



Meadows Newsletter

Issue 9

21/01/2024

The Meadows
Primary School

Dear parent and guardians,

The first few weeks of term have seen the children return refreshed, with a renewed enthusiasm and energy for learning. It has been wonderful to walk through the classes during the past two weeks and see some of the fantastic learning occurring and the progress that the children have already made this year!

We are now well in the swing of the Spring term. I am certainly looking forward to seeing the signs of Spring arrive including lighter nights, daffodils, and much warmer weather.

This week, we welcomed a photographer, Clare, to come and take some professional photos of our school to help us to create some brilliant new adverts for our wonderful school. She has done a brilliant job.



In addition, we have been actively exploring ways to continue to improve communication and engagement with our school community. We are committed to creating strong partnerships with our families because we know how important this is for the success of our amazing pupils.

Our main vehicles to communicate with parents currently are through Parentmail, Twitter and our school website. However, we recognise that other social media platforms are more widely used within our school community. As a result, The Meadows will soon be on Instagram and Facebook, alongside Twitter to increase our footfall. We are also currently working at creating a new school website, which we hope will be up and running this Spring. These are exciting times!

Attendance	% this term so far (TARGET: 97% or above)
Whole School	97.3%
Nursery	100%
Reception	97.1%
Y1	97%
Y2	97.6%
Y3	97%
Y4	96.2%
Y5	97.7%
Y6	97.9%

Attendance and Punctuality

A huge congratulations to all our school community for your fantastic attendance this week, despite the usual winter bugs that seem to be circulating our local community.

I would also like to thank you all for your excellent punctuality this week too, despite the challenges that we have faced with New Road being closed and the traffic that has been caused outside the school as a result.

Again, these are both reminders about the strong culture for attendance we have as a school community, because we value the importance of children being in school to learn. Well done everyone.



Eco Warrior Update

As you may be aware, we are currently working towards our school Eco status. Our Eco Warriors are working hard, alongside Mrs Magee, to help our school to be eco-friendly to protect the world around us. Our committee have their own news board, where minutes of their meetings can be found. The goals they have decided on this half term are:

1. To improve our playground for our local nature.
2. To reduce our energy consumption. They have selected light monitors to help with this and prompts have been put up around the school.
3. To introduce class plants to improve indoor air quality.

On Monday, in Eco Warrior club, they started to work on goal two by creating their own bird food (fat balls) that will be placed around the school community to support our local birdlife.



TT Rockstars

A letter was sent via Parentmail this week to launch TT Rockstars with our Key Stage 2 pupils (Owls and Hawks). This programme is aimed at supporting our pupils to develop automaticity in their time tables, so that they are committed to their long-term memories and can be applied in Maths and across the curriculum. We want our children to be able to recall them quickly, in less than 6 seconds. This will enhance FUN Maths provision. The Owls trialed the programme last term and their voice was incredibly positive. Here are some examples of their comments last term:



- “It is fun and helps me to practice them quickly.”
- “It is a good way to build confidence.”
- “The games are fun, and I like that we will be able to challenge other people.”
- “I like that you can see the heatmap and that it changes colour so you know what to work on.”

As a result of the fantastic results of the trial, and the impact on pupil retention and enthusiasm, we have rolled this out to all KS2 and will be implementing a similar programme Numbots (based on recall of number facts including number bonds) to our Kingfishers in the next few weeks too. 😊

IT Update

At The Meadows, we know how important digital technology is to our school community – it is an essential part of our curriculum and teaching and learning because we want to create fantastic digital citizens of the future. To enhance our provision, we have been trialling a new hi spec Promethean board in the Kingfishers class. This demo will help us to ensure we purchase the best spec board for our provision.



Excitingly, we are also in the process of working with the Shaw Education Trust to roll out our new digital strategy, which will include all pupils having access to an individual Ipad. The aim is for this to be in place over the next month or so. We have worked hard to ensure that this happens and are incredibly thankful to the trust for their support and commitment to our school community.

Sports Super Stars

Huge congratulations to our athletes in Hawks class who took part in the Sportshall Athletic competition this week. The children participated in a range of track and field athletic events and were praised for their fantastic sportsmanship! Well done children for coming 3rd place. We are so proud of you and we know you certainly enjoyed this experience. 😊



World Book Day

On Friday 8th March we will be celebrating World Book Day in school. This event is always a great way for us to continue to promote our school ethos of reading for pleasure. This year, our whole school will be focusing on the beautiful book, **'Rain Before Rainbows'** by Smriti Prasad-Halls. It is an empowering book about finding the strength to be resilient, and looking towards the future with hearts filled with hope. This works brilliantly with our school value (as we call our Secret of Success) 'Don't Give Up'. As we say to the children, life isn't a straight line and there are bumps along the road, but it is important to not give up, deal with our

issues and more forward – something that is important for positive mental health. This idea reflects the quote I have on the wall of my office by Winston Churchill:

'Success is not final; failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.'

On this day, we will also be raising money for a charity that is close to our school's heart; The Donna Louise Trust. More information will be sent out about this later this week.

We would like all children to come dress up on this day as a bright colour from the rainbow. Please note: this does not require you to buy an outfit specially for the day. Please just ensure your child comes in a colourful item on clothing. Many thanks, in advance, for your support.



Updated Calendar

The school calendar continues to be updated and amended to reflect events occurring within school. Please continue to check our newsletters and add the dates to your diaries.

Forthcoming Dates

Date	Event
Mon 25th December - Fri 5th January	Christmas Holiday
Mon 22nd January	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.
Mon 19th February	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.
Mon 19th February	TT Rockstars Parents Meeting, main site, 3pm
Tue 20th February	Cl4 (Hawks) 'Seeing is Believing' session for parents to learn alongside their child. 11am-12pm. Book via Parentmail.
Tue 27th February	Cl2 (Kingfishers) 'Seeing is Believing' session for parents to learn alongside their child. 11am-12pm. Book via Parentmail.
Thurs 29th February	Cl3 (Owls) 'Seeing is Believing' session for parents to learn alongside their child. 2:15-3:15pm. Book via Parentmail.
Mon 19th February	Whole School Movie Night 3:30-5:00pm at The Meadows main site for Kingfishers, Owls and Hawks
Mon 12th February – Fri 16th February	Half Term

Mon 4th March	CI4 (Hawks) Parents' Consultation. A form will be sent via Parentmail after half term.
Tue 5th March	EYFS (Badgers and Foxes) Parents' Consultation. A form will be sent via Parentmail after half term.
Wed 6th March	CI2 (Kingfishers) Parents' Consultation. A form will be sent via Parentmail after half term.
Thurs 7th March	CI3 (Owls) Parents' Consultation. A form will be sent via Parentmail after half term.
Fri 8th March	World Book Day More information will be released nearer the time.
Tue 12th 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 13th March	CI3 (Owls) Trip to Lower Drayton Farm
Tue 19th March	CI4 (Hawks) Trip to Tamworth Castle
Tue 19th March	CI3 (Owls) Last Swimming Session (Spring)
Wed 13th March	Spring Fayre 3:30-5pm at The Meadows main school site. All welcome to attend. ☺
Thurs 21st March	Easter Celebration Whole school family 2-3pm All Saints Church, Madeley
Mon 25th March – Fri 5th April	Easter Holiday
Mon 8th April	Term Starts
Mon 15th April	INSET (Shaw Education Trust Training Day)
Tue 16th April	CI4 (Hawks) Swimming Starts (Summer)
Mon 25th 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 1st May	Group Photos
Mon 6th May	May Day
Mon 27th May – Fri 31st May	Half Term
Mon 3rd – Fri 7th June	CI4 (Hawks) Residential Trip to Standon Bowers
Tue 25th June	CI4 (Hawks) Last Swimming Session (Summer)
Wed 19th June	Sports Day (EYFS Foxes and Badgers) 2-3pm, Leycett Cricket Club
Wed 26th June	Sports Day (CI2-CI4) 1-3pm, Leycett Cricket Club
TBD	Leaver's Performance
TBD	'Celebrations Assembly' at the Madeley Centre, 2-3pm

Mon 1st 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.
Fri 19th July	Term Ends
Mon 22nd July	INSET (Staff Training)
Tues 23 July – Fri 30 August	Summer Holiday

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.

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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