

Spring Term Edition

Friday 9th March 2018

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Message from the Head

We are offering you the opportunity next Thursday to pop into school between 3.15 and 4pm with your child, to spend a few minutes looking at their writing in a range of books, as well as the learning environment in the classroom. If you are unable to make it, there will of course be the chance to look at all your child's work at Parents' Evenings very soon.

Next week, I am going to 'publish' a newsletter of my own, telling families more about the work we do to develop teaching and learning at Meadowside, as well as in partnership with others. This is as a result of a conversation with a parent, which has encouraged me to reflect on how we share ideas with all of you. Hopefully it will be a good example of how parental feedback can have a direct impact on improving OUR school. I hope you find it interesting to read and would welcome any ideas for future 'publications'!

Meadowside Class News.

Reception – What's the story?

Our topic 'What's the story?' is continuing this half term as there are so many great stories to tell. Some of them involve castles so we have built one in the classroom. In the first week back we enjoyed acting out the story of the Enormous turnip, planting seeds and looking at different vegetables. After a class vote we chose to work on the story of little Red Riding Hood this week. This was to fit in with world book day and the good vs evil theme. It was clear to everyone that the Wolf was a baddie as he wanted to eat everyone, and Little Red Riding Hood was good as she was taking food to her ill Granny. Cards have been written to Granny to make her feel better, we have made jam tarts, been characters in the story and created story maps. Any wolves in the area better watch out as a wide range of wolf traps have been built.

Years 1 & 2 – What makes Britain Great?

Year 1 have had a very exciting week finding out all about The Great Fire of London, we especially enjoyed learning that they had to blow up houses to stop the fire! On Tuesday we had the chance to race the Year 2 to complete a bucket chain to transfer water from 'the Thames' to the 'houses', we discovered that this takes a long time and you have to be very careful so you don't spill too much water. We also enjoyed a range of writing and art activities linked to our World Book Day book 'The Diabolical Mr Tiddles', including poems and sorry letters.

Year 2 have travelled back in time this term! Last week we met William Shakespeare and found out what a profound affect he had on our English language! This week we have learnt about the disaster of the Great Fire of London that devastated London in 1666. We met Samuel Pepys, who wrote about the fire in his diary. We are very much looking forward to recreating the Great Fire, so, if you were planning to make us a Tudor house to help with this re-enactment, we need it in next week, please!

Year 3 & 4 – Extreme!

Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed the new focus on Extreme Disasters this term and have had great fun finding out about rivers, the water cycle and melting and freezing. The extreme weather conditions have also given us lots of things to discuss. We have written poems based on the journey of the river and they are on display in our classrooms and KS2 corridor – take a look when you come to visit next. We spent a beautiful day down by the river last week, sketching the beautiful natural landscape we have on our doorstep! Next week, brings a Science day where we will be investigating solids, liquids and gases and what happens to them when they are heated or cooled!

What a fun filled two weeks we have had. Last Friday we enjoyed a great, sunny yet cold, day which included a walk to the river, where we were able to put our sketching skills to good use. Many thanks to all the parents who were able to accompany us. We also learnt about the course of a river and the associated technical vocabulary. Our third task was working collaboratively to create a piece of 'big art', based on the journey of a river. This art work and some of our sketches are on display in the junior cloakrooms, why not have a look next time you are in school. This week we have enjoyed dressing up as book characters and we have been looking at the text 'The True story of the Three Little Pigs'. We have re-examined the well known tale, from the point of view of the wolf. Why not ask your child their opinion about whether the wolf is a good or bad character?

Year 5 & 6 – All The Worlds A Stage!

The cast of 'As You Like it', from our Tuesday Shakespeare Club have really impressed us with their enthusiasm while preparing for our performance at Gloucester Academy on Wednesday 14th March. Please continue to help your child with polishing their contribution and helping them with the delivery of their lines. In maths we are developing our understanding of the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages.

Year 6 have thoroughly enjoyed throwing themselves into our new topic 'All The World's A Stage'. This is a chance for all budding thespians to shine and for those who prefer less of the limelight new found confidence has started emerging and other latent talents are shining. Shakespeare's Macbeth has captivated our learning in English and we have re-enacted some of the murderous scenes in forest school to help inspire some of our writing. Don't forget our performance at the end of this term. Masterpiece Monday is proving a success and work is already on display in corridors showcasing what wonderful writers we have. Revision is

Governor Corner

Governors hope that all our school families enjoyed the half term break.

Over the next couple of weeks Governors will be meeting within committees and as a Full Governing Body. We hope that recent information regarding ongoing parking concerns has been helpful and remind all of our school families to adhere to restrictions.

Finally, we continue to seek the appointment of a new Co-opted Governor and ask our school families to consider this role or share information amongst community members who may wish to get involved with this important school role. If there are any questions about this role, please email:

Chair@meadowsideprimary.co.uk or to share any other feedback.

Friends of Meadowside

Letters have gone out in book bags this week for the two Easter events. The brilliantly different family Easter Hunt returns with the 'Revenge of the vegetables'! Exchange your tickets for a map between 2 & 5pm on Sunday 25th March and then hunt for clues around Green Farm. Once you've finished then return back to the school for a drink and an Easter treat. Refreshments also available, as well as some crafts and activities. Winning family wins a prize.

It's £2 per child (under 3's free) and tickets are available from the school carpark before and after school all next week - 12th to 16th March.

Then we have the Chocolate Raffle. Drawn on 29th March. Raffle tickets go on sale at the Easter Hunt and then on sale before & after school in the carpark - 26th - 28th March, £1 a strip. Donations of Easter Eggs very gratefully received!!

We've had a change of personnel in the team as Nicola Talbot has stepped down as treasurer due to work commitments. At the last meeting Claire Tyson was elected as the new treasurer with effect from Easter. I'd like to thank Nicola for the brilliant job she has done for the last 3 years and wish her all the best in her new role. I'd also like to thank Claire for taking on the role going forward.

We also carried out the judging for the logo competition and we are just checking that the selected ones can be copied for use on the t-towels. Once that's sorted we can announce the winners. Thank you for all the entries, once again our job was enjoyable but tough!

The new age curling set has arrived at the school and I'm assured by Mr Port that it's great fun and the children are really enjoying using it. We're still waiting on news on the grants so fingers crossed everyone!

Other News

Midday Supervisor - We are currently advertising for a new midday supervisor. This post is to support and develop active lunchtimes in the playground, as well as help to run and organise an efficient lunch hall. We are looking for a reliable and energetic person who is committed to a team ethos and the safety and well-being of our children. Experience of working with children is desirable but a determination to succeed in the role, work flexibly and with a commitment to our school are key priorities. If you are interested in applying please contact the school office for further details.

Sporting News

Well done to Lila-Mae who competed in the GSSN individual gymnastics competition at Ribston Hall last week, and after completing her floor and vault routine came an impressive 1st place out of 58 competitors. We look forward to seeing your floor performance in assembly soon!

Fundraising- Two of our parents are running the London Marathon for wonderful causes: Rory's mum is running the London Marathon in aid of Sense (a charity for the deaf and blind). She's been training hard and completing a marathon is as tough and emotional as you imagine it to be! Please take time to visit her fundraising page. Go Suzy! <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/suzy-ford1> Lauren's mum is raising money for Sue Ryder in memory of her mum, who she sadly lost to cancer when she was a child. Like Suzy, Tracey has been training extremely hard and is excited and ready for the challenge of the London Marathon. Go Tracey! Again, please take time to visit her fundraising page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tracey-keyse>

INSET dates (school shut for pupils)

Monday 4th June 2018

Wednesday 25th July 2018

Please visit our website

www.meadowsideschool.co.uk, for all upcoming events.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 13th March- Quicksticks hockey tournament

Wednesday 14th March- GSP Shakespeare Club performance at Gloucester Academy

Thursday 15th March 3.15 – 4 pm Meadowside Writing Walkabout

Wed 21st March – Odd Socks for Down's Syndrome Day

Friday 23rd March – Sport Relief

Tuesday 27th March 3.30 – 5.30 pm and **Wednesday 28th March** 4.00 – 7.00pm Parent Consultation Evenings

Thursday 29th March- Year 1 and 2 Parent assembly

****Thursday 29th March at 2pm – End of Term 4****

Date of next newsletter: Friday 23rd March 2018