

*Autumn Term Edition*

*Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018*

## Message from the Head

Welcome back ~ term 2 is underway! There are plenty of events and activities this term, so please keep up to date via our website, ParentMail and facebook page. Our theme this term is 'Getting on, falling out', which allows us to help the children learn strategies and techniques for resolving conflicts and improving friendships. In addition, we will have a spotlight on national events such Anti-Bullying week (12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> Nov) and Remembrance day. This year, Meadowside has contributed to a poppy display at Tesco; both they and St James' church are hosting events to commemorate Armistice on Sunday morning.

## Meadowside Class News

### Reception

We have started our new topic, Who Helps Us. We began by thinking about how we can help ourselves. If we solve our own problems we get diamond power. We have also looked at all the people who help us at school, teachers, midday supervisors, secretaries, the cook etc.

### Years 1 & 2

Year 1 have been having a great time this week looking at lots of different nursery rhymes! We kicked off the week with a scavenger hunt looking for the answers to questions we could only find by reading the nursery rhyme. We have also designed our own moving picture to make based on nursery rhymes, which we look forward to making next week! Ask your child which rhymes they have been learning about this week! Why not see if you can teach them any new ones that you may have read as a child?

This week Year 2 have been looking at and learning Nursery Rhymes- there were many more than we ever thought possible! Did you know that Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star actually has 5 verses, not just the one we usually sing?! We will be learning some of the less common rhymes this week, so try sharing some from your childhood with the children too! In our topic sessions, we will be using these rhymes as inspiration to help us design (and make) our own movable toy!

### Year 3 & 4

In Year 2 we have been focusing on story writing in English and the children have blown me away with their imagination and I can't wait to see what they come up with! They have made a great start with addition in maths and in topic we are looking at Sone Age settlements such as Skara Brae which the children have loved!

Year 4 produced some fantastic topic homework last term and enjoyed sharing it in class. Our Rock Star topic continues and we have been considering whether we could become archaeologists, using our previous learning and 'best guesses' to try and discover what life was like in the Stone Age. The children have enjoyed finding out about Skara Brae and the settlement discovered there. We are continuing to read 'Stig of the Dump' and are really enjoying Barney's adventures. If you have a copy at home, please send it in!

We are focusing on times tables and looking at the connections we can make with other areas of maths. This term, we will have a *times table of the week* and as well as making sure we are practising the facts, we will be relating them to division, reasoning and simple algebra. Times tables are also the focus for our *For the Fridge* this term, why not ask your child some quick fire questions on your way to school.

### Year 5 & 6

Tim and Robbie from the NSPCC were able to join us and work with Year 5. They built on the work we did at Skillzone, making the children aware of how they can keep themselves safe.

Anyone who was not able make a consultation at last term's parents' evening please contact Mr Mayne to make a mutually convenient 10-minute appointment.

Our topic, Heroes and Villains, continues this term. In PHSEC, we are considering acts of kindness which follows on very well from a very popular option on last term's topic homework. Many of our children made an edible treat for a community hero and delivered it to them. Back in school, we all celebrated our topic homework by sharing it with our class. We were most impressed by the creativity shown! In our maths lessons, we are studying long division and enjoying our maths detectives sessions every Friday. In English, we held debates and wrote a discussion about the statement "Children should be in bed by 8:30pm every night". As you can imagine, the children had many, strongly-held opinions about this topic! This term, we are studying the play MacBeth by William Shakespeare and have begun by acting out the play using a well-known technique called a Whoosh!

### Other News

Poppies and poppy merchandise will continue to be sold all next week on the gate. In addition, Art club have created a few (edible) medals which will be available on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> for a small donation to the British Legion.

### **After School Events Term 2**

With nights getting darker, it is important that we support Meadowside children to stay safe after clubs and events. You can help us in the following ways:-

- 1) Please make sure your child knows who is collecting them after an event/club
- 2) If arrangements need to be changed urgently, please avoid phoning the office between 2 45 and 3 15 as this is a busy point in the school day.
- 3) Please review the 'Staying Safe' document with your child(ren) which is attached with this Friday Fortnightly.

### Governor corner

As promised in the last Newsletter this is the first in a series of brief explanations of Governor roles.

#### **The Chair (myself at present):**

- Making sure meetings are run efficiently and on time.
- Encouraging everybody to contribute and work as a team with decisions being made and minuted.
- Creating committees to develop ideas and work out plans of action.
- Working effectively with the Head Teacher.
- Being a critical friend to the Head Teacher and giving constructive advice which emanates from the whole Governing body.
- Working together on effective school policies.
- Attending Senior Leadership Team (SLT) meetings as often as possible
- Liaising with the Vice Chair.

This is a short synopsis of the most important areas of the role but most importantly, all we Governors enjoy what we do and it is for the good of the children (and the staff!!)

### Friends Of Meadowside

Meadowside have been successfully accepted into this year's Aviva Community Fund scheme. This means our project to raise the remaining funds needed for the amphitheatre development has been accepted into the Public Vote. To vote for our project you need to use the following page; <https://community-fund.aviva.co.uk/voting/project/view/4-868>

You don't need to be an existing Aviva customer to log in/register and vote. Projects with the most votes then proceed to the next stage of the process for judging and awards. The more votes we can get the better so please share this link with as many family and friends as you can.

Alongside this Aviva have also set up a crowdfunding page for our project. It is an opportunity to raise additional funds in the event we don't win the grant. If you have any friends or family who might like to donate towards our cause then they can visit the page below:

<http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/meadowside-primary-amphitheatre-development>

Thank you in advance for your continued support, we are determined to get the amphitheatre underway this year!

Also coming up this month is Meadowside's 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday. We will be in touch soon with more details on the Disco's to celebrate this event.

#### INSET dates (school shut for pupils)

**Monday 7th January 2019**

**Monday 22nd July 2019**

**Tuesday 23rd July 2019**

Please visit our website [www.meadowsideschool.co.uk](http://www.meadowsideschool.co.uk), for all upcoming events.

#### Dates for your diary

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November- YR-Y5 flu immunizations  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Gloucester Schools Cross Country  
21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Life Education Bus  
23<sup>rd</sup> November- KS1 and 2 Disco  
27<sup>th</sup> November- Meadowside's 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
29<sup>th</sup> Nov – Wellbeing event for families 3 30 – 5 pm  
4<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas Market and Car Park Carols  
18/19<sup>th</sup> December- KS1 and KS2 performances  
20<sup>th</sup> December- Christmas lunch  
**21<sup>st</sup> December 2pm - End of Term**

**Date of next newsletter: 16<sup>th</sup> November 2018**