



Making a difference for our future

Friday Fortnightly Newsletter

Summer Term Edition

Friday 30th June 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Message from the Head

On Thursday morning next week, children will be having their first session with their new teaching teams, in preparation for September. A huge amount of work goes into the transition process at Meadowside, with teachers and TAs sharing academic, social and emotional information to allow the changes to be smooth for all. Please reassure your child if they are anxious about upcoming changes, that every member of staff has their wellbeing as a priority. You will receive a letter with the full staff line up, on Thursday, with end of year reports to follow on July 14th.

Meadowside Class News.

Reception – Amazing Animals

Last week we had a great time working with Y4 cherry class during arts week. We learnt about Africa, how it is made up of many different countries. We had a go at some African tribal dances, made patterns, masks and a fantastic joint picture. We also enjoyed various stories from Africa, hearing about Precious Ramotswe, who became a lady detective and Handa who had a surprise. It was great to work with our Y4 partners on all these projects and share the exotic African fruit with them on Friday. This week we have visited Russia and Australia. We are all becoming increasingly aware of the bigger world and how it is different. Thank you to all who donated foreign coins to our travel agent, it has proved interesting to look at all the different coins.

Years 1 & 2 – Bucket and Spades

In Year 1 We absolutely loved spending last week finding out about Native American Indians and creating giant totem poles, mini totem poles and beautiful dreamcatchers. We even created examples of hogans and teepees, please ask your child to tell you more about these houses as we found it very interesting. This week we have been showing off our fantastic English and Maths skills and we are very proud of everything we have learnt this year.

Year 2 have come to the end of our Buckets and Spades topic this week and have found out about the time period between 1970 and 2000. This term we have taken a 100 year journey and found out about the changes to clothing, places to stay and activities. This morning, most of us decided that we would much rather live in the 1970-2000 era as the rules for clothing and behaviour were much more relaxed! We hope that everyone is excited about our 'holiday' as it is NEXT WEEK! Remember that we are all going dressed in clothing from one of the time periods we have studied. We are going to be taking part in activities from each of the eras studied and are set to have a brilliant day!

Year 3 & 4 – Veni, Vedi, Vici

Year 3 have been publishing their own books this week and have created their own versions of the wonderful story 'The Tailor of Gloucester.' It has been a delight to see the children engaged and inspired by Beatrix Potter's beautiful books! If you get chance, you might like to visit the shop in Gloucester which will help bring the story to life. We thoroughly enjoyed Arts Week and you will soon see some Far East artwork appearing around school, as well as Numeracy Ninja's becoming masters in their times table skills. We have been very impressed with the children's motivation to achieve the Ninja Levels - keep up the hard work at home!

In Cherry Class We have returned from our exploration of Africa during last week's Arts Week! Cherry Class joined Reception Silver Birch for many activities throughout the week and collaborated on a range of art activities using a range of media. It was delightful to see children pair up from the two classes and create beautiful pieces of art. Our school will be augmented by a whole variety of different pieces of art and the first Cherry/ Silver Birch collaboration has been installed at one end of the Junior Corridor. African tribal masks on a colourful background are very striking and there will be African artwork to follow. This week has been Assessment week and we return to our regular timetable next week.

Oak class well and truly embraced Arts Week last week and enjoyed learning all about Native America. We listened to music, studied tradition, clothing and housing, whilst getting out the paint and made Totem Poles. Our fine motor control was put to work creating stunning Dream Catchers, jewellery and patterned headbands. What was really lovely was leading and mentoring the year 1 Beech class. They really did get so much out of this experience and life/social skills were thoroughly explored. Well done you caring and lovely class.

This week has continued looking at our local study of Gloucester and in particular our very own locality of Quedgeley and some map work to go alongside. In French we have been enjoying putting the finishing touches to our story telling of Le Petit Chaperone Rouge! Why not ask your child to tell you some of the story

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

Year 5 were able to make good use of their creativity last week as we took part in Arts week. Partnered by Year 2, we studied the art and culture of the Middle East. Mrs Stewart gave us an introduction to life in the region based upon her experiences of living there as a child. After this, we spent some time finding out about the countries of the Middle East. Our first collaborative project with Year 2 saw us prepare a large collage of a Middle Eastern townscape using stippling techniques to create a textured effect. Year 5 also studied calligraphy, learning about the Arabic alphabet and also how to create pen and ink patterns in Arabic style.

Photographs of brilliantly-coloured stained glass windows in mosques inspired us to make lantern-shaped panels with cut-out sections featuring tissue paper patterns. We all learned the technique of quilling and spent many happy hours patiently rolling paper quills which we used to create beautiful patterned panels in Middle Eastern style. Our final project was weaving. Inspired by the intricately woven rugs and carpets made in many Middle eastern countries, we used paper strips to design and weave our own carpets. Arts week flew by so quickly as we all really enjoyed learning new techniques and sharing our skills with our younger friends in Year 2. Look out for the finished art works which will, alongside those of other classes, be appearing all around our school in the coming weeks.

Thanks are due to the eleven children from Year 5 who accompanied Mrs Joyner and Mrs Iles to The Gloucester Schools' Partnership Science Festival held last week at Denmark Road High School. The children represented Meadowside School very competently, assisting visitors to our stand to understand and take part in our science activities which were all geologically-themed. They also took the opportunity to tour the festival, taking in the exhibits on the theme of "nature" prepared by children from other primary schools, Denmark Road School and visitors from other organisations. We had a very enjoyable and informative day.

It's been a busy couple of weeks in year 6. We thoroughly enjoyed arts week, where we got to link up with year 3 and study the Far East. From fans to Hokusai's waves, kimono dresses to Pokémon, fun was had by all! Seeing the children support and engage with different age groups was delightful to see. As well as a bucket load of art, we have been continuing with our writing by trying to produce the best possible pieces before the end of the year. With complex punctuation and language on the agenda, we have been blown away by the children's attitudes towards their learning at such a late stage in the year.

We are obviously working hard on our production of Romeo and Juliet and rehearsals are in full swing! We cannot wait to share our talents with you all.

Don't forget to check for updates on

www.meadowsideprimary.co.uk

or follow us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/meadowside-
Primary-school](https://www.facebook.com/meadowside-primary-school)

or Twitter @MeadowsideSch

Please note the office email address is

admin@meadowsideprimary.co.uk

Governor News

In the past couple of weeks Governors have met within their Committees and reports from Link Governors who have met with subject leads and teams have been shared. As always there has been much to discuss, policies to review and national developments to consider. All Governors will be meeting as a group for the last time this academic year next week where we will continue these discussions and identify areas of focus for the new academic year.

With a few weeks of the final term remaining, we hope children will be looking forwards to transition meetings with staff and weather permitting will be able to enjoy participating in the rescheduled sports morning amongst other end of term activities.

As always, if you have any comments or feedback, Governors welcome your views via Chair@meadowsideprimary.co.uk

Friends of Meadowside

Hopefully by now all the children will have enjoyed taking part in the Sponsored walk this afternoon and the showers will have held off! Please can you bring any monies raised into the school office. Congratulations to Alfie Murphy in Y5 who is the winner of the flag competition. It really was incredibly difficult to choose from so many excellent entries but we chose Alfie's because it incorporated the Gloucester flag, included the Friends logo and the message 'all aboard' to show it belongs to everyone and all are welcome.

Unfortunately, we received the news last week that the school's bid to the Big Lottery fund for a grant towards the development of a music and drama area in the amphitheatre has not been successful. This is a real blow as this leaves us with quite a shortfall and we will now have to look at alternative ways to raise funds or phase the development. Any ideas let us know!

Letters have gone out for the final event of the year - the Discos on Friday 14th July, please get your ticket/volunteer forms in by 10th July. And get practising on those wake and shakes!!

We will be providing some drinks at the sports day for a small charge and there will be a raffle at the picnic so please bring some pennies. AGM is on Thurs 20th July where we will elect the roles of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer for 2017/18.

Thank you again for all your support. - FoM.

Other news

Y3 and Y4 Artwork- As you are aware, at the end of our 'You've Been Framed' topic, children from Y3 Willow, Y4 Cherry and Y4 Oak each chose a piece of their own artwork to be framed and displayed in our school. On Wednesday 12th July, you are invited to come and see all of the children's amazing artwork in the School Hall, straight after school. You can make a bid to purchase **your** child's framed artwork and take it home! The suggested bidding price is £1. Thank you so much for supporting us, we are very proud of the standard and variety of pieces and money raised allow us to recoup much of the costs incurred in the teaching and delivery of this topic. Parents of children attending Wimbledon with Mrs Morley will be invited to a private viewing for their children's artwork, further details to follow.

Weston super Mare trip Y1 and Y2- Don't forget to have your outfit from one of our decades of study ready for our Weston super Mare trip on Tuesday 4th July.

Tennis- Huge congratulations goes out to our Year 4 Oak and Cherry class tennis teams! 8 children attended a tennis tournament last week and played brilliantly. The Cherry team progressed to the District finals at Oxstall's and once again played superbly well, just missing out on a medal position. Some outstanding personal performances in the final matches, as well as the fantastic overall effort from the team! A big thank you to Mrs N Smith for supporting these matches.

On July 21st, please remember we all finish at 2pm.

INSET dates (school shut for pupils)

Monday 24th July 2017

Tuesday 25th July 2017

Monday 4th September 2017

Tuesday 5th September 2017

Dates for your diary

- 4th July - Yr 5 Forensic Science morning at Severn Vale.
- 7th July - Whole School Photograph at 2pm
- 13th July- 9:30am School sports morning
- 21st July- 9:15am Yr 6 Leavers assembly. All parents of Year 6 children are welcome.

Date of next newsletter: Friday 14th July 2017