



Meadows Newsletter

Issue 11

11/03/2024

The Meadows
Primary School

Dear parent and guardians,

On Friday we were delighted to share with you the outcome of our recent Ofsted visit, when we were judged to be Outstanding. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your kind words and your thoughtful emails and cards to congratulate our school community. They have been really appreciated your support continues to be phenomenal.



Whilst we are incredibly proud of our school, and are of course making opportunities to celebrate such a wonderful achievement, we are also aware that school remains business as usual. We continue to be committed to ensuring that we provide our children with the best education they deserve.

Welcoming Visitors

This week, we have welcomed further visitors to The Meadows to explore our provision. The first was on Monday, where we were thrilled to welcome the **two creators from Gazing, the company who have produced the Red 2 Blue approach that we launched last September**. They wanted to explore how our school had implemented the approach and what impact we have seen on our school community. They were thrilled to talk to the children about how the approach has helped them with their own self-regulation and mental health. They were, yet again, bowled over by how articulate and passionate our children were, so much so that they have invited us to their conference in April to share best practice with colleagues from across the country.

On Thursday, we were also visited by **Brian Duffy, Director of Safeguarding from The Shaw Education Trust** who came to complete our annual quality assurance of safeguarding at our school. He spoke to myself and Mrs Davies as the school's designated safeguarding leads, about our school's culture for safeguarding, our policies and procedures and our rigorous monitoring. He observed lessons and playtimes. He spoke to staff and pupils to hear their voice about how effectively we safeguard our community. Mr Duffy was incredibly impressed by our pupils and how thoroughly they know how we keep them safe and how they keep each other safe. He said that they were phenomenal!

The quality assurance process was very supportive, and Mr Duffy has praised the school for our incredibly strong safeguarding culture, curriculum and procedures and has deemed us to be highly effective. We are thrilled by the outcome. We continue to explore ways we can enhance our provision too. One way is to develop pupil knowledge of how they can use our system My Voice, alongside Zumos, to make anonymous reports (when appropriate) of any significant concerns.



Attendance	% this term so far (TARGET: 97% or above)
Whole School	96.8%
Nursery	100%
Reception	96%
Y1	96.6%
Y2	97.7%
Y3	95.2%
Y4	95.9%
Y5	97%
Y6	97.9%

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance at The Meadows continues to be above the national. Well done to all in our community for continuing to ensure that attendance is a priority. Well done to Y2, Y5 and Y6 who are making the most of every minute in school and achieving at least our target. However, we are still not quite reaching our ambitious target of at least 97% or above as a whole school, with improvement required particularly in Reception, Y1, Y3 and Y4. We know there are times when children rightly need to be at home because, for example, they have a high temperature or a sickness bug. However, these instances should be rare and should not have a significant impact upon a child's attendance.

Attendance is essential for our children to thrive, both personally and academically. Research continues to highlight how poor attendance can have a significant and long last impact on a pupil's education and future life chances.

Poor attendance can also be a safeguarding concern.

Please be mindful of the number of days your child has had off during the academic year. A child is **considered persistent absence if they have had 19 days off over the course of the academic year.**

A child is considered **at risk of persistent absence if they have had between 10-18 days off** over the course of the academic year. If a **child falls into 'persistent absence' category, research suggests that this has a significant negative impact on their academic achievement, their wellbeing, and their future life chances.**

Persistent absence can also be a safeguarding concern. The research figures are very sobering and concerning.

Please continue to support your child to attend school and remember that we are here to help if you have any concerns.



Dougie Mac Assembly

On Tuesday, it was lovely to welcome Sam Holgate who is from the fundraising team at the Dougie Mac. She came to tell us all about the wonderful job they do supporting individuals and families in our area. It was fascinating to hear all about their amazing facilities and the wonderful work they do there. It really spurred us on to do our best to raise as much money as possible for this worthwhile cause. I personally know so many who have benefitted from their care over the years, and I hope the money we raise will help this charity continue to help the most vulnerable get the support they desperately need.

World Book Day

A huge thank you for your support on Friday during World Book Day, where we were raising money for the Dougie Mac based at the Donna Louise building. We had so many kind donations during the day, which have all gone to begin filling up our official donation buckets. It was wonderful to see the children come into school in their bright rainbow colours and spend the day explore the wonderful text, 'Rain Before Rainbows.' This fantastic picture book has a poignant message for us all about how, no matter what challenges life throws at us, no matter what dragons we have to fight, we can always have hope for the future and be comforted by the friends and loved ones that support us on the way. As we say in school, life is not a straight line, and this is why it is so important that we continue to prompt the importance of resilience and bouncing back from failure. This is why one of our school values (or Secrets of Success) is 'Don't Give Up'.





Fundraising for Dougie Mac

Our next fundraising event will take place on the last week of term, where we will be completing '**The Meadows Big March**'. Our challenge is to walk, run, skip or dance 1 million steps during the week. This will be a sponsored event. The sponsorship form has been sent out with this newsletter today. Please help us to raise as much money for the Dougie Mac as possible by gathering as many sponsors as you can. **Forms should be filled in and returned, alongside the money generated, no later than by the start of the Summer term on Monday 8th April.**

We have lots of exciting ways we will be encouraging children to get active during our challenge week in school. We will also be putting on two events outside of the school hours too:

1. Join us each morning for our '**Meadows March**' to school. Members of staff will be **leaving from The Madeley Centre at 8.30am each morning** to walk to school. Why not come and join us so that we can all march together! We will begin to **gather at 8.20am and then leave promptly at 8.30am**. If you live in the village, we hope you can join us walking to school on this week.
2. **Afternoon Walk around Madeley** - Help us to get our steps in by coming along and joining members of staff as we take a walk around our wonderful village **on Monday 18th March meeting at The Meadows Main Site at 5:30pm. Family and pets welcome!** Come rain or shine, we will be marching so come prepared. The walk will take no longer than an hour and you are welcome to drop off at any point around the route as we walk together!

The staff are also doing their part too. Please see the message below from Miss Parry about a fundraiser they are taking part in outside of school:

As part of our Meadows March, myself, Miss Sutcliffe, Mrs Panagi and Mrs Magee have taken on the task of hiking to the top Snowdon on Saturday 1st June. Our Meadows community has been greatly impacted by the loss of Aidan and Lucas, who loved to go on walks with their family. We feel this will be a fitting way to raise money for Douglas MacMillian by doing an activity the boys loved.

Any contributions would be appreciated. We are setting up a Just Giving page and will share it with the local community soon. Please help us to raise as much money by sharing too! We will keep you updated on our progress!



Spring Fayre

This **Wednesday**, we will be holding our Spring Fayre on the school main site from **3.30-5.30pm**. Please come along and join the fun. There will be a range of activities and stalls available including:

- Arts and Crafts
- Easter baking
- Penalty shoot out

- Splat a Rat
- Lucky Dip
- Guess the Jelly Beans in the Jar
- Preloved Uniform
- Eco Warriors Bug Houses
- Easter Treasure Hunt
- Cake Sale
- Tea and Coffee
- Face Painting
- Tuck Shop
- Hedgehogs After School Club Crafts
- Chocolate Tombola



Crafts being sold on the Eco Warriors and Hedgehogs stall have all been made by our pupils! Also, tomorrow (Tuesday 12th March) we will be holding an own clothes day and requesting children bring a chocolate donation for the tombola – this is always a popular stall! A message went out about this last week on Parentmail.

Friends and families welcome! All proceeds will go toward school funds.

Please note: there will be no afterschool clubs on Wednesday 13th March. A message has been sent out via Parentmail.

Forthcoming Dates

Date	Event
Tue 12 th March	Own Clothes Day Children to bring in a donation for the chocolate tombola please. 😊
Tue 12 th March	CI2 (Kingfishers) Fire Safety Visit by the Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service. The children will meet firemen and women and learn about fire safety. It will take place in school during the normal school hours.
Wed 13 th March	CI3 (Owls) Trip to Lower Drayton Farm
Wed 13 th March	Spring Fayre 3:30-5pm at The Meadows main school site. All welcome to attend. 😊
Mon 18 th -Fri 22 nd March	The Meadows Big March (see above for more details)
Tue 19 th March	CI4 (Hawks) Trip to Tamworth Castle
Tue 19 th March	CI3 (Owls) Last Swimming Session (Spring)
Thurs 21 st March	Easter Celebration Whole school family 2-3pm All Saints Church, Madeley
Mon 25 th March – Fri 5 th April	Easter Holiday
Mon 8 th April	Term Starts The Meadows Big March sponsorship forms deadline
Mon 15 th April	INSET (Shaw Education Trust Training Day)
Tue 16 th April	CI4 (Hawks) Swimming Starts (Summer)
Thurs 25 th April	EYFS (Nursery and Reception) Open Day 1:30-2:30pm

	For anyone interested in bringing their child to our fantastic Nursery and Reception setting. Please share with your friends and neighbours.
Wed 1 st May	Group Photos All pupils should come dressed smartly for their class photographs.
Mon 6 th May	May Day Bank Holiday
Mon 13 th - Thurs 16 th May	Y6 SATs Week
Mon 13 th May	CI3 (Owls) trip to Cadbury's World
Mon 27 th May – Fri 31 st May	Half Term
Mon 3 rd – Fri 7 th June	CI4 (Hawks) Residential Trip to Standon Bowers
Tue 25 th June	CI4 (Hawks) Last Swimming Session (Summer)
Wed 19 th June	Sports Day (EYFS Foxes and Badgers) 2-3pm, Leycett Cricket Club
Thurs 20 th June	CI3 (Owls) Music Concert at The Victoria Hall in the afternoon Parents can order tickets, available next term. Concerts – 2:15pm-3:15pm. Parents should collect from the venue.
Wed 26 th June	Sports Day (CI2-CI4) 1-3pm, Leycett Cricket Club
Mon 1 st July	EYFS (Nursery and Reception) Open Day 1:30-2:30pm For anyone interested in bringing their child to our fantastic Nursery and Reception setting. Please share with your friends and neighbours.
Wed 17 th July	'Celebrations Assembly' at the Madeley Centre, 2-3pm
Thurs 18 th July	CI4 (Hawks) End of Year Performance and Leavers Play 6-7pm Madeley High School
Fri 19 th July	Term Ends
Mon 22 nd July	INSET (Staff Training)
Tues 23 July – Fri 30 August	Summer Holiday

Please note, all dates highlighted in yellow are either new or have been amended.

Safeguarding Update

If you are concerned about the safety of a child in **immediate danger** over the Christmas holidays, 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.

Have a fantastic week. Thank you for your continued support.

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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