



Making a difference for our future

Friday Fortnightly Newsletter

Autumn Term Edition

Friday 16th November 2018

Message from the Head

Thank you all for your wonderful efforts and generous donations for Children in Need today. Next week, The Life Education Bus comes to Meadowside! Each class will have a session tailored to their age group, supporting their personal and social curriculum. I hope you will be able to spend time discussing the learning with your child as a great deal is covered in each session.

Meadowside Class News

Reception

We have had a great week. We met a Paramedic on Tuesday. She told us all about what she wears and what she does. Some of us pretended that they had been injured and she bandaged us up. She also let us have a listen to our hearts with her stethoscope and answered our questions. Next week we are expecting another visitor who helps people if they are hurt. As well as topic work we have been learning to recognize some words that are trying to trick us, you can't sound them out. There is so much to think about when you are learning to read and write.

Years 1 & 2

This week Year 1 have put the finishing touches on our moving nursery rhyme pictures! We put a lot of effort into making sure we followed our plan so they would work properly. We had the chance to show them off to each other and Year 2 which was great fun! We have also been exploring how electronics work and had a go at making a circuit! In English, we have been describing characters and creating our own paper dolls to take on adventures! We will be writing stories about these next week!

Year 2 have been busy these past 2 weeks making our very own mechanical toy! We designed them to illustrate one of the Nursery Rhymes we learnt in week 1 and completed them this week. They each have a moveable section that can be wound up and down using an axle and a handle. We also welcomed 3 new starters to our class this term, so the children are also busy helping them learn all about life at Meadowside! I am sure they will settle in in no time!

Year 3 & 4

In year 3 we have officially become authors and 'published' our stories into books! The children absolutely loved writing their own stories and their imagination has really impressed me. This week in topic we also designed and created our very own Stone Age tools! For remembrance day we learnt all about the importance of remembering those who had fought and lost their lives while defending our country. As a class we learnt the song 'In Flanders Fields', which the children sang beautifully, while also creating some lovely pictures for our remembrance display. We have also sent home a letter regarding the year 3 topic homework. The children will need to design and make/ source a "ROCK STAR" costume, linking to any of the themes we have looked at during topic this term. This could be anything from Mary Anning to a Stone Age cave man!

We have had a busy few weeks. Last week the class enjoyed researching and then designing and making stone age tools, they looked very realistic! Keep them close to hand as they may be useful for our end of topic celebration. In computing we have discussed safe use of the internet and search engines, we have been busy researching life in the Stone Age, Iron Age and Bronze Age and thinking about the changes that happened. Meanwhile in PE we have been thinking about the five elements of dance and trying to incorporate them into a dance based on Stone Age life. Why not ask your child if they can remember all the different dance elements.

Year 5 & 6

We have come to the end of a two-week series based on the book, 'Atomic' by Guy Bass. The children have enjoyed exploring the family dynamics in the Atomic family, particularly the tension between Jonny and Tommy Atomic. We will move on to a two-week sequence based on 'Kick', by Mitch Bromley. In maths, we have been multiplying and dividing whole numbers and decimals by 10, 100 and 1000. Also, multiplying numbers up to four-digits using short multiplication and multiplying three-digit numbers using long multiplication. Please keep rehearsing those multiplication and division facts as speedy recall really helps develop effective written calculations. Year 5 and 6 classes met together on Friday afternoon as part of our Remembrance Commemorations. In the morning, we met as a whole school and representatives from the 3 classes shared poems and contributed to a very moving assembly.

Our studies of Shakespeare's play Macbeth continue. We have been learning the story through acting, reading versions of the text and watching an animated film. The play has provided many opportunities to study the characters, discuss their dilemmas and also immerse ourselves in the rich language Shakespeare uses. We have been inspired to write several pieces including a letter and our own incantations to create a potion, just as the witches do for Macbeth. In maths, some Year 6 children have been learning more about equivalent fractions and decimals whilst others are studying shape. Our topic, Heroes and Villains, continues. We are considering the question "Why do we need villains?" Last Friday (9th November) we held our act of remembrance with the whole school. Six children from Year 6 read some very moving poetry about war and military service, all of which was written by children.

Other News

Dinner money- There is currently an extremely high amount of outstanding dinner money debt. Please check your account and make a payment if you are in debt. Can we remind you that School meals should always be paid for in advance. If you have any issues making the payment please contact the school office.

Cross Country Event – our runners from years 2-6 did exceptionally well and represented Meadowside perfectly. Special congratulations go to Year 3, who were overall year group winners of the competition. Thank you to the staff and volunteers who accompanied the children yesterday.

B Team Football Festival – again, we were impressed with the skill, attitude and behaviour of our team. Win, lose or draw (and they experienced all three!) their sporting ethos was exemplary.

Wellbeing Event – there will be a letter coming out to you next week, inviting families to pop in after school on 29th November to browse and sample some activities, resources and ideas linked to emotional health for adults and children.

Governor corner

To conclude my snapshot of the Governors Roles:

We have the following two sub-committees who meet once a term prior to the Full Governing Body meeting.

- (1) Resources Committee – who liaise and help to monitor the school finances, health and safety and premises.
- (2) Teaching and Learning Committee-who look at how the school is progressing in relation to national standards and curriculum expectations.

Both Committees report back to the Full Governing Body with reports and suggestions to help drive the school forward.

The following Governors have a particular role:

English- Rachel Brain

P.E. – Lawrence Boakes

Safeguarding Governor – Sally Perry

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) – Rhiannon Byron

Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM)- Craig Broadman

Friends Of Meadowside

We have had a busy week with 18th Birthday Disco ticket sales and we look forward to seeing the children there. The 2nd Hand Uniform Sale has also gone well, we appreciate all the comments and hope you have found it a great way to source uniform. If you have any uniform you would like to donate to us for future events we would be very grateful.

We are still pushing for as many votes as possible for the Aviva Community Funding project. Votes close on 20th November and we must get as many votes as possible to be able to get through to the next round. You don't need to be an existing Aviva customer to register and vote. It is a simple process to register. Once registered you can then use the following link to vote for our project; <https://community-fund.aviva.co.uk/voting/project/view/4-868>

As we have lots of events coming up we have decided to issue a winter newsletter, so please see the attached letter for more information about the 18th Birthday and the Christmas Market.

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, for all upcoming events.

Dates for your diary

21st and 22nd November – Life Education Bus
23rd November- KS1 and 2 Disco
27th November- Meadowside's 18th Birthday
29th Nov – Wellbeing event for families 3.30 – 5 pm
4th Dec – Christmas Market and Car Park Carols
18/19th December- KS1 and KS2 performances
20th December- Christmas lunch
21st December 2pm - End of Term

Date of next newsletter: 30th November 2018