



Making a difference for our future

Friday Fortnightly Newsletter

Autumn Term Edition

Friday 29th September 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Message from the Deputy Head

It has been a wonderful fortnight at our school. With children settled into their classes and absorbed with their learning, life at Meadowside continues to be exciting and fun. We have been working hard on our behaviour and attitudes at lunchtime and have reminded the children in assembly about good manners. Next week, our focus will switch to assemblies and setting the best example possible to our new reception children. Best of luck to all the children who are beginning their full days at Meadowside!

Meadowside Class News.

Reception –

This week it has been great to welcome all of Apple class in together. Our line is suddenly twice as long and finding a space on the carpet takes more thought but so far so good. We have really enjoyed meeting up with old friends and making new ones. One of the new friends we have made is Inky mouse. He will be learning with us in letters and sounds. On the first day we learnt the sound S makes. We played with skipping ropes, skittles, sand and spaghetti, made snakes out of playdough and painted snakes with stripes and spots. We have made a good start to our reading and writing journey. Thank you to all the parents who came to our letters and sounds meeting. If you have any questions please come and see us.

Years 1 & 2 – Escape from Treasure Island

In Year 1, We have solved our first box question and managed to open the first of our three mystery boxes. We found sticks, leaves and grass as well as some more treasure. We now need to learn about shelters in order to crack the code on our next box, we are very excited! This week we went on a habitat hunt around Meadowside and found lots of creatures hiding under logs and in the brick work including a newt! In English we have been reading about Noi and his dad in 'The Storm Whale' we had great fun creating a game for Noi to play whilst his Dad is at work on the fishing boat. We have also been practising using a number line to add and subtract numbers up to 20.

Year 2 were very excited at the end of last week as we had learnt enough about our island to open our first treasure chest! Inside we found some sticks and straw and the next question- Where will we find shelter? We are busily trying to learn about habitats in order to work out the best place for us to set up camp on our island. We have even been reading about a girl in English, who lives in a very unusual place. We hope to learn from her and improve our survival skills! I am sure that we will have the information needed by next week!

Year 3 & 4 – Really Revolting

Elm class have been investigating 'Disgusting Decay' over the past few weeks and it has really helped us to understand the importance of cleaning our teeth and the different types of teeth we have in our mouth. We have planned a science experiment which is helping us to identify liquids which affect the enamel on our teeth – we have made predictions based on cola, water, milk, Ribena and orange juice. We had great fun using disclosing tablets, looking at our teeth in the mirror and then brushing our teeth to remove excess plaque.

In English, we have been creating collages of Mr and Mrs Twit and writing character descriptions about them, with joined up handwriting! In Maths, we have been working hard on our For The Fridge targets so please make sure you are continuing to work on these at home!

Really Revolting! Well, what a revolting week we have had! In English we have been enjoying 'The Twits' by Roald Dahl and have written some poems about the revolting things that might be found in Mr Twit's beard...mouldy green cheese and smelly rotten beans to name just a few! In maths we have been learning about numberlines and scales, we have put this learning to good use and made our very own, very revolting 'Marvellous medicine' carefully measuring and weighing all the special ingredients! We have also learnt all about our teeth, the types of teeth and their uses. We have also used disclosing tablets to help us think about how we clean our teeth; we don't want to end up with revolting, rotten teeth!

Years 5 & 6 – Mission Mars

In Year 5 Oak our voyage to Mars continues and the children are enjoying finding out more about our solar system and the challenges of travelling beyond Earth. We have started to read 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell Boyce and they are captivated! We will be using the book as a stimulus to writing and also within guided reading sessions.

We enjoyed a visit from the Planetarium and this has really helped our children get a better understanding of the distance between the planets and also how different they are to our own.

It was encouraging to see so many families represented at the two 'Welcome to Year Five' presentations, thank you for taking the time and for your ideas on how we can work together to help your child to grow.

Well done to both Oak and Cherry classes for the cheerful and patient way in which they tackled the CAT tests held last week. The children coped very well with what was a new type of "test" situation for most.

Year 6 have enjoyed researching about some famous individuals who we are inspired by. Last week we wrote some biographies about Brian Cox and even listened to some music of his, from his Uni days. I'm sure you parents remember his band, D:Ream! This week we have researched what daily life would be like on the International Space Station and used Tim Peake's experiences to help us understand. We have started reading our new book by Stephen and Lucy Hawkin and so far we have met George, the main character. Hopefully by now your children will have completed a NO TECHNOLOGY challenge! This will aid empathy with this character, who lives a fairly basic lifestyle, and his one wish is to own a computer. In computing, we have been creating our own computer games whilst in P.E, we have been learning how to use space effectively in invasion games. Today your children will have experienced our Planetarium visit.

Governor News

Governors recently met for the first time this academic year and have agreed Link roles and committee membership - to find out more explore Governor information on the school website.

As previously shared, Governors are seeking to appoint a Co-opted Governor. We are looking for someone who has an interest in contributing to the development of the school and will 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

Can we remind families that the safety of children arriving and leaving school is a priority and therefore instances of parking directly outside of the school is unacceptable and remind those that do need to utilise a vehicle as part of the journey to or from school to park considerately or utilise the "Park and Stride" car park located within 5 minutes walk.

If you would like to contact the Governors for any reason, please contact us via the above email.

Friends of Meadowside

Last night we kicked off with the first FoM meeting of the new school year and I'm delighted to say we had a really great turnout including 3 new Reception mums who have joined the team and already taking an active part as we planned a whole years calendar of events!

We're just dotting the i's and crossing the t's and then we'll issue the plan so you can put dates in your diaries. But the first event is just around the corner in October where we'll fight for this years Meadowside Bake-off class champions, letters out soon!

Also in October we'd like to hold another 90 minute makeover before the winter descends. Following the success of the last on in May there is still the area in the middle of the rear courtyard that needs a spruce up. Those that took part last time had a brilliant morning and it's amazing how much you can do when there's a big group of people so please grab a paintbrush and join us for this one! Sunday 15th October 10:30 - 12pm (weather permitting).

Next meeting Thurs 19th October.

Other news

In celebration assembly today, we announced our house captains. Congratulations to the children in years 2 and 6 that have taken on this responsibility.

Last year, our year 6 children produced a Where's Wally Canvas as part of a trail at the Cheltenham Literature Festival. The trail begins tomorrow and lasts the duration of the festival (15th October). Have a look at the [leaflet](#) and see if you can find them all (especially ours!)

Parents' evening sign up will be available the week beginning 9th October. Keep an eye out on Parent Mail for more details next week.

This week, our A team took on Grange in a football friendly. It was a fantastic match and our boys were brilliant. It ended up as a 5-5 thriller! Go Meadowside!

INSET dates (school shut for pupils)

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

Dates for your diary

4th October Harvest donations needed for Gloucester Food Bank
11th – 13th October Y4 Residential
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.)

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

Date of next newsletter: Friday 13th October