

# EASTER NEWSLETTER 2024



## HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we break for the Easter Holidays, I would like to say a huge thank you once again for your continued support. It has been an exciting term for pupils across school who have enjoyed participating in several exciting learning opportunities as well as external educational trips and visits. Enrichment opportunities are a really valued and important part of our school curriculum to really bring learning to life and into our community.

I would also like to say thank you to all families who attended our recent Careers fair and participated in making this a huge success. A total of 10 further education providers showcased their offerings and provided our students and Key Stage 5 families with the opportunity to ask questions and access information about their provision. The atmosphere was so positive, happy, and collaborative-genuinely like a big family. We plan to host the Careers Fair again next academic year and extend this opportunity to our Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 families.

It was also lovely to see so many of you at our Parents' Evening this week. We believe that the relationship between home and school is crucial in supporting young people as they progress through phases of their school life.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer a big warm welcome to our new Headteacher, Mr James Horspool, who will be joining our school following the Easter holiday. Mr Horspool has a wealth of leadership experience, and we know that he is looking forward to working closely with staff, parents, and the wider community. We are confident that under the leadership of Mr Horspool, The Meadows school will continue to improve at a pace and build on its strengths with determination and commitment to delivering excellence in all areas of school life.

We would also like to welcome Ms Charlotte Smith and Ms Teri Hadley, our new LSPs, who will also be taking up their posts starting after the Easter break.

As always, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact school and we will try to help as best as we can.

We hope that you have a wonderful Easter holiday and that this break will provide you with an opportunity to rest, relax, and spend some quality time with your loved ones.

My warmest wishes to you and your families.

Theodora Papaspyrou  
Interim Head Teacher



# What's been happening?

## Careers Week

On the week commencing 4th March, the school held its annual Careers Week.

As well as ongoing career-related activities and learning going on around school, a number of other specific events focusing on supporting our students' futures after leaving The Meadows took place. On the Thursday, we held a Careers Fair which gave students, families and teachers the opportunity to meet with different providers and gain information about what opportunities are on offer to our young people. It was fantastic to see so many families in attendance. Also, a big thank you to Queen Alexandra College, Sandwell College, Juniper Training, Connexions Careers Advice, Glasshouse, Acorns—Options for Life, Sandwell-Travel Training, British Creative Institute, Metro Alliance and CareFirst - Options Autism, who all attended on the day as well as the other providers who sent in helpful information. We hope to develop this event even further in the future to have more providers, as well as inviting families from across more key stages to attend.

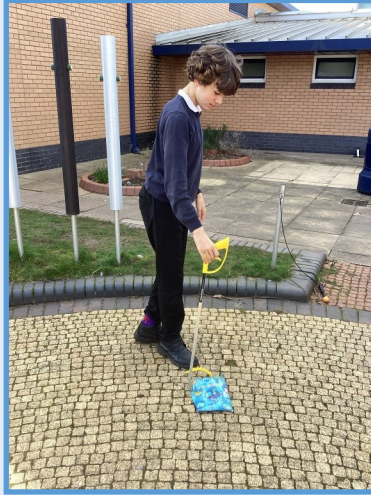
We want to support all families in readiness for their child leaving The Meadows. This process does start within the EHCP review meetings but there are further opportunities to explore all the options for your child in advance of them leaving.

In the mean time, if you wish to discuss options for the future when leaving The Meadows, please contact our Head of Sixth Form, Ashley Furness.



## Class 4.4

Class 4.4 have been enjoying engaging in different activities around the school as part of Careers Week. Here are a few pictures of them helping with cleaning in our Quad Playground!



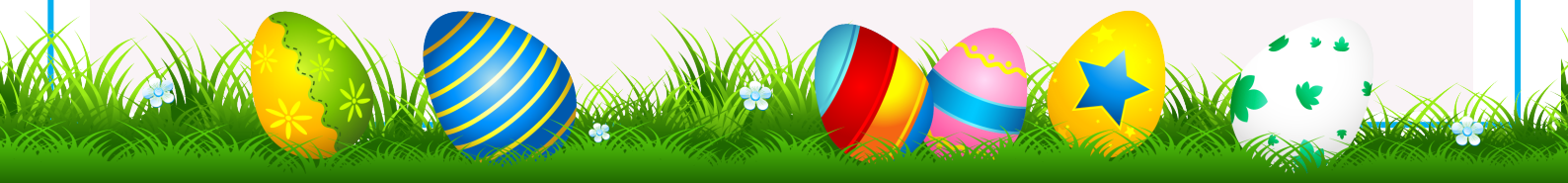
## Councillor Visit

The school had a special visit from Councillor Simon Hackett regarding Careers. He was joined by Pam Brown from Connexions and our Head of Sixth Form, Ash Furness. Some of our students were invited to meet with the Councillor and have discussions about their career aspirations.



## Class 5.3 Offsite Visit

Class 5.3 enjoyed a trip to Iron Bridge on Tuesday 12th March as part of the curriculum and meeting their EHCP targets. The students practiced accessing facilities in the local community, following instructions in the local community to keep safe, experiencing using money in real life situations and practicing turn-taking.



## Class 4.5

Another very busy term for the students in Class 4:5. This term, they visited West Midlands Safari Park as part of their My Communication: Exploring Narratives unit to support their text, *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*. The students had an amazing time and they witnessed a "real life" Aslan the lion and his family! They have been busy cooking in My Independence: Basic Cooking sessions and have made pineapple upside down cake and pasta in tomato sauce. In Maths, this term their unit of work is Using Money and they visited Costa to purchase a hot drink. All the students in Class 4:5 have achieved the Level 2 Swimming Award this term at Tipton Leisure Centre, this is great progress for our students. They are looking forward to their trip to the Leicester Space Centre on 22<sup>nd</sup> March to support their Science unit-Space and the Universe.



During Careers week, the students had opportunity to visit the Careers Fair in School, which was very busy. The students engaged well with the different employers within the community. The students also visited two local employers—Costa and Pets at Home to observe the different roles available in the community.

S T U D E N T

V O I C E

In class 5.4 we have been to Sainsbury's on a Wednesday to go shopping, and we have to get the recipes for a wrap to make, we got some fajita wrap, onion, grated cheese, red onion, pepper, lettuce, mushroom and fajita mix, after we got them all, we took them to the till and scan the food on it, we get the receipt and put the food in the bag, we got to the bus and went back to the meadows school.

When we come back to the meadows school, we chop the peppers, red onions, lettuce, onion and mushroom, after chopping them, we put them in the pan and with the sauce, we put them in the wraps and folding them, after folding them, we then eat them.

**Liam 5.4**

Class 5.4 enjoy walking to portway and lots of P.E. and lots of phonics. At Portway I enjoy new things.

**Noah 5.4**

I happily went to Meadows and have the best time ever. I still think Meadows and QAC is the best. I will miss my friends we have had lots of laughs.

**Scott 5.4**

### **Update for visitors to the school**

As part of our measures to increase security at The Meadows, over the Easter holidays, we will be changing our automated entrance doors to an intercom-operated entrance. This will mean visitors to the school will have to press the intercom button situated just outside the doors in order to access the building. Please inform our receptionist of your name and the reason for your visit and they will be able to grant you entry. Thank you in advance for your support in adhering to our enhanced security measures.

### **Term Dates**

Students Last Day: Friday 22nd March 2024

Easter Holidays: Monday 25th March to Friday 5th April 2024

Inset (Training) Day: Monday 8th April 2024

Students Return: Tuesday 9th April 2024

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May 2024

Students Last Day: Friday 24th May 2024

Half Term: Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024

Students Return: Monday 3rd June 2024

Last Day of Term: Monday 22nd July 2024

*Please can you ensure that we have your most up-to-date contact details. If you change your address or telephone number, it is imperative that school is made aware in case we need to contact you and in case of emergency.*

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