



Making a difference for our future

Friday Fortnightly Newsletter

Autumn Term Edition

Friday 13th October 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Message from the Head

In assembly this week, children have been sharing their thoughts about achievements and success this term and things they are particularly proud of! I'm sure these will match the thoughts of their teachers to be shared at Parents Evenings next week- we look forward to meeting with you all then!

Meadowside Class News.

Reception -

More fun and learning this week in Reception. We are focusing on our phonics work. This week we have learnt g, c, K and o. Activities have included cutting out caterpillars, counting, colouring, painting an orange octopus, making crowns for kings, making kites, gardening and cooking carrot cake. Can you tell which activity went with which letter? We are also looking at the Autumnal changes in forest school.

More than half of our parents have now logged on to Tapestry and are receiving pictures and observations from school. There were a few teething problems but we seem to be getting there. An adult for every member of Apple class has been sent an activation e mail. Please check your clutter/ spam folder if you have not seen yours.

Years 1 & 2 - Escape from Treasure Island

In Year 1 we were very excited last week when we worked out the answer to open another one of our mystery boxes! We needed to know the number of letters in the name of a squirrel's habitat, we found out it was called a drey! Inside the box, we found more treasure, a bone, a skipping rope and another question! We now need to think about how we can stay strong on our island and have started to learn names of body parts and bones. In English, we have come to the end of our book The Storm Whale and have made our own mini versions of the book complete with illustrations. In maths, we have been looking at the differences between 2D and 3D shapes.

Year 2 have been investigating the human body this week, so that we can understand how to stay strong on our Treasure Island. We learnt lots about the names of both male and female body parts and have found out a little about the major bones inside our bodies. Try asking your child how many bones the average human adult has- we need this information to unlock our last treasure chest and find out which direction our learning will be going after half term!

Year 3 & 4 - Really Revolting

It's all been about pongy poop this week in Year 3. We carried out a science investigation to find out about the process of digestion - this involved a set a large teeth, Weetabix, milk, plastic bags and cups, a pair of tights and a lot of squishing and squeezing. Ask your child to explain the investigation to you. It was 'Really Revolting!' We also labelled the parts of the digestive system and explained the journey of our food takes, from mouth to bottom. We will find all this information useful when we visit the Hayden sewage works in November.

In English, we have become actors and are working on performing the Giant Skillywiggler scene from The Twits play script. We have been working on props, costumes, stage directions and using our voices for effect! We can't wait to watch our scenes back on video.

Years 5 & 6 - Mission Mars

Oaks and Cherries- Both Year 5 classes are very busy investigating the effects of exercise on our mood and ability to concentrate. Many schools, including our own, are encouraging children to exercise more to help them focus better in lessons. We are working with the BBC's Terrific Scientific project for primary schools to generate data which will help researchers at Edinburgh and Stirling Universities to discover whether our perception that exercise lifts mood and helps with concentration can be backed up with evidence. Over three days this week, we shall be answering questions online (in anonymised form), undertaking various forms of exercise and then answering some further questions online. If you would like to know more about Terrific Scientific, then feel free to search for the website. You can watch videos and take a look at the lessons we have been following.

Cherry class are continuing to read the novel Cosmic by Frank Cottrell Boyce and have been using this to inspire their writing. We particularly like the humour in the story and the empathy which the author shows for his characters. This is a story well worth reading! In maths lessons, we are studying number. This week, we are getting to grips with negative numbers. Next week, we shall be joining in with the school's week of inspirational maths.

In Oak class the children have really enjoyed being part of a live science enquiry. If you would like to listen to the children talking about science at Meadowside on Wednesday's Anna King show. Two pieces feature at approximately 2 hours 10 minutes 40 seconds and 2 hours 23 minutes and 28 seconds.

Oaks are also using Cosmic as stimulus to writing. We have enjoyed sharing this book and discussing what the characters are like and their relationships. The book has really engaged the children and it would make a great treat if you wished to share it over half term! We have been looking at how negative numbers are used in the context of temperature. Next week, we shall be joining in with the school's week of inspirational maths.

It has been a truly out of this world experience in year 6 over the past fortnight. We have really immersed ourselves in our topic. In art, we have studied Robert T. McCall's paintings and used his work to inspire our ideas for our own masterpieces. In Science we have learnt about sunrise and sunset times in the UK. During our English lessons, we have continuing George's journey through the solar system. Will he survive his trip into outer space? Calculation has been hot on the agenda in year 6 as we have been refining our multiplication, addition and subtraction methods whilst in P.E we have been learning about how to use space effectively in invasion games.

It's been lovely hearing the children be so supportive of each other when the grammar tests results were announced. At Meadowside, we truly value the special relationships that children have with one another. We are really looking forward to meeting you all next week at our first parents' evening.

Governor News

Governors hope that all of our school families will welcome the opportunity to discuss children's progress at the forthcoming parents evenings and would like to thank the staff team for the preparation and time they commit to these evenings.

As previously, we are still seeking to appoint a Co-opted Governor, looking for someone who has an interest in contributing to the development of the school and who can work as part of a team. As a Co-opted role, it is not necessary to have a child at the school. Co-opted Governors, act in the best interests of the school and wider community. If you feel this role would be of interest or you know someone outside of our school family who may be interested please pass on this information. To express interest or ask further questions, please email:

chair@meadowsideprimary.co.uk.

As always if you have any feedback or questions for Governors, please email as above.

Friends of Meadowside

Thank to everyone who has bought plates for the Bake-off. We hope you enjoy the fun of baking and decorating at the weekend! Don't forget to bring bakes into the hall before school on Monday and then the cake sale will be in the afternoon after school.

As the banks will accept pound coins after Monday but the shops won't then it's a good way to get rid of any you have left as we will accept them at the sale!

And, don't forget, while your cakes are cooling on the side you can use those 90 minutes to come and help with the '90 minute makeover' on Sunday morning 10:30 - 12pm. The weather is looking gorgeous so what better excuse to be out in the sun and helping out the school at the same time. Everyone welcome including kids.

Along with the announcement of the bake-off best bake winners, Miss Thomas will also be telling the children about a really big and special event coming to Meadowside towards the end of the school year! All will be revealed next week.

Next meeting - Thurs 19th Oct - 7.30pm - Little Thatch function room

Other news

-Pentathlon- Mrs King, Miss Charlotte Noble and Mrs Emery took a group of children to the KS1 Pentathlon on Thursday. The children had a brilliant time and tried their best in a range of different activities to test their sporting skills. Great effort by all!

Year 1 and 2 trip- Please don't forget to pay for our trip on 1st of November. If you are interested in being a parent helper, please email the school office.

INSET dates (school shut for pupils)

**Tuesday 2nd January
2018**
Monday 4th June 2018
**Wednesday 25th July
2018**

Please visit our website
www.meadowsideprimary.co.uk, for all
upcoming events.

Dates for your diary

16th Oct – Bake off Final and cake sale after school
17th Oct (4 – 7pm) and **18th Oct** (3:30 – 5:30) Parents Evenings
20th Oct – Last day of term (finish at 3.15 p.m.)
30th October – DSP Individual Photographs to be taken
1st and 2nd November – Life Education Bus
1st Nov – Y1 and 2 Trip to SS Great Britain
1st Nov Skillzone visits for Y5 am and pm
2nd Nov Flu Vaccinations YR to Y4 (if parental consent has been given)
9th Nov (KS2) and **10th Nov** (KS1) Popcorn and Pyjama Parties at 5 pm
13th Nov- Y3 visit to Hayden sewerage works
15th Nov- Y4 visit to Hayden sewerage works

Date of next newsletter: Friday 3rd November