here to help and get in touch with us as soon as possible so that we can address them promptly and offer our support. Open, honest and respectful conversations are valued. We have an open-door policy at school, with approachable staff who are always willing to lend a hand, no matter the concern. If you have a query or concern about your child and require support, your first port of call is your child's class teacher. They can be contacted directly via the class email addresses below:

Mrs Emma Osei-Kuffour MA (Hons), BA (Hons). **Headteacher**

The Meadows Primary School, Newcastle Road, Madeley Heath, Staffordshire, CW3 9JX

**Tel:** 01782 750313 **Email:** [office@meadowsprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@meadowsprimary.co.uk) **Online:** [www.meadowsprimary.co.uk](http://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk)



The Meadows  
Primary School



Foxes and Badgers (EYFS) – [class1@meadows.set.org](mailto:class1@meadows.set.org)

Kingfishers (Y1/2) – [class2@meadows.set.org](mailto:class2@meadows.set.org)

Owls (Y3/4) – [class3@meadows.set.org](mailto:class3@meadows.set.org)

Hawks – [class4@meadows.set.org](mailto:class4@meadows.set.org)

*(Please note, emails will be responded to during working hours due to staff workload.)*

For other queries, you can always contact me on the door each morning or contact Mrs Cooper via the office.

As a school, we continue to reflect on our provision to drive school improvement. One area that we aim to develop is our communication strategy. We always endeavor to do our best (despite the pressures faced by a small school and staff) to provide information timely and accurately. We do this through a range of channels including: our detailed website, through emails and texts via Parentmail, through letters, Twitter and face to face meetings. However, we recognise that this is an area we can continue to improve. We are in the process of creating an improved school calendar, including workshops, class trips for each term, fundraising events for the academic year, so that we can give as much advanced warning to families as possible. We are also exploring the redevelopment of our website and the potential use of alternative social media avenues to provide information. We will provide updates on this in due course. We politely request that you do check Parentmail regularly, as well as our website and our school Twitter platform, as they are regularly updated.

Thank you, in advance, for your commitment and your support for our school. It is greatly appreciated, and we are privileged that you have chosen and trusted this school to provide your child with the very best education. We look forward to welcoming our children back next week and to another successful year at The Meadows for our whole community.

Enjoy the rest of the weekend. 😊

Kind regards,

Mrs Kuffour  
Headteacher

Mrs Emma Osei-Kuffour MA (Hons), BA (Hons). **Headteacher**

The Meadows Primary School, Newcastle Road, Madeley Heath, Staffordshire, CW3 9JX

**Tel:** 01782 750313 **Email:** [office@meadowsprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@meadowsprimary.co.uk) **Online:** [www.meadowsprimary.co.uk](http://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk)

The Shaw Education Trust Limited is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales under company number 09067175 whose registered address is Shaw Education Trust Head Office, Kidsgrove Secondary School, Gloucester Road, Kidsgrove, ST7 4DL. Shaw Education Trust is an exempt charity.

The details of our academies registered as business names can be found at [www.shaw-education.org.uk](http://www.shaw-education.org.uk).