



# Meadows Newsletter

Issue 7

11/12/2023

**The Meadows**  
Primary School

Dear parent and guardians,

We are fast approaching the end of term and the excitement that Christmas brings. Whilst this is the case, the children continue to work incredibly hard in their learning and we are so impressed with their attitudes and commitment towards their studies.

This week, we welcomed Reverend Tim and the children's worker Ruth to school for one of their regular school assemblies, where we were exploring how Christians count down to Christmas during the period of Advent. We too are on count down until the end of term, because there are so many exciting activities that are coming up over the next few weeks, including our infants **Nativity on 20<sup>th</sup> December**. Here, all parents of children in our Foxes, Badgers and Kingfishers classes are invited to join us at **The Madeley Centre at 2pm**. Please be mindful that seats will be on a first come, first serve basis. The doors for admittance will be opened **no earlier than 1:50pm**.



On **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December**, our whole school family will be participating in **The Meadows Christmas Carol Service** between **2pm-3pm** at **All Saints Church, Madeley**. This is always a fantastic opportunity for our school family to celebrate the festivities together, sing well-loved carols and be reminded of the meaning of Christmas for Christians. We do hope that you will be able to join us for this lovely service.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support to our school community this term. Thank you for your patience and your words of kindness during the period where work was being completed at school and we were based on three sites. Thank you for all you do to help your children attend each day, punctual and prepared for the day ahead. Thank you for working in partnership with us to ensure that your children thrive. We appreciate your transparency, honesty, and value your feedback. We look forward to seeing our families together at the wonderful events to come. 😊

Have a fantastic week,

Mrs Kuffour

Attendance	% this term so far (TARGET: 97% or above)
Whole School	97.4%
Nursery	100%
Reception	96.6%
Y1	97.2%
Y2	97.9%
Y3	96.6%
Y4	97.3%
Y5	97.5%
Y6	97.8%

## Attendance

A huge congratulations to our school community for the continued rise in our school attendance so that we continue to achieve **our target of at least 97%**. Congratulations to Y1, Y3, Y5 and Y6, whose attendance continues to rise. Our children are making every moment and every day count in their learning. We have seen so many children show resilience whilst they are suffering with the usual winter sniffles. Well done – we are so proud of you. Keep it up.

## Free School Meals

If your child is eligible for **free school meals** and is absent, please remember that they are **still eligible for a meal at lunchtime**. Parents and carers can contact school **before 9:30am** on the day your child is absent to order and make arrangements to **collect a cold lunch during our lunchtime 12:15pm-1:15pm**. Unfortunately, the school does not have the capacity to deliver.

## Promoting Positive Mental Wellbeing

Over the past year, one of our school priorities has been promoting personal success and positive mental wellbeing. Our approach was highly praised by the trust in our recent Health Check as a strength worthy of sharing, which we have already done with the other primary schools in our Trust. We have shared how we have fully embedded the 'Red 2 Blue' approach to support self-regulation at school. To find out more about our approach to promoting wellbeing and our wellbeing team, please click on the link below:

[Personal Success and Mental Health | The Meadows Primary School](#)

In school, we have been exploring ways that we can promote our own positive mental wellbeing. We have shared the '**5 Ways to Wellbeing**', an evidence-based framework that promotes our positive wellbeing. It is widely used in the NHS to promote mental wellbeing and we can use it to help us too in school and at home. It includes 5 ways that we can support our own mental wellbeing:

# FIVE WAYS TO WELLBEING



TALK & LISTEN,  
BE THERE,  
FEEL CONNECTED



Your time,  
your words,  
your presence



REMEMBER  
THE SIMPLE  
THINGS THAT  
GIVE YOU JOY



EMBRACE NEW  
EXPERIENCES.  
SEE OPPORTUNITIES.  
SURPRISE YOURSELF



DO WHAT YOU CAN,  
ENJOY WHAT YOU DO,  
MOVE YOUR MOOD

Please see our website for ideas about how we promote the '**5 Ways to Wellbeing**' at school, and how you could at home too. We hope you find it useful.

## Celebrating Sporting Success – Dodgeball

Huge congratulations to our Y5/6 pupils who represented the school in the Dodgeball competition at Keel University last week. They won 5 matches, drew 1 match and lost 1 match. What a phenomenal achievement. They also showed excellent sportsmanship throughout the competition. Well done.



## Pupil Leaders Update:



At school, we actively promote ways our pupils can contribute to our school because we want them to be active citizens of our school. This also links with one of the '**5 Ways to Wellbeing**' 'Give'. Our pupil leaders do a brilliant job giving their time, talents and passions to support our school community. They also promote many of the '**5 Ways to Wellbeing**' too. Below you can read about what our pupil leaders have been up to this term:

*"My role is promoting Science across the school by trying to help others to develop their Science skills, for example in our STEM club. I have helped others to complete investigations. I enjoyed the 'Peggy Problems' investigation, where we had to put weights in socks and hand them on a line. We investigated which pegs were more likely to securely hold the sock on." By Henry*



*"We help people with their wellbeing. We help them when they are in the 'Red heads' to move from red to blue with appropriate methods such as rollercoaster breathing and hot chocolate breathing. This helps individuals to calm down and focus their attention on what they should be doing. We use the Red 2 Blue box to help us talk to individuals and understand how they are feeling so they can reflect and go back to their blue head state. We know we are making a difference." By Alfie and Avery*

*“We help people to be active and achieve their goals on the playground for example being a faster runner. We have created a playground rota to engage others in sports for example trying sports that they enjoy or might not have tried. We have started ‘Walk and Talk’ to help people be active physically, which helps their mental health. We give out certificates to celebrate people’s successes for example last week we focused on choosing people who have shown resilience in sports. This motivates people to improve.” By Zac Bates and Zac Bull*



*“We try to promote reading throughout the school. We tidy the library and try and keep authors together on shelves, such as Roald Dahl. We would like to help create a Creative Writing club next term where children can write their own stories and we can make them into a book to read.” By Peter and Tilly*

### **Nutcracker Trip**

On Wednesday, Key Stage Two (Owls and Hawks) will be visiting The New Vic Theatre to watch the fantastic performance of ‘The Nutcracker. They will not require book bags on this day. The children will be having an **early lunch**. If your child is having a **packed lunch, please can it come in a disposable bag**. Children may come into school wearing a Christmas themed hat or headband.



Pupils will **return to school by approximately 5pm**. If we are delayed, you will be sent a text via Parentmail.

**Polite request: Please remember not to park immediately outside of the school gates to ensure there is enough room for the coach to park.**

### **Auction**

**On Friday 15th December**, we will be holding an auction at The Crewe Arms. Not only will this be a great way for our school to get together and socialise, but we also hope that it will be a fantastic way to raise money for our school community. We have some fantastic items to auction, including a bike, hampers, meal vouchers etc. A huge **thank you for the donations we have received so far – please keep them coming!**

We do hope that you will be able to **support our school community by attending this event on Friday**. Don’t forget to let us know if you are coming by filling the short form on Parentmail. We hope that this will be a great way of raising some much-needed funds for school. Your support is greatly appreciated. 😊



### **Safeguarding Update**

A reminder that our community safeguarding reporting system is live on our website. If you are concerned about a child in our school community, this anonymous platform is one way that you can help to share your concerns so that they can be addressed quickly and effectively. Simply click on the link, complete the form and then it will immediately send an alert to our safeguarding team. Thank you, in advance, for your support.

If you are concerned about the safety of a child in **immediate danger**, please dial 999. If you need Early Help support or have a concern about a child, please call Staffordshire Children’s Advice and Support Service on

03001118007 or out of hours 03456042886.

### **Foodbank Donations**

As you are all aware, our school motto is ‘**Learning by caring and sharing**’. One thing that makes our community so special is because we know and value caring for and supporting one another. We are all too aware that for some, Christmas is a stressful and anxious time due to the financial burdens many feel. As a result, on the last week of term, starting from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December, we will be collecting donations for our local foodbank of items including:

- Cereal
- Soup

- Pasta
- Rice
- Tinned tomatoes/ pasta sauce
- Lentils, beans and pulses
- Tinned meat
- Tinned vegetables
- Tea/coffee
- Tinned fruit
- Biscuits
- UHT milk
- Fruit juice



Any donations would be greatly appreciated. The children can place them in the labelled box that will be provided by the playground door when they enter school.

### **End of Term Arrangements**

This week is the **last week for our extra-curricular clubs taking place**. The last club will end on Friday 15th of December. Also, swimming for CI3 has now ended for the term. It will recommence for the Owls on Tuesday 9th January. **The Owl children should continue to come into school on Tuesdays in their PE kit.**

Event	Date	Classes Involved	Specific Arrangements
Nativity Costumes in at school	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Class 1 (Foxes and Badgers) Class 2 (Kingfishers)	Please can all costumes be sent into your child's class by Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December.
Christmas Lunch	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	All	Dinners will be pre-ordered.  Pupils may come in their own Christmas headwear, including hats and headbands.
Infants Nativity at The Madeley Centre	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2pm-3pm	Class 1 (Foxes and Badger) Class 2 (Kingfishers)	Children do not require their school bags on this day. However, they should bring to school a water bottle. Please note, as the children will be eating their lunch at The Madeley Centre, only packed lunches will be available to be ordered from school.  Doors opened for admittance at 1:50pm. <b>Please fill in the form on Parentmail about who will be collecting your child from the venue at the end of the performance.</b>
The Meadows Christmas Carol Service, All Saints Church, Madeley	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2-3pm	All classes	Children do not require their school bags on this day. However, they should bring to school a water bottle.  Doors opened for admittance at 1:50pm. <b>Please fill in the form on Parentmail about who will be collecting your child from the venue at the end of the performance.</b>
Christmas Parties/Christmas movie *Last day of term*	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	All classes          Hawks and Kingfisher	All pupils can come into school wearing <b>smart party clothes</b> .  All pupils will take part in a range of party games and raffle. Party food will be provided. A £3.50 voluntary contribution should be paid via Parentmail. <b>Payments will be available from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December.</b> This will include a visit and a gift from Santa too.  If your child has PE on this day, they should bring in their PE kits to change into during the afternoon.



## Updated Term Dates

Here is our updated calendar. **Please note the yellow highlighted events**, where dates have been either added in or amended. Apologies where amendments may have been made – this is either down to a change in arrangements for unforeseeable reasons or due to human error.

### Forthcoming Dates

Date	Event
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup> October - Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Half Term
<b>Monday 11 - Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Last week of extra-curricular clubs</b>
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Cl3 (Owls)/Cl4 (Hawks) New Victoria Theatre Trip to see 'The Nutcracker', 2:30pm-5pm
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Auction Night More details have been sent out via Parentmail
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS/KS1 (Badgers, Foxes and Kingfishers) Nativity at The Madeley Centre, 2-3pm
<b>Wed 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>End of term pupil reports will be sent home</b>
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> December	The Meadows Christmas Carol Service, 2-3pm, All Saints Church, Madeley
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> December - Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Christmas Holiday
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Term Starts
Tue 9 <sup>th</sup> January	Cl3 (Owls) Swimming Starts (Spring)
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Cl4 (Hawks) Standon Bowers Parents Information Meeting, Cl4, 3pm
TBD	Whole School Movie Night
<b>TBD</b>	<b>Spring Fayre</b>
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> February – Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Cl3 (Owls) Trip to Lower Drayton Farm
Tue 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Cl4 (Hawks) Trip to Tamworth Castle
Tue 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Cl3 (Owls) Last Swimming Session (Spring)
TBD	Easter Concert
TBD	Easter Disco
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> March – Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holiday
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Term Starts
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> April	INSET (Shaw Education Trust Training Day)
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Cl4 (Hawks) Swimming Starts (Summer)
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Group Photos
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> May	May Day
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> May – Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half Term
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Cl4 (Hawks) Residential Trip to Standon Bowers
Tue 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Cl4 (Hawks) Last Swimming Session (Summer)
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day (EYFS Foxes and Badgers) 2-3pm, Leycett Cricket Club
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day (Cl2-Cl4) 1-3pm, Leycett Cricket Club
TBD	Summer Fayre
TBD	Leaver's Performance
TBD	'Celebrations Assembly' at the Madeley Centre, 2-3pm

<b>Fri 19th July</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>
<b>Mon 22nd July</b>	<b>INSET (Staff Training)</b>
<b>Tues 23 July – Fri 30 August</b>	<b>Summer Holiday</b>

Have a fantastic week.

All the best,

Mrs Kuffour

**Personal Possessions**

I would like to remind all our school community of the following:

*The storage of any personal property or possessions or, where pupils bring in personal property or possessions onto the school premises it is at the pupil's and parent's own risk and the school will not be liable for any loss or damage to personal property or possessions.*



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