

Spring Term Edition

Friday 29th March 2019

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Message from the Head

We are looking forward to seeing you at Parents Evenings next week. You will have the opportunity to look at your child's progress across the year, in their books. English books include grammar and short tasks as well as longer pieces of writing, which the children will often edit and polish themselves, for improvement. In Mathematics, you will see Do it, Apply it and Solve it tasks, which allow the children to gradually think deeper, problem solve and demonstrate their reasoning. Their topic books celebrate new learning, expertise and curiosity. What you will also notice is that the children are encouraged to present their work for the reader (no two topic books are the same, therefore!). They have to make choices, like an author would, about the layout, organisation and vocabulary they use and this supports their development as writers and awareness of the reader. The children will also be sharing and celebrating their completed topic books and learning journeys with one another, in a whole school session next week.

Meadowside Class News

Reception

Last week our story was Little Red Riding Hood. Granny is not well and she asked us to do some shopping for her, we wrote out shopping lists so that we would not forget anything. We also made baskets and filled them with jam tarts for granny. We talked a lot about not talking to strangers, Red Riding Hood should not have talked to the wolf in the forest. This week we started with a song about a princess who slept for 100 years. We have been talking about all the different characters and making wishes. The story also lent itself to doing some maths about time. Next week look out for beanstalks and giants in Reception.

Years 1 & 2

By the time you read this Year 1 and 2 will have taken part in our Quizzical Nature quiz! We have been busy finishing off our final round - Top Predator - and many of us were surprised to find out that humans have this title! We have put a lot of preparation into the quiz and will let you know when we hear if we have made it into the grand final to win the mystery prize! We are now going to look into Easter in a bit more detail whilst we eagerly wait to find out what our next topic will be!

Year 2- We have been busy these past 2 weeks, learning all about Top Predators for round 10. We were surprised to find out that it is actually humans that are the top predator- humans cause the deaths of more animals than any other apex predator... We have learnt the external human body parts and discussed the human life cycle.

By the time you read this, we will have taken part in the qualifying round of the quiz.... We will have to wait and see if we get through!

Year 3 & 4

We have had a fab few weeks in Year 3 learning all about forces and magnets! This week the children got to create their fantastic magnetic board games they had designed and I was thoroughly impressed with their imagination and skill. In maths we have been looking at different units of measure, whilst in English we have finished and published our wonderful fairground poetry. We have now moved onto looking at the novel "Leon and The Place Between" by Angela McAllister; a fascinating and intriguing story about a boy and his adventures at the circus.

We have had a very busy couple of weeks in Year 4! Designing and making our own magnetic games allowed us to get creative as well as teaching us more about magnetism. There were a variety of brilliant games including mazes and fishing challenges. In English, we have been reading a mysterious book called "Leon and the place between". It has inspired us to write very descriptively about some fairground and circus acts!

Year 5 & 6

In mathematics, we have been investigating addition and subtraction of mixed numbers when the denominators are factors. Year Five have completed their arithmetic and reasoning in mathematics.

In our English lessons, we have continued exploring 'The Vanishing Rainforest', by Richard Platt. The children have enjoyed writing poems in groups and individually.

The Cycle Proficiency week was very successful and we concluded our Theme Park group projects. This was great fun as children produced: radio adverts, posters, theme park plans and costing to make sure that their theme parks were successful. The group presentations were a highlight!

Mock SATs week has just ended and we have been very impressed by the way the children rose to the occasion, giving of their best and remaining calm and focused throughout four mornings of tests. We shall be sharing the results of these tests with the children shortly and discussing next steps for learning based on the outcomes. Our topic, The Vanishing Kingdom, is drawing to a close. It has offered us many opportunities to study various aspects of science. Recent lessons have covered the life cycles of both animals and plants. We continue to study the text "The Vanishing Rainforest" in our English lessons and have been inspired to write some poignant poetry by its arresting images of the destruction of the rainforests of South America. We shall conclude our studies with a debate about the future of the rainforests. We look forward to meeting you all again at our parents' evenings next week.

Other news

Parking- We have had further complaints from residents in Griffon Close this week, with regard to inconsiderate parking and disrespectful responses when challenged. This reflects very badly on our school community and we all have a shared responsibility for ensuring Meadowside's reputation is as good as it can be. Please park responsibly and safely at both ends of the school day.

Menu change- There will be a menu change on Tuesday 23rd April: **Ham and Pineapple Pizza instead of sausage and mash.**

Y4 Quadkids Athletics Report –Wednesday 27th March 2019. Report by Dylan and Ethan Y4

The weather was nice and sunny...let's get to the good stuff. At the sporting event called quad kids we did four different events – 1. We did the howler throw. 2. Then the standing long jump, which was really really fun. 3. Sprints, they went by as quick as a blink. 4. Then we had to run 400m...a complete loop of the track. It was a very close contest! We are pleased to report that out of 18 schools, Meadowside came 6th. We had a great morning at the athletics track and we would love to do it again.

Friends Of Meadowside

Thank you to everyone who came to the 90 minute makeover last week. The fence is now well on it's way to being transformed into a seascape. Keep an eye out for the children's projects as they start to appear on the fence!

Our big news is that we now have received final designs and quotes for the Amphitheatre and we are pleased to confirm that we will be making the booking with SchoolScapes this week. We are hopeful that the build will take place during May half term. A picture of the final design can be seen in our notice board. This has been our biggest fund raising project to date and we are so pleased that we can now finally see the results of everyone's hard work and support!

Our next event is the annual Chocolate Raffle. This is taking place on the last day of term (Friday 5th April). Tickets can be purchased before and after school from Monday 1st April until Thursday 4th April. The grand prize will be announced on Monday 1st April (no jokes!). We are still grateful for any donation of eggs for the raffle and they can be given in at the school office or to a Friends representative until Thursday 4th

Immediately after the Easter holidays we will be selling tickets for our Spring Hunt – The Meat bites Back. Tickets are £2 for each child who wants to take part in the hunt around Green Farm on Sunday 28th April. Tickets can be exchanged for a map and clues. We will send out more details about the event on Facebook nearer the time.

Our efforts in Tesco's 'Bags of Help' scheme are continuing to go really well; thank you to everyone for supporting this. Voting is open until 30th April so we have plenty of time and we will publish the results as soon as we have them.

INSET dates (school shut for pupils)

Monday 22nd July 2019

Tuesday 23rd July 2019

Please Note:

The local authority has a new website address for emergency school closures (for example, heavy snow).

The new address is:

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/closures/

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 2nd April- Parents evening 4-7pm

Thursday 4th April- Parents evening 3:30-5:30pm

Friday 5th April – Chocolate Raffle

Friday 5th April- 2pm Finish for the Easter Holidays

Tuesday 23rd April- 8 55 a.m. Return to School

Sunday 28th April – Roast Dinner Hunt (Friends of Meadowside fundraiser)