

# EASTER NEWSLETTER 2022



## HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Dear Families,

As we come to the end of Term 2, I would like to thank every member of our community – pupils, staff and parents/carers – for your ongoing support and dedication. We continue with our mission to help our children reach their potential through personalised approaches to learning and focusing on maximising each child's sense of wellbeing. The children have continued to show excellent resilience and brilliant attitudes towards learning and have enjoyed a range of unique enrichment opportunities such as a visit from the Welsh Opera Theatre, Pony Therapy and regular visits to the local shops and leisure centre.

Communication is very important to our school; hence we are trying our best to get information to you in the form of newsletters, text messages, emails, phone calls or through the website and Schoolcomms. Please remember to keep all contact details up to date and inform the school of any changes. The Admin team send home Data Collection Sheets for checking and updating on an annual basis, but if any of your details change (address, home telephone, mobile, email etc) during the year, we would welcome an update as soon as possible. Please email [info@themeadows.sandwell.sch.uk](mailto:info@themeadows.sandwell.sch.uk)

I wish you all the best for the Easter break and look forward to welcoming all students back on Monday 17th April.

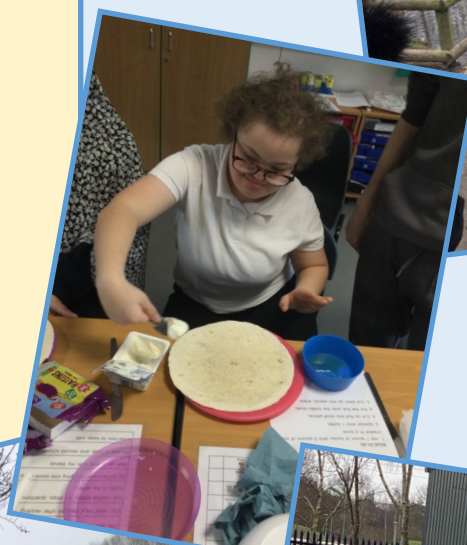
Theodora Papaspyrou—Acting Headteacher



# What's been happening?

## Class 4.5

This term, Class 4.5's theme has been Fitness First and they have been keeping fit and healthy. In My Independence and My Thinking-Maths, they have been measuring and weighing food items to make healthy snacks such as salads, fruit smoothies and a fruit pizza. In P.E, they are starting to learn how to play Football and with the West Bromwich Albion coaches, they are learning to play Volleyball. On their trip to Sandwell Valley, they walked around the park to improve their fitness levels, despite battling against the snow and windy conditions! They are looking forward to their trip to West Bromwich Albion Football Stadium on the 29<sup>th</sup> March.



## Welsh National Opera Visit

Our Pre-formal classes were able to experience a multi-sensory opera session to give them insight into the world of classical music.



## WBA Power Chair Football

Jack and Noah have been participating in powerchair football outside of school now for a number of years. Both boys play for the WBA power chair football team, which is run by the Albion Foundation. The Albion Foundation is the official charity partner of West Bromwich Albion Football Club. Their vision is to create a Proud Albion Family, Engaged, Inspired & Achieving its Potential. They use the power of football to deliver excellence in Wellbeing, Behaviour Change and Active Lifestyles.



Both Jack and Noah train twice a week with fixtures on the weekend. They both represent WBA in the National League and have moved their way up in recent years to a higher standard of football. The national league competition comprises Premiership and Championship divisions with 24 teams competing over 11 weekends. Both Noah and Jack love their football and its great to

# Careers Week 2023

The snow didn't stop us enjoying Careers Week here at the Meadows.

## Recycling Model Competition

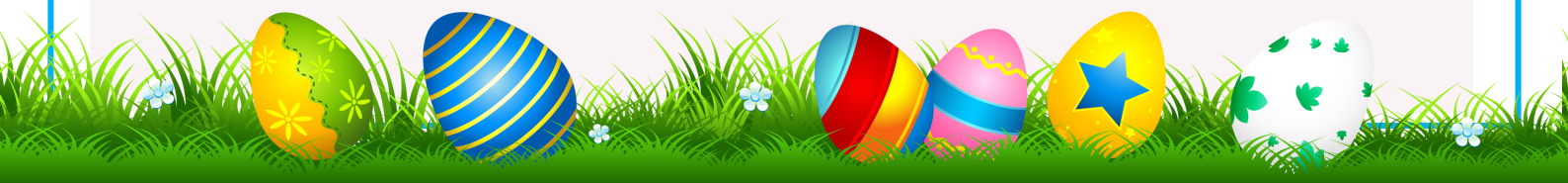
We have focused on recycling and all collected recycling to make models for our competition.

Pockets Snooker Club Kidderminster donated a £20 Amazon voucher for the 1st prize winner and chocolates for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize. We had some amazing entries!

1st Prize: Jacob Walters

2nd Prize: Class 4.4

3rd Prize: Class 5.4



## Therapy Ponies

On Monday 20th March, we welcomed Monty and Marmalade into the school. The young people really engaged in this session and it was lovely to see how they interacted with the ponies. It was such a magical experience!



## Career Boxes

We have explored different careers through career boxes. The whole school have explored different careers including construction workers, dentists, doctors, vets, gardeners, beauty therapists and hairdressers. This has been a very successful event and the students really engaged with each other to explore different materials available.



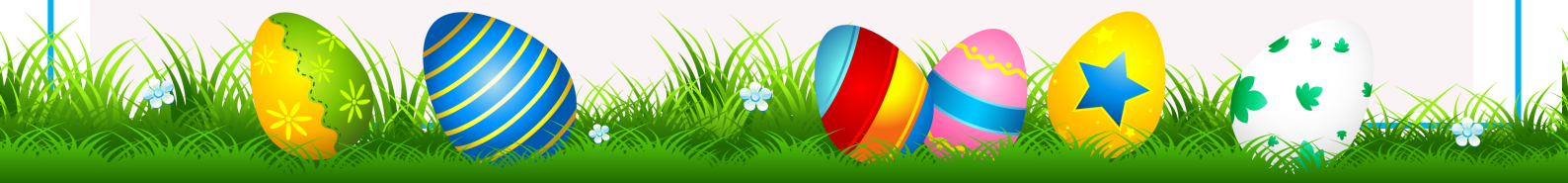
Upcoming Events: Due to snow, the Eco Bus was cancelled but will be returning on the 17th and 18th April.



# COMIC RELIEF

The school took part in raising money for Comic Relief on Friday 17th March by dressing up in something red or our own fun clothes. Classes took part in different activities across the day whilst classes 3.7 and 3.1 also hosted a red nose tuck shop to raise money for the charity. We were able to raise a grand total

of £133.69! Thank you for all of your generous donations. Here are some pictures of Classes taking part in some fun Red Nose Day activities including entries for design your own red nose and sponge the teacher!



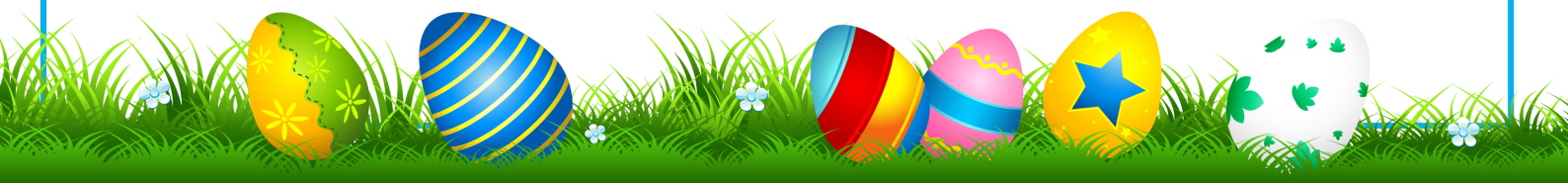
## Class 5.6

Class 5.6 have been completing a weekly shop, buying snacks and food to complete a weekly cooking session. We are using technology during our cooking sessions. We have made things like pizza, vegetable hot pot, cheese and potato pie and roast dinner.



## Class 3.2

Students in Class 3.2 have been enjoying their swimming lessons off-site this term at Tipton Leisure Centre!



# Safeguarding & Pastoral Updates

## Emergency Government Mobile Alerts



You may have heard in the news about emergency alerts that the government is trialling in order to let people know if an emergency situation has arisen in their area. There will be test of this service on the evening of Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April whereby all mobile phones that are switched on should receive an emergency alert. You can find out more here: <https://www.gov.uk/alerts#:~:text=Emergency%20Alerts%20is%20a%20UK,about%20how%20to%20stay%20safe>

<https://www.gov.uk/alerts#:~:text=Emergency%20Alerts%20is%20a%20UK,about%20how%20to%20stay%20safe>

Remember, if for any reason someone has a secret phone (that needs to be hidden from an abusive partner for example), the NHS are reminding them to ensure it is switched off or turned onto airplane mode that evening so the emergency alert does not sound and make everyone aware of the phone.



## Food Bank and Warm Banks

If over the Easter holidays, you find yourselves needing a food bank or warm bank, you can find your local ones here: <https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/find-a-foodbank/>



<https://warmspaces.org/spaces>

## Kids Eat Free/Cheaper during Easter

During this cost of living crisis, we can all benefit from anything that can save us some cash. Therefore, you can click on the link below to find cafes and restaurants that have 'kids eat for free/cheaper' schemes running over Easter: <https://www.mykidstime.com/travel/>





## Online Safety

Easter is a really good time to talk with your child about Online Safety. Even if they don't yet have their own phones/devices, many online safety messages just make sense for life! For example, not talking to strangers and not sharing your personal information with people you don't trust.



Below is a helpful video to watch with your child. We have put some conversation starters below which you could chat through with your child.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxySrSbSY7o&t=58s>

1. Do you agree that there might be scary people on the internet?
2. Can you think of anything we could all do to be safe when we use computers or phones?
3. If you saw something that shocked you online, who would you talk to?

As always, if you are worried about anything to do with your child, contact the pastoral team ahead of the Easter break



## Staff Updates

This term, we offer a big warm welcome to our new Student Support Practitioner, Jane Lacrouts , who has joined The Meadows team.

We unfortunately must bid farewell to one of our teachers, Nathalie Thomas and Higher Level Teaching Assistant, Mandy Sonia. We wish them the best of luck in the future!

## School Communication

### Just a reminder to contact the school office if you are not receiving text messages or emails



Please can all parents/carers download the free school gateway app, on your smartphone or desktop. The parent engagement app will allow you to receive communication from the school, also pay for school dinners. Search School Gateway in your app store and download.

Your login details will be automatically generated using the contact information The Meadows already has on the system, **so please make sure the contact details we hold for you are up to date.**

We will be sending all messages via text messages and emails containing important information, **please contact the school if you are not receiving these.**

## Term Dates

**Easter Holidays:** Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2023

### **Summer Term 2023**

Students Return: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Inset (Training) Day: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023

Students Last Day: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Half Term: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

Students Return: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Last Day of Term: Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023

