



Making a difference for our future

Friday Fortnightly Newsletter

Summer Term Edition

Friday 26th May 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Message from the Head

We are very proud of the childrens' achievements and attitudes during this busy term. We have talked several times in assemblies about the importance of respect, tolerance and supporting one another in our school community. Clearly, we will all reflect on the events in Manchester with sadness and outrage, but we will continue to give Meadowside children positive and hopeful messages about how they can influence their future. We hope all of you enjoy a peaceful and restful half term together.

Meadowside Class News.

Reception – Amazing Animals

Silver Birch class have been very interested in the life cycles of caterpillars and frogs. We have learnt lots of new words like: metamorphosis and chrysalis. We have also enjoyed lots of creative activities, including caterpillar cooking. On Wednesday we had a fantastic time doing activities based on the Quangle Wangles hat. First we decorated the Quangle Wangle's hat for him. Then we acted out the poem, thinking about how a Pobble with no toes would move. In pairs we used our imagination to create one of the animals from the poem, a fimple fowel for example. We even started a correspondence with the Quangle Wangle.

Years 1 & 2 – Bucket and Spades

In Year 1 last week, a mysterious box arrived in our classroom and we used the items inside to work out who it was from. It was Katie Morag from the isle of Struay! We've done lots of map work, story writing and comparing Struay to Quedgeley. This week we explored a poem for a day, called 'Footprints in the sand'. We made footprint art, walked through sand and created a dance with musical accompaniment. What a wonderful fortnight we have had!

Year 3 & 4 – Veni, Vedei, Vici

It has been a brilliant term in Willow class, with so much enthusiasm and enjoyment shown for our Veni Vidi Vici topic. Our visit to Chedworth Roman Villa concluded part 1 of our topic, with part 2 'Pars Duo' commencing after half term. The children were commended by the staff at Chedworth for their knowledge and depth of learning - well done Willow class for impressing the staff and your teachers! This week, we really enjoyed our whole school poetry day which was based on the poem 'This Great Outdoors' written by Ernestine Northover. We unpicked the vocabulary of the poem, drew images of the scenes created as we read and worked together to create a display of these images. We also linked our maths to 'catch a calculation' in the river scene and then spent the afternoon building bridges in Forest School and in class to cross the same river. We wish everyone a happy half term.

In Year 4 Cherry the first part of our topic focusing on Gloucester has drawn to an end. We visited Chedworth Roman villa where we learned about the duties of a slave and the different rooms in the baths and how they were used. All of the children were able to experience being an archaeologist and they used artefacts in order to find out more about how the Romans lived. The Children worked hard and they were able to make use of their prior learning at school and put it in a Chedworth content.

We went to the Oxstalls tennis festival on Thursday 25th May and it was a great way to celebrate our learning in tennis. Hopefully you have started or have even concluded your topic project, we look forward to celebrating them on Monday 12th June.

Year 4 Oak. We have enjoyed learning a little more about life in Roman times. Last week we learnt to explain how Roman Bathhouses were used and also investigated the layout of a Roman Villa. This week we were lucky enough to actually get the chance to visit one. We trod on ground the ancient Romans did, we handled artefacts that they actually touched and we were able to imagine life living in Chedworth 1700 years ago. I am sure your children can expand on this in great detail. They listened and behaved perfectly and were a credit to the school and yourselves.

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

Years 5 and 6 enjoyed an exciting launch for their new topic, The battle for Middle England. We studied Viking patterns and made our own prints, took part in an 'archaeological dig' and investigated the content of a Viking burial mound. Later on, Year 5 learned how to write in Runes (Viking Hieroglyphs).

This week Year 5 have been discovering where the Vikings originated and why they travelled. In maths, we have been studying area and perimeter. On Fridays, we are spending time outdoors, making use of natural materials to solve challenges about two dimensional shapes.

Year 5 will be attending the Cheltenham Science festival on Tuesday 6th June. We look forward to an exciting, interesting day. Please make sure all monies for this trip reach our school office by the date of the trip.

In Year 6 we are fully immersed in our new topic, the battle for Middle England. Following a tug-o-War to help us establish the characteristics needed to win a battle, we made Viking inspired prints, investigated a burial mound and became archaeologists searching for artefacts. We have come up with our own historical questions and we are looking forward to finding out how the Vikings lived.

At the end of last week, Miss Skipp, a DT teacher from Severn Vale, spent the morning in Year 6 offering advice on designing and making products. We created some fantastic, Viking inspired toys and fancy dress outfits and really enjoyed sharing them with children from Reception who offered us some great feedback.

Don't forget to check for updates

on

www.meadowsideschool.co.uk

or follow us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/meadowside

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or Twitter @MeadowsideSch

Please note the office email address is

admin@meadowsideprimary.co.uk

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Governor News

Governors hope that all enjoyed participating in Walk to School Week (even with the unpleasant weather) and have welcomed news of the schools Park and Stride initiative and hope that space within the canal trust car park will reduce the need to park in close proximity to the school gates.

Please observe the message our Eco-Committee put together for our new banner.

Congratulations to Cherry Class who were the winners of our competition in school. 92% of their school journeys were made on foot during Walk to School Week.

We wish to congratulate all children who recently completed SATs testing and echo Miss Thomas's message of how brilliantly they all coped - we hope they have a fantastic residential in the new term!

Governors wish all families and staff an enjoyable half term break. Please remember if you have any questions or feedback, please email: Chair@meadowsideprimary.co.uk

Friends of Meadowside

A huge thank you to all who attended the 90 minute makeover last Sunday at school. You have had an instant impact on the school environment and children and staff are delighted with how it all looks. Well done everyone!

Other news

Year 1/2 Parents- Please don't forget to pay in full or a deposit via Parent pay for our Weston-Super-Mare trip. The deadline for this payment is the 5th June.

Arts Week - We are holding a whole school Arts week based on the theme 'People of the World' and we are busy planning exciting art activities for the children. If any parents are available to come and help during our Arts week, please speak directly to your child's class teacher to organise a suitable time and find out more! Thank you.

Sport Update

A huge thank you must go to Oxstalls Sports Park, in particular Helen Stevens, Steve Wigg and Jason Poole. They have organised and provided tennis coaching to years 2,3 and 4 over the past 2 terms and children in these classes have enjoyed a final celebration at the sports park to conclude their coaching.

We must also thank Pete Healey from Rugby Tykes for 12 weeks of Fundamental Movement Skills, with some Tag Rugby skills thrown in for good measure! Our reception class and year 1 class have progressed brilliantly and we are already booking new opportunities for the next academic year! Pete will be back!

All of these sporting opportunities have been funded through our Sports Premium budget. Year 6 residential and Sports day are next on the agenda!

INSET dates (school shut for pupils)

Thursday 8th June 2017

Polling day

Monday 24th July 2017

Tuesday 25th July 2017

Monday 4th September 2017

Dates for your diary

- Monday 5th June 2pm – Whole School Photograph
- Tuesday 6th June – Year 5 visit to Cheltenham Science Festival
- Tuesday 6th June at 6pm – New Intake evening
- Wed 7th – Fri 9th June – Y6 Residential
- **Thursday 8th June – School closed for pupils**
- w/b 12th June – Year 1 and 2 Phonics Screening Check
- Wednesday 14th June- School photographer Class Photographs
- 19th-23rd June Meadowside Arts Week.
- 28th June – Meadowside Sports Morning (entry from 9 15)

Date of next newsletter: Friday 16th June 2017