



Making a difference for our future

Friday Fortnightly Newsletter

Spring Term Edition

Friday 23rd March 2018

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Message from the Head

It has been an eventful week at Meadowside and we have rather bombarded you with Parent Mail reminders and event news over the last few days! It's going to be a very busy end to the term. We are looking forward to seeing you at parents evenings next week; it's not too late to book an appointment if you haven't already done so.

I now have additional staffing news to share. Mrs Morley has secured a Deputy Headship at a school in Tewkesbury, starting in September 2018 and will therefore be leaving us in July. She has been a loyal and dedicated Meadowsider for many years, but this career progression is thoroughly deserved and staff and Governors are all delighted for her and proud of this achievement. We will keep you up to date with plans and celebrations in the Summer Term!

Meadowside Class News.

Reception – What's the story?

We have enjoyed lots of 'once upon a time' stories during this topic. Last week we made delicious Gingerbread men as a treat. We also used it as an opportunity to talk about keeping fit and healthy like the fox in the story who was very good at running fast. This week we have been working on the story of Jack and the beanstalk. We have enjoyed some giant projects. It has come to that time of year again when we are starting to visit our friends in Little Meadows and tell them about school. After Easter they will start to come over to see us so look out for them in the playground.

Years 1 & 2 – What makes Britain Great?

What an exciting few weeks Year 1 have had! We had a great time recreating the Great Fire of London and watching all of the houses burn (once Miss Akhurst and Miss Mellersh got them to catch fire in the windy conditions!) We have also been finding out all about other famous Great Britains like Florence Nightingale. Please don't forget to send in your short speech by Monday if you think you might like to speak in our assembly next Thursday. We look forward to showing off all that we have been learning on that day!

Year 2- As we come to the end of our topic What Makes Britain Great? we have been thinking hard about all the great Brits that helped change our country for the better. The children have shared some of their ideas of who they are going to dress as for our topic shine on Thursday 29th March. (Don't forget our assembly at 9.30am on Thursday) Over the next week we will be discussing which people have had the biggest impact on our lives and we will recap everything that we have learn about our GREAT country!

Year 3 & 4 – Extreme!

It's been a fun few weeks full of exploding volcanoes, quivering earthquakes and disasters in year 3. We have also been writing narratives based on a short video called 'A Cloudy Lesson' and creating dialogue for the characters which appear in the clip. On Monday, we had our fourth Musicate day with Maja where we created compositions to match pictures from places around the world, learnt the African song 'Siyahamba' and improvised the lyrics, as well as learning about the Pentatonic scale. We are thoroughly enjoying being part of such an exciting music project and will be holding a celebratory assembly much later in the summer term for parents to attend, to showcase things we have created during our Musicate year.

Year 4 have been very busy since the last Friday Fortnightly. Last Friday, We really enjoyed creating volcanoes and watching the eruptions that happened when we mixed washing up liquid, food colouring, vinegar and bicarbonate of Soda. We then discussed the science behind the eruption, thinking about the chemical reaction which produced Carbon dioxide and how gases move.

In English and topic we are busy learning about plate tectonics and the causes of volcanoes and earthquakes. This week we have been looking at the structure of explanation texts and we are in the process of writing our own text which explains how earthquakes happen.

We have also now finished a really successful series of swimming lessons, with all children trying hard to improve their skills. Well done to everyone. After Easter, we will be reading Charlotte's Web by EB White as part of our guided reading sessions. If you have a copy of this book, please name it and send it in with your child.

Year 5 & 6 – All The Worlds A Stage!

On Tuesday 13th March, our cast of 24 children from Oak and Cherry class took part in a Gloucestershire Schools Partnership performance of 'As You Like it'. This was the culmination of two terms' work at our After School Club. The children rose to the occasion and delivered their lines with confidence and aplomb. Thank you for your support with helping children learn their lines, practising their delivery and sourcing costumes.

Both classes performed their interpretation of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', to an audience of friends and family on the evening of Tuesday 20th March. We were very proud of the way children took ownership of their specific roles and supported each other. Again, thank you for your help with providing costume items and supporting your child with learning lines. This exciting project took a different approach to 'As You Like it' as the entire production was delivered within two weeks of its inception! Thank you so much to the fantastic prop and costume helpers and the parent who helped polish Oaks' performance.

Next week we complete our celebrations of our topic 'All the World's a Stage' and we would ask that all topic projects are completed and brought into school on Monday 26th.

Year 6 have been organised and productive in a crisis this week. Thanks go to Mrs Drummond, who has taken the lead in planning and teaching. Mrs Rowntree is also providing some teaching time, so that Y6 finish the term academically 'on track'. Mrs Drummond will be preparing them all a SATs revision pack, ready for the Easter break.

Governor Corner

Over the last couple of weeks Governors have met within committees and as a Full Governing Board and as always have covered a range of topics from curriculum, resources to GDPR. Following discussion within Full Governors, we are delighted to share that our vacancy for a Co-opted Governor has now been filled. Watch this space for an introduction from our new Governor next term.

Lastly, we hope families will enjoy the opportunity to meet staff at the forthcoming parents evenings next week and would like to thank staff for the additional time spent preparing and engaging with families.

Friends Of Meadowside

I can't quite believe I'm writing about Easter when it seems like five minutes ago I was talking about Christmas, although the weather is perhaps more like you'd expect at Christmas!!

Sunday is the Easter Hunt, thanks to all who have bought tickets. It helps to cater correctly. The weather is currently looking good, fingers crossed, so if anyone wants to join in on Sunday please come along and buy tickets on the day.

There are crafts and refreshments to do to, so should be a fun day!

Next week will be the Chocolate raffle, tickets go on sale on Sunday and then before/after school Mon 26th - Wed 28th March, Drawn on Thursday 29th. Donations of eggs still gratefully received till Wednesday to the school office please!

May we also take the opportunity to congratulate Mr and Mrs Port on the birth of their twin sons, joining big brother Jasper. Great news, although we're guessing we may not see Mr Port at an event for a while!

Have a lovely Easter everyone!

Other News

Dinner cost increase - The price of a paid school meal will increase to £2.36 from Monday 16th April 2018

Year 1 Oxstalls visit- we had a fantastic time at Oxstalls on Tuesday. We had the opportunity to try 12 different activities, favourites included the dressing up as a bunny relay and the parachute. Although the children were worn out by the end of it they all asked if we could go again! Thank you also to all the parents who volunteered to help, it was great to have extra grown ups to cheer the teams on.

Charlotte.s Web- Year 4 will be reading Charlottes Web by EB White after Easter. If you have a copy we can borrow Year 4 would greatly appreciate it. Please make sure you name the book so that we can return it to the correct person.

PE Kits – Please ensure that all children return to school after the Easter break with the correct outdoor PE kit and footwear suitable for the field, for the summer term. There are an increasing number of children who are not prepared for PE sessions and it makes the organisation particularly tricky for staff and children. We would really appreciate your support in this matter.

Junior Voices at Gloucester Cathedral – This year, Meadowside will be taking part in a concert at the Cathedral on May 2nd. We are compiling a choir of Key Stage 2 children, who will benefit from a series of workshops led by Cathedral vocalists, in preparation for the event. If your child would like to sing, we need a consent slip from a parent, committing to the project. Please collect this from the school office.

INSET dates (school shut for pupils)

Monday 4th June 2018

Wednesday 25th July 2018

Please visit our website

www.meadowsideschool.co.uk, for all upcoming events.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 27th March 3 30 – 5 30 pm and Wednesday 28th March 4 00 – 7 00pm Parent Consultation Evenings

Wednesday 28th – 9 30 a.m. Y6 performance of 'Macbeth'

Thursday 29th March- Year 1 and 2 Parent assembly

Thursday 29th March – Year 1 and 2 Dressing Up Day as 'Great Britains'

****Thursday 29th March at 2pm – End of Term 4****

Monday 16th April- School reopens

Wednesday 18th April – Performance of 'In the Net' for Y4 pupils

Date of next newsletter: Friday 20th April 2018