

END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER 2021



HEADTEACHER UPDATE



Dear Families,

As we end our year, we reflect together on our successes and celebrations as a school. I'd like to use this newsletter to end our academic year, to share and celebrate our school achievements with you.

We are proud of all of our students and their achievements. With our sixth formers we know that we will send them on to their new destinations having had some wonderful, memorable learning experiences, with strong basic skills. We value many things here at The Meadows, but not all are measurable – **communication, wellbeing, independence** and **enjoyment** are the key drivers embedded in our curriculum and celebrated widely, as you will see in this newsletter and on our website.

We say a huge farewell to our sixth form leavers and wish them every success as they look forward to the next chapter. They have shown remarkable resilience in preparing themselves and we will miss them dearly, but look forward to hearing of their future successes. We also send our best wishes to their families too, as we are a community school and support those associated with the school.

The current position with the school is that we will remain open for all students on Tuesday 7th September. Attendance is compulsory and not optional so our usual procedures for managing students attendance will continue from this date. If we have to change any of the arrangements during the course of the summer break due to events beyond our control from the government, we will let you know via email, text message and the school website.

Thank you once again for working with us to ensure our students are safe and happy and encouraged to 'dream, believe and achieve' as they work towards their goals and ambitions.

Have an enjoyable summer break and we will see you in the new academic year.
Stay safe and take care.

What's been happening?

Class 4.2 organised a fundraising event to include the whole school, a mindfulness/reflection day called **Hello Yellow**. All students wore yellow and brought in a favourite toy to have a group show and tell stories. Each classroom had a Sunflower seed to grow, a Stem challenge and a tea party care hamper. This was to allow students to talk about what this year has meant to them and how we can move forward into the new academic year. Here are some of the activities the classes participated in.

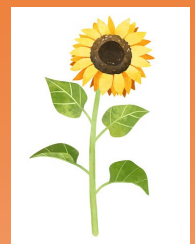
What makes us happy?



Thank you to all of those who took part in our sunflower competition!

We had some fantastic (and creative) entries!
But we had to make the very difficult decision of
choosing our winners.

Our prizes for tallest sunflowers went to....
Class 5.5 at a height of 151cm!
Class 4.5 at a height of 59cm!
And Class 4.4 at a height of 58cm!



Our prize for fantastic effort went to...
Class 3.6!

And our prize for “thinking outside of the box” went to...
Class 3.7!

Honourable mentions to Craig and Richard for their fantastic efforts too!



Take a look at this!

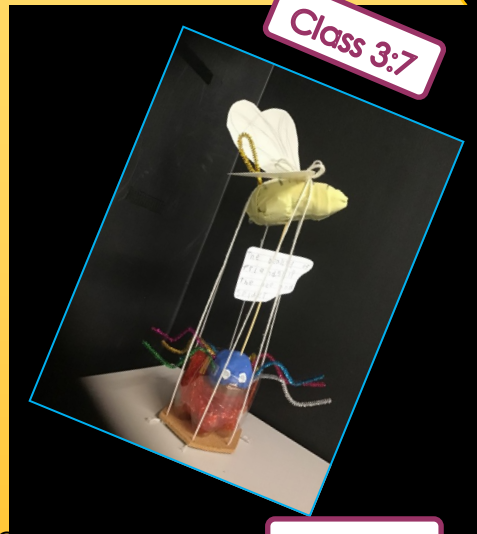
Class 3:4



Class 3:5



Class 3:7



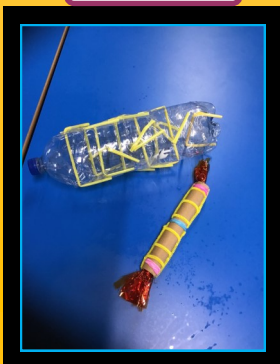
STEM CHALLENGE

We had so many fantastic entries for the STEM challenge and it was so hard to choose the winners. Thank you for all of the effort you put into the challenges.

The three winners are classes 3.5, 3.7 and 5.1 and our three runners up are classes 3.4, 4.4 and 5.2.

WELL DONE TO YOU ALL.

Class 4:1



Class 4:4



Class 5:5



Class 5:2



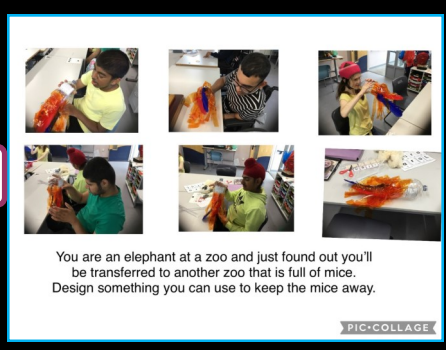
Class 5:1



Class 4:3

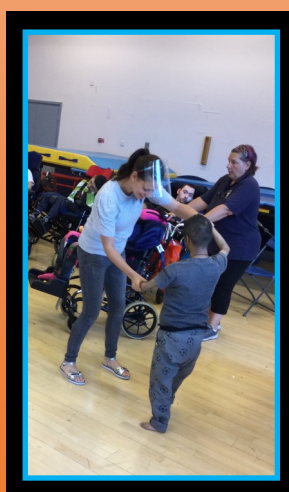


Class 4:5



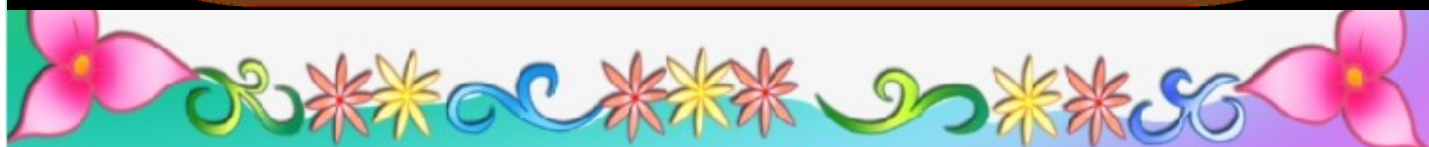
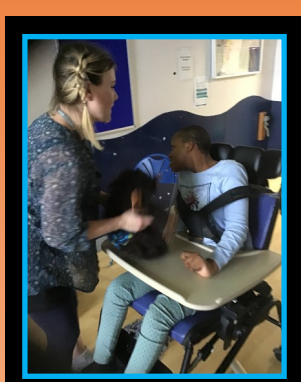
What's been going on in school?

PMLD zone have all joined together two afternoons a week to collaborate on activities such as dance massage, tacpac, wheelchair dancing and call. As well as response music sessions! It has been a lovely chance for the PMLD classes to interact with one another on shared experiences.



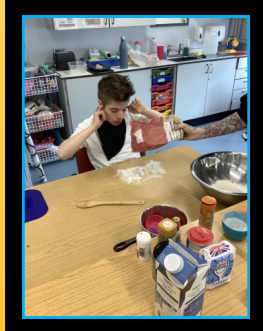
PMLD ZONE

**Come join the fun,
this isn't no time to be
staying home!**



The Chefs of Class 4:3

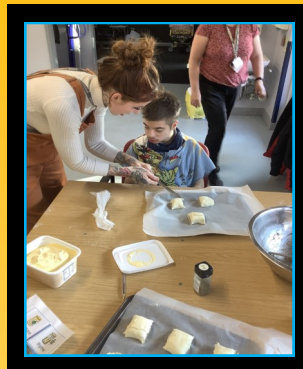
4:3 have been cooking every Friday, from sausage rolls to cupcakes, to banoffee pies and pizza, they all get stuck in with their food Friday session. Watch out bake off, here we come!



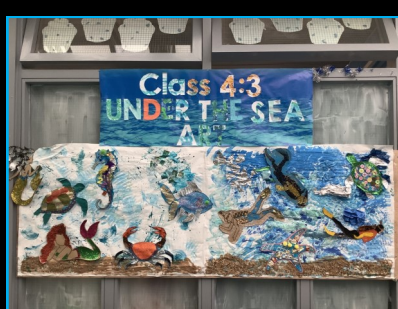
Class 4:3

A recipe has no soul.
You, as the cook, must
bring soul to the
recipe.

— THOMAS KELLER
supercell.com



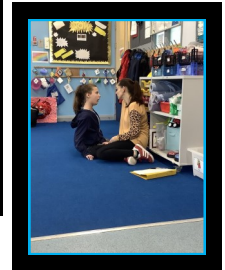
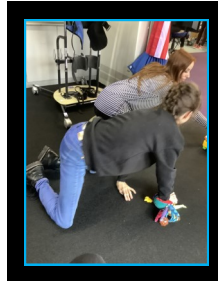
Class 4:3 also have been busy with their Summer Art Project, take a look at this magnificent piece of artwork.



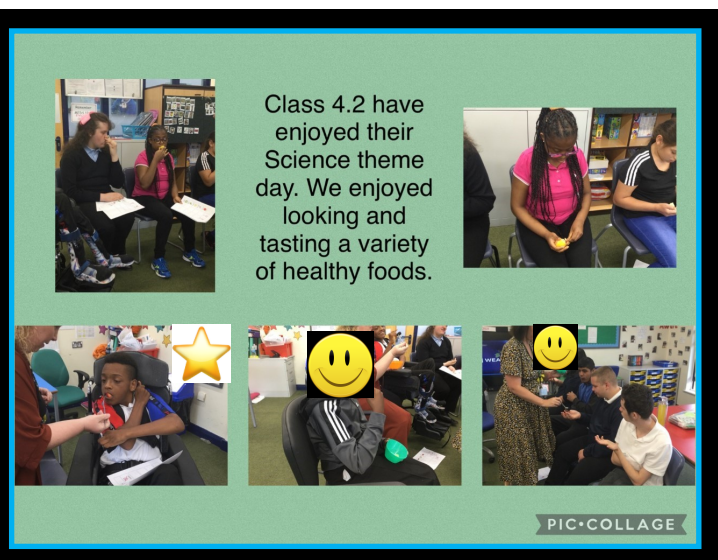
Excellent work everyone!

Intensive Interaction

Staff at The Meadows have all taken part in Intensive Interaction training. We have been listening like our learners, moving like our learners, and fully immersing into their worlds! The PMLD students especially have given us some incredible physio workouts along side this!



KS4 Science Day



Some of the students have been able to enjoy sports sessions with WBA. Here we see the students enjoying a session with the WBA manager playing wheelchair football.

That's Amazing!

Safeguarding

NSPCC launch new Report Remove tool

The NSPCC and the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) in partnership with Yoti (an age verification platform) have launched Report Remove – a tool to help young people under 18 remove sexual images of themselves online. Report Remove can support young people to report sexual images or video shared online and takes steps to remove it, if it is illegal.

Trying to remove an image or video online can be extremely difficult and upsetting for children and young people. Report Remove provides a child-centred approach to image removal which can be done entirely online, and NSPCC's Childline service will ensure that the young person is safeguarded throughout the process. For more information, visit [Report Remove](#) and make sure the young people you work with are aware of this important tool.



Parent Meet Ups for Summer
Thursdays = Parent Carers Only
Mondays = Agenda Meeting with visiting speakers.

Month	Morning Meet up 2nd Thursday of the month 10am Zoom	Lunch time Meet up 3rd Monday of the month 12.30pm
July	8 th	19 th
August	12 th	16 th
September	9 th	20 th

Easiest way is to join
Become A Member and have links emailed direct
or
Contact hello@spvu.org
Join our Facebook Group links are posted there



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The Meadows School takes its safeguarding duty very seriously. If you have any concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child, then please contact the school or the Sandwell Children's Trust. We are here to help and support you.

Staff Updates

First and foremost, we would like to welcome back Kirsty Francis, Radeah Fara and Leanne Norton from maternity leave. We have appointed nine Learning Support Practitioners and two Student Support Practitioners who will start in September 2021, welcome to the Meadows Team!

We would also like to congratulate Leo, who has been nominated for the Health Education and Life Science (HELS) Student of Excellence award by Birmingham City University for her PGCE. The nomination was based on receiving some of the highest grades in her assignments and placements out of the entire cohort.

And finally, we would like to say a big farewell to three members of our staff. We wish Eleanor Edwards the very best for the future and we wish a very enjoyable retirement to Cheryl Swoffer, our PA who has been with us since 2004 and Wendy Hood, our cleaner, who has been with us since 2003. Thank you for the hard work and dedication you have shown throughout your time with the Meadows family. We wish you all the best for the future.

One to look out for



Over the summer holiday, if you pop into central Birmingham to do a spot of retail therapy, please visit Victoria Square. Alongside the magnificent Town Hall, you will see a new piece of public art. 'Forward Together' was created by Luke Perry – the sculptor who made the wonderful statue in our Remembrance Garden.

It depicts 25 unsung heroes – everyday people that represent the diverse nature of our region. Two of Luke's chosen participants are our very own Kerry Small (LSP in 4.3) and Blake Hickman (student in 5.4).

We are all really proud of their involvement with the project, so please go and check it out – it is really amazing.

Dates for academic year 2021-2022:

Autumn Term 1: Tuesday 7th Sept - Friday 22nd Oct 2021

Autumn Term 2: Monday 1st November - Friday 17th December 2021

Spring Term 1: Wednesday 5th January - Friday 18th February 2022

Spring Term 2: Monday 28th February - Friday 8th April 2022

Summer Term 1: Monday 25th April - Friday 27th May 2022

Summer Term 2: Monday 6th June - Friday 22nd July 2022

Staff training days and when school will be closed for other reasons are:

Thursday 2nd September, Friday 3rd September and Monday 6th September 2021; Tuesday 4th January 2022; Polling Day Thursday 5th May 2022; Training day - Friday 6th May 2022.

The Meadows School, Dudley Road East, Oldbury, Sandwell, B69 3BU

Tel : 0121 569 7080 Email: headteacher@themeadows.sandwell.sch.uk