



*Making a difference for our future*

# Friday Fortnightly Newsletter

*Summer Term Edition*

*Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2017*

*Dear Parents, Carers and Children*

## Message from the Deputy

Like many of you, I spent Sunday morning glued to the London Marathon coverage on the BBC and trying to get the tracking app to work! Our very own Sarah Luter completed the Marathon in an impressive 4.43.57. She ran for Mind (the mental health charity) and her sponsorship page is <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Sar-L>. After sharing a video of one of the runners help another across the line on Sunday, we felt that we should theme our assemblies around kindness. The children were challenged to complete an act of kindness and they haven't let us down. I do hope they are continuing to be kind and helpful at home! In other news, our new website is fully operational and the improved features include a Facebook feed and calendar. This stays up to date automatically to keep you in the loop with all things Meadowside. It's been a very positive first week back at Meadowside and we look forward to a busy and rewarding time. Remember we are closed on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May.

## Meadowside Class News.

### Reception – Amazing Animals

We have started thinking about our new topic Amazing Animals. This week we have talked about pets we have or would like. In our outside area we have set up a pet shop. Everyone is looking forward to our trip to Bristol Zoo and the amazing animals we will see there.

### Years 1 & 2 – Bucket and Spades

Year 1- Wow! What an exciting start to our 'Bucket and spades' topic! We got the chance to board an aeroplane, order an in-flight meal and have our passport stamped. We have already found out about different types of holiday destination and look forward to finding out more about holidays in preparation for our class holiday!

Year 2 were most excited this week to find out our new topic is all about holidays! We will be finding out enough information about the different types of holiday in order to go on one ourselves at the end of July!! We started this week by discussing the different types of places one can go on holiday and will then be looking at all the different types we can have in the UK. Look out for more details about our holiday coming to you soon!

Our Tennis coach Jason will continue to be with us every Thursday until the end of term, when we will visit him at Oxstalls!

### Year 3 & 4 – Veni, Vedi, Vici

Year 3. What an exciting first week it has been! Teachers have dressed as Romans, eating, talking, dressing, defending and playing like a Roman, we had our first swimming lesson at Ribston and we have a visit to the Jazz Festival in Cheltenham! The children have loved every minute and are ready to take on the challenges thrown to us by the Romans!

In Year 4 Cherry we enjoyed a trip back to Roman Britain for our topic launch 'Veni Vidi Vici' on Monday. By way of introduction, we investigated how to talk and dress like a Roman, looked at some of the games they may have played, how soldiers fought and food that the Romans introduced to Britain. The children have also learned about how to make a basic mosaic pattern and where Rome actually is. In English, we have been learning about the legend Romulus and Remus. In maths, we have continued to investigate fractions of whole amounts and hone our skills in the context of word problems.

Year 4 Oak – Salve! Quid agis? We have embraced our first week back being 'Just like a Roman'. So we can talk like a Roman in our new topic, entitled Veni Vidi, Vici, we have had some lessons in Latin, as well as learned how to eat, defend, play and dress like our ancestors in Glevum. Ask your child what this means. As we enter our summer terms renewed and refreshed we still have lots of fun alongside lots of hard work to look forward to. Look out for details of our planned school trip on a separate letter.

### Years 5 & 6 – Rumble in the Jungle/ The Battle for Middle England

Year 5 have made an enthusiastic start to another busy term. We hope that improving weather will allow us to make the most of Meadowside's fantastic outdoor spaces, both for topic lessons and also in maths this week, particularly converting between units of time and how to use timetables. In our English lessons, we are reading and writing biographies for famous naturalists such as David Attenborough, as part of our continuing rainforests topic. Geography lessons have focused on deforestation in forest areas and its devastating consequences. We will also be investigating what can be done to reverse this process.

Our new topic, 'The Battle for Middle England', is all about the Vikings and will commence once Year 6 have completed their SATs in week 3 of this term.

Congratulations to all Year 5 children who took part in Bikeability training last term. We were so pleased to see your skills and confidence when cycling improve across your week of training.

Year 6. All that is left to say is GOOD LUCK to our amazing class when they take their SATs in just over a week. We are SO proud of you. Your relaxed yet determined approach has made the preparation for you tests a very rewarding one. Mr Port, Mrs Rowntree and Mrs Drummond.

### Don't forget to check for updates

on

[www.meadowsideschool.co.uk](http://www.meadowsideschool.co.uk)

or follow us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/meadowside](http://www.facebook.com/meadowside)

[-Primary-school](#)

or Twitter @MeadowsideSch

Please note the office email address is

[admin@meadowsideprimary.co](mailto:admin@meadowsideprimary.co).

### Governor News

Governors hope that all of our school family had a cracking Easter break and enjoyed the lovely weather and are now feeling ready for the summer term.

We will shortly bring you news of the work the Eco-Committee have been conducting identifying car parking options in the local area linked to the development of our new Travel Plan, but for now we would just like to remind all parents/carers to park responsibly to ensure the safety of all children and families and ask that parking outside of the school gates does not take place.

Governors welcome any feedback, please email: [Chair@meadowsideprimary.co.uk](mailto:Chair@meadowsideprimary.co.uk)

### Friends of Meadowside

Thanks again to everyone who supported the Easter events and hope you had a lovely Easter break. It's hard to believe we're now into the final term on the year!

Our next event is a bit unusual as we're not raising funds but raising people power! Miss Visaranta has been working with us over the last few months and she has identified a few areas around the outside of the school that need a bit of TLC. On Sunday 21st May there'll be a '90 minute makeover' which we're looking for people to come along with a fence brush and do a job. Look out for the letters in book bags soon.

To mark the approaching 1st anniversary of the Green Galleon we are running a flag design competition, the winning design will be installed on the ship and revealed after the sponsored walk. Both of these events are on 16th June. Again, competition details will be in book bags soon.

The final event of the year, as always, will be the end of year discos. These will be on 14th July and following the success of the 'wake and shake dance offs' at the Sweet 16 they will return for these discos too!!

We're in the process of producing a newsletter with more details on the items we are funding this year so watch this space...

### Other news

Please make sure that children have an outdoor P.E kit as well as their indoor kit. eg. tracksuit or jogging bottoms and a jumper, as we will be starting to do more P.E outside. On hot, sunny days, sunglasses, hats and suncream (to be applied before school) are strongly recommended.

Clubs- Because this term is so short, there will be a small selection of clubs on offer. Country Dancing resumes on 11<sup>th</sup> May and classes will be notified directly if clubs are on offer. We will offer a range of clubs in term 6, across all year groups.

### Holidays

As the summer holidays approach, many people's thoughts turn to family breaks and holidays away. Please can we remind you that we are **not** able to authorise **any** holidays in term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances. Although many of our topics draw to a close before the end of term, we by no means stop working. The final weeks of the summer term (and the first weeks of the new term) are vital weeks that we dedicate to discussing the transition from our current year group into the next. For many children this can be a worrying prospect and we do our best to alleviate these worries by working closely with the children's new teachers, even spending time in these new classes and with our new teachers. Often children find out answers to the most common questions and may even discover their new topic. Children who are taken on holiday in these weeks, miss out on the important preparation we do in school to lessen the anxiety around these big changes in our children's lives.

### INSET dates (school shut for pupils)

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Polling Day

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Polling day

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### Dates for your diary (see [www.meadowsideschool.co.uk](http://www.meadowsideschool.co.uk) for all important dates)

- 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> May – Y6 SATs week
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Reception Bristol Zoo visit.
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May – Share a pencil day in aid of Save the Children
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Year 4 visit to Chedworth Roman Villa; Year 5/6 Relationships meeting for parents 9 – 9.30 a.m; Year 6 residential meeting at 14.45;
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Year 3 visit to Chedworth Roman Villa
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Poetry day!
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May- Final tennis session for Year 2 at Oxstalls. Details to follow.
- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Y5 to Cheltenham Science Festival
- 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> June – Year 6 Residential
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June- School photographer (class photos).

**Date of next newsletter: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2017**