



Making a difference for our future

Friday Fortnightly Newsletter

Autumn Term Edition

Friday 17th November 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Message from the Head

This week has been National Anti-Bullying Week. At Meadowside, we have ensured that every child understands our Anti Bullying Mantra – If it happens Several Times On Purpose you must Start Telling Other People – in order to STOP bullying. We have also spent time in assemblies talking about the values of Kindness, Equality and Acceptance. Kindness Tokens have been given out across the school this week and in Celebration Assembly, we will have a nomination from an adult and a child in each class, telling us stories of kindness they have experienced during the week. Supporting others through Children in Need is a perfect end to the week!

Meadowside Class News.

Reception –

This week our focus has been people who help us to keep healthy. We have all been to the Drs surgery so had lots to talk about. We have got a surgery in the classroom now. On Monday afternoon we had a visitor from St John Ambulance. We all had a go at putting a sling on our partner and then putting on a bandage. She also showed us how to put someone in the recovery position. We practiced on each other and one of us easily got Mrs Smith in the recovery position as well.

Years 1 & 2 – Escape from Treasure Island

Year 1 have had a great time this week creating our own pirate ships! We investigated materials and their properties and then set about making our own ships ready for the pirate ship challenge! We needed to get a boat across the water holding a 100g weight! Some of them sunk straight away! We might need to rethink our designs before we try to get off our island!

Year 2 were busy studying the properties of materials last week and this week we have put it into practise by making our very own pirate ship models. On Thursday this week we will be testing our ships to see if they can follow our 3 rules: does it float unaided? Can it hold the treasure weight? Can we blow it across the 'sea' using wind power? Ask your children to see if their ship floated! Next week we are set to look more closely at what pirates look like so that we are all set for our pirate day on 30th November.

Year 3 & 4 – Really Revolting

This week in year 3, we have met Oliver...Oliver and the Seawigs! Oliver is an explorer who has travelled the world and his family has helped discover some of the most iconic (and fictional) ancient ruins in the world! We can't wait to find out more about our new English text and discover more about his amazing adventures - we might even pack our rucksacks to join him! We also had a really interesting visit to the Hayden sewage works on Monday. We witnessed the incredible cleaning process sewage water goes through and thought about how lucky we are to be able to turn on a tap and have clean water when we need it. We also learnt some really interesting facts - did you know that 97% of the water in our world contains salt? Did you know that the water you drank today could have been Henry 8th's bath water? We also learnt that every time you flush a toilet, you use 8 litres of water! Think about how you and your family could help save water!

Year 4 have continued to be 'really revolting' and have enjoyed investigating mummification. They have produced some fantastic canopic jars and pharaoh masks as well as creating their own cartouche with hieroglyphics. This week, they have studied the importance of the River Nile to the Ancient Egyptians and discovered the problems created by parasites in the water. They enjoyed discovering how such problems are overcome today during their trip to the Hayden Sewage Works. They listened brilliantly to Paul and asked some really thoughtful questions.

Years 5 & 6 – Mission Mars

In Year 5 maths recently we have been working on our formal written addition and subtraction using five and six digit numbers. We are very keen that our children have a sound grasp of their multiplication tables before they enter Year 6, so please keep practising at home. It is so encouraging to see children progress through the 99 Club and we would like to keep the momentum going. Our new English topic is the novel A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. We are listening to the BBC schools' radio broadcast of the novel and are using it both to help us understand the text in depth and also to inspire our writing. Next Monday we shall be visiting Quedgeley Public Library. We are very fortunate such a well-stocked public library within our community and we are keen to encourage its use. If you would like your child to be able to borrow a book while we are there, they will need to have a valid library card. You may print the electronic copy of the joining form attached to the letter we sent last week or alternatively, enquire at the School Office for a paper copy. This form must be returned to the library in advance of our visit. Please note that the last swim session for Year 5 will be on Thursday 30th November.

We have had an excellent fortnight in year 6. The children have thoroughly enjoyed working their way through 'Cosmic' (our class text) and have produced theme park leaflets, emails, character profiles and descriptive art work as a result. Ask your child about the book! In maths we have got to grips with division and even managed to master some long division in the process. The resilience and enthusiasm in our maths lessons have been outstanding. Music has led to 'The Planets' being studied whilst in computing we have begun our stop frame animations. Our science brains have been switched on and we have investigated friction by launching Lego men and women across the floor in plastic tubs! Next up... rockets! It has been lovely to see so many acts of kindness from our year sixes. They really are a special bunch.

Staffing News:- Sadly, we shall be saying goodbye to Mrs Lowe, one of our longest-serving TAs, at the end of next week. Mrs Lowe has had a huge influence on the wellbeing and progress of so many children over her time at Meadowside and we shall miss her. We wish her and the family well, in pastures new and thank her for the many ways she has 'Made a Difference' to life at Meadowside.

Governor Corner

As Governors, we provided several updates last year regarding the work completed by the Eco-Committee and how they supported the development of the schools new travel plan. You will recall during Walk to School Week we launched Park and Stride, providing a safe area within walking distance to park and complete the school journey on foot, successfully won a new scooter pod providing additional space and accessed grant funding to add brackets within our bike sheds and produce safety banners reminding all of the importance of not parking outside of the school gates. Next week is Road Safety Week and we are delighted to share the work completed with the Think Travel Team has now earned us Gold Accreditation - well done Meadowside on this achievement!

We now need to ensure our initiatives continue to have a positive impact and ensure our school family remain safe, adhering to our messages and requests and with that remind our families to park sensibly, keeping all children safe on journeys to and from school and respecting our local community enabling access etc.

Lastly, we are still seeking to appoint a Co-opted Governor. To find out more about the roles of Governors visit our web page and email any questions to: Chair@meadowsideprimary.co.uk.

Friends of Meadowside

Thanks to everyone who came to the Popcorn and Pyjama parties, we had two great nights and all the children seemed to enjoy themselves in some very cosy looking duvet dens... Although the arrival of the fully inflated air bed won the best prepared award!!

Next up the Christmas Market and carols, Wednesday 6th December, 3.30-6pm with carols at 4.30pm (please bring a torch!)

There'll be crafts and gift stalls, Christmas things for children to make, refreshments including hotdogs and hot chocolate as well as various games and a raffle so come along and start off your Christmas shopping and get into the festive spirit with the Carol singing.

We have now heard back from Santa and luckily he's got a slot for us in his schedule so our elves will get to work to create him a special grotto! We will have limited slots as he is very busy and will sell advance tickets in the next few weeks, watch out on our Facebook page and in book bags for more details nearer the time.

Other News

Kingsway Fun run- 10am on November 18th will be the second family friendly 1km fun run, jog, walk, push or wheel for BBC Children in Need, at Kingsway Sports Pavilion. Entry is free via www.kingswaypudseyrun.eventbrite.com to make a donation on the day to this amazing charity.

Clubs- Next week will be the last week for all Meadowside clubs, except Cross Country and Purple Mash which have already finished.

Sports - On Tuesday, 8 children attended the ATP tennis finals at the O2 arena in London with Mrs Morley and Mr Port. We watched some outstanding matches, the children got to have their photograph taken with the ATP trophy and we even managed to squeeze in a visit to Pizza Express!

Our cross country team attended the annual GSSN event on Thursday. This took place at Beaufort Academy this year and once again, our team showed sheer determination and resilience in this well attended and competitive event. A huge thanks to Mrs Drummond and Mrs Isles for their support and training the team this year and of course, the children! You did yourselves, and Meadowside, proud!

INSET dates (school shut for pupils)

**Tuesday 2nd January
2018**

Monday 4th June 2018

**Wednesday 25th July
2018**

Please visit our website

www.meadowsideschool.co.uk,

for all upcoming events.

Dates for your diary

20th Nov- Road Safety Week

20th Nov- Year 5 visit to Quedgeley Library

22nd Nov- QLC Gymnastics

27th Nov- Meadowside Birthday!

29th Nov- Reception Trip to Old Down Country

Park

30th Nov- Y1 and 2 Pirate Dress Up Day

6th Dec- GSSN Year 2 Christmas Fun Day

Christmas Dates

Wednesday 6th December – Christmas Fayre and Car Park Carols

Tuesday 12th December – 9.30am KS1 Christmas Production

Tuesday 12th December - 13.45pm KS2 Christmas Production

Wednesday 13th December – 9.30am KS2 Christmas Production

Wednesday 13th December – 2pm KS1 Christmas Production

Thursday 14th December – Christmas Lunch

Friday 15th December – Christmas Jumper Day

We finish on Friday 15th December at 2pm.

Date of next newsletter: Friday 1st December