

MAY NEWSLETTER 2022



HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Dear Families,

We come to the end of a short but productive half term. The weather has picked up and our classes have been taking full advantage of the outdoor learning spaces around the school! We are thrilled that we have been able to give our students the opportunity to go on residential visits again and some of our Sixth Formers recently had a fantastic time at Foxes Hotel in Minehead. In resuming normality, we have also been able to get back in to the swing of class assemblies and these have been really successful in bringing students back together and sharing achievements. To see this half term off in style, we will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with two off-timetable days involving lots of different celebratory activities. We look forward to sharing lots of pictures of this with you!



I hope you all have a wonderful half term break and look forward to seeing you all again for our final half term before the Summer holidays!

Term Dates

Half Term: Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June 2022

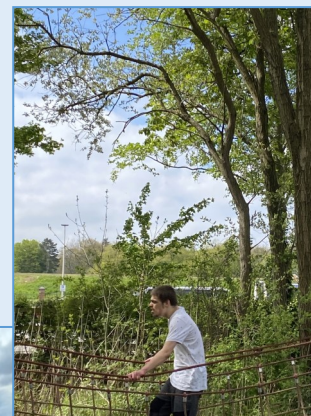
Students Return: Monday 6th June 2022

Last Day of Term: Thursday 21st July 2022



What's been happening?

Class 5.2



5.2 had fun at Sandwell Valley, visiting parks in the wider community this term.

Class 4.2

For our Science theme day last term, Class 4.2 visited Thinktank, Birmingham. Our topic was 'Earth and beyond' and we had a great opportunity to have a look around the space zone. Students enjoyed learning about the different planets and looking at a 'space suit' outfit. We also got chance to explore other areas within Thinktank and learnt about steam engines and talking robots.



Class 3.3

Here are some pictures of Class 3.3 on their recent offsite visits to The Balaji Temple and Tipton Methodist Church. Their theme is 'Out in the Community' this term and as part of this, they have visited local places of worship for different faith groups and communicated about our experiences.



Class 4.4



Class 4.4 enjoying being out in the community at Malthouse Stables.

Foxes Hotel Trip



Students in Class 5.4 recently visited Foxes Hotel. Foxes Hotel is predominately run by students with additional needs who wish to train and work in the catering industry. The stay included 2 nights, breakfast and dinner.

On this 3-day residential, the students had the opportunity to put all of their life skills learnt across the year into practice. The students were challenged by managing a small budget to pay for their activities, lunch and treats. Students practised exchanging money for items and selecting the correct coins or notes. In the hotel, students managed their safety by recognising hazards and using appropriate strategies to combat these. For example, walking up and down stairs holding the rail. In the hotel rooms, students managed their own self-care and asked for support where required like they would in school.

The experience showed the students that they can look after their belongings, follow instructions and manage their time. Students were involved in the choice of leisure activities and opted for the Amusements, Adventure golf, crabbing and the beach. On top of all this, students got to practise their road safety by staying to agreed routes, paths, and crossings.

The students were an absolute credit to the school and the students are already looking forward to the next visit. It was great to see the skills learnt being used in a different environment, showing that these skills can be transferred away from familiar settings to support life after The Meadows.

Swimming

Our students at The Meadows experience different activities whilst in the swimming pool. We offer them help with mobility, muscle strengthening, confidence and teaching our students to swim. We see some amazing things from our students when they are in the water.

The photos show our students having a front crawl lesson, doing Physio and student interaction with a ball game.



Forest School

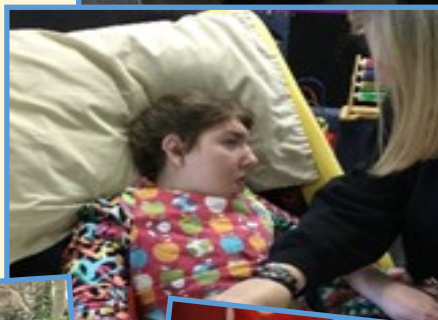
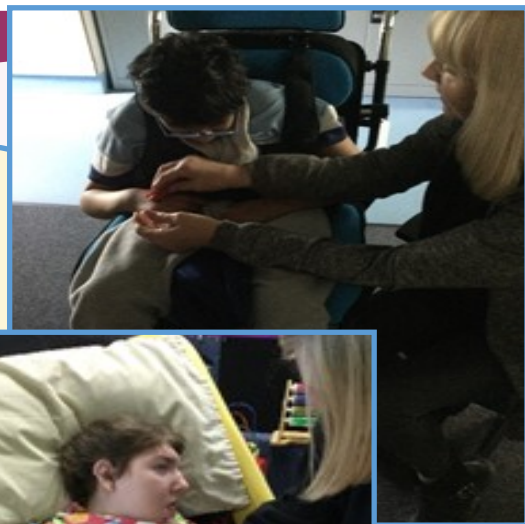


Building dens is always fun at Forest school and so is gathering around the fire pit, where the students learn how to be safe whilst enjoying hot chocolate and s'mores.

PIC•COLLAGE

Class 3.4

Students have been busy in 3.4. There has been lots of engagement with our themed TACPAC, weekly sessions with Open Theatre, and Forest School, Sensory Cooking and preparing for the Jubilee Celebrations. Now the warmer weather has arrived, we will be doing more massage sessions outside, in addition to experiencing the swings and switches in the outdoor learning areas.



P.E.

With Wimbledon coming up, KS3 have been scrubbing up on their tennis skills in a number of fun activities. Students have thoroughly enjoyed their P.E lessons and we hope a few tennis rackets will be picked up this summer!



KS4 & 5 have been taking part in a number of team building and adventure activities, from completing fun obstacle courses to racing round a track on bikes.



Class 3.7

This term, our theme has been Out in the Community. We visited Sandwell Valley Park, where we fed the ducks and looked at some rabbits. In Science, we have been learning about Green Plants and we planted some seeds in the Nature Trail. For our Work Experience, we worked in groups to put together a bird box, which we will place in the Nature Trail.

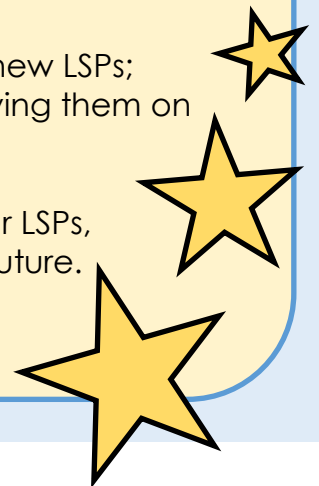


Staff Updates

We are pleased to have two new Learning Support Practitioners joining the team this half term. We offer Emma Harris and Karla Bayliss a huge warm welcome to The Meadows!

After the half term break, we will also be welcoming two more new LSPs; Megan Townsend and Patrina Wheeler and look forward to having them on board with us.

Unfortunately, we must say farewell to Louise Buckley, one of our LSPs, who is leaving for pastures new and wish her all the best in the future.



Safeguarding & Pastoral Updates

Online Safety

We had a lovely Online Safety Coffee Morning on Thursday 12th May – thank you to all those parents and carers who joined us! Keep an eye out on the website for the presentation will be uploaded for anyone who couldn't make it on the day.



Resources to help you talk about Online Safety with your child:

[Online Privacy for Kids - Internet Safety and Security for Kids - YouTube](#)

Above is a helpful video to use to understand the risks of sharing personal information. You could chat about this with your child if it is appropriate to do so.

As mentioned previously, National Online Safety is a fantastic organisation that creates helpful resources for schools and parents around Online Safety. They even have a free app that you can download to your phone which we would recommend doing. The app has a huge list of websites and games that young people use online and explains what they are, how they work, the risks associated with them and how to use them in a safer way.



Bruises and Marks

Just to keep you updated: In line with our safeguarding duties for all the students, if your child presents with a bruise or mark at school and you have not made us aware of this (and the cause of this); the pastoral team will need to speak with you before the end of the day – you will therefore receive a telephone call and text message. Please do not panic – this is nothing personal but simply part of our safeguarding practice

As always, the Pastoral team at The Meadows are here to help you. If you are worried about your child or need some support, just give us a call.

We would love to hear feedback regarding this newsletter. If there is something you think we're doing well or there is something that you would like to be included in future newsletters, please let us know!

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