

Autumn Term Edition

Friday 29th November 2019

Comets	Hurricanes	Meteors	Spitfires
162	213	180	155

Message from the Head

The Christmas Market and Car Park Carols are on Tuesday 2nd December and will feature some live music from members of the Frampton brass band. There is always a lovely community feel to this event, so we look forward to a good turnout, to begin our Christmas festivities.

Last week the children took part in 2 very different curriculum events. On Wednesday, we organised a whole school Mathematics Problem Solving day. It was very positive, especially seeing children work collaboratively in mixed aged groups and with a range of adults. We will run more of these during the year and are planning to invite parents to the experience, too. On Friday 22nd, the junior children spent the day reflecting on friendships and how to spot and stop bullying, this time working in mixed-age house groups to raise awareness and share positive solutions.

Meadowside Class News.

Reception-

Who helps us stay healthy? has been the question for the last two weeks. After some discussion we decided that sometimes we can make choices that can keep us healthy: cleaning our teeth, washing the germs off our hands before eating, having a good nights sleep and having fun in the fresh air. We have also talked about people who's job involves helping us stay healthy: dentists, opticians, doctors and nurses, ambulance drivers etc. We also had two more visits from parents, a pharmacist and an occupational therapist. Next we will be asking who helps us stay safe.

Year 1-

Year 1 have been thinking about our final key question - How will we survive on the island? We talked about the difference between wants and needs and were quite surprised at how little we would actually **need** to be able to survive. We have looked at some of the habitats of animals that might live on treasure island as well as food chains. We have even considered where the best location would be for us to build our own habitat when we get there! Year 1 have loved their first topic and we cannot wait to celebrate the end of it in true pirate style on pirate day next week! Arrr!

Year 2-

We are coming to the end of our pirate topic Shiver Me Timbers and we are all eagerly waiting to meet Cap'n Rocky Cliff who is due next Friday! We have been focussing our piratical efforts this week on finding out more about how to survive on the island where the treasure is hidden. We have found out how to read maps and what things we would need to find in order to survive the exploration. Many of us were keen to take mobile phones and cool clothing... but pirates would have had none of this, so we cannot take it!!

Don't forget to see the email we sent about Pirate Day, where we invite all the children to dress as a pirate for the day to meet the Captain!

Class News Continued

Year 3-

We are starting to move toward the end of our Really Revolting topic and have really enjoyed looking into the Gods and Goddesses that were most important to the Ancient Egyptians, we even made our own version of Top Trumps. Ask your child who they thought the most powerful God was! We have been working hard on using column addition and subtraction to solve calculations and have discovered that when you need to start exchanging and decomposing numbers it can get rather tricky! Nevertheless, Year 3 are persevering and building on the skills they were using during our Problem solving day last week. This week the children also selected an element of the original Egyptian Cinderella story which they would like to change to create their own innovated version.

If you would like an idea for a small Christmas present for your child our next class reading book will be 'The Explorers' by Katherine Rundell.

Year 4-

After creating hieroglyphs and a Nile sunset with water colours, we have been using columnar addition and subtraction in maths. As you are aware, the quick recall of multiplication facts up until 12×12 and the associated division facts, underpins much of our calculation work in the Juniors. This summer, we will take part in national assessments for times tables recall and frequent participation in Times Table Rockstars will certainly strengthen rapid recall. Over the next few weeks, we will be focusing on the $\times 3$ and $\times 4$ tables in our weekly times table assessment. Thank you for your support with helping your child embed these facts. Our writing has come out of 'The Egyptian Cinderella', by Shirley Climo.

Our Y4 and Y5 Reading Groups met for the final time this term and we enjoyed discussing 'The Middler' by Kirsty Applebaum with a hot chocolate! We would highly recommend the book to Junior children and next term, our Y4 group will be reading, 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Rauf. Why don't you read the book too and share your insight into the book and characters with Mr Mayne?

Year 5-

We are continuing with our topic, Our World. In our music lessons we have listened to "Earth" composed by Hans Zimmer and are using it to inspire our own musical compositions. We've also been recalling previous learning about the water cycle and understanding the terms "weather" and "climate". In maths, we are busy multiplying and dividing whole numbers and decimals by 10, 100 and 1000. Meanwhile, we continue to read the novel Floodland in English and have found many ways to inspire our writing through this text.

Year 6-

In Year 6 we have been doing some tricky work with fractions in Maths. It has required lots of extra resilience and determination. Our class book, Floodland, has continued to inspire us and given us lots of creative writing opportunities. We have written from the points of view of different characters and produced some exceptional pieces and delivered incredibly powerful speeches. In our Topic sessions we have been exploring weather and climate and used maps to discover more about where we live. In PE we have been attacking space in tag rugby and we have finished our amazing animations in computing.

Friends of Meadowside

We hope the children enjoyed the Glo-vember Disc-glow last week! We had an amazing time and thoroughly enjoyed both events.

There is no time to rest as we now enter the busy Christmas period. This week you may have seen us in the car park selling tickets for Story Time with Santa. If you haven't managed to get tickets this week then please contact us via email or our Facebook page and we will let you know if we have any free spaces.

Meadowside Car Park Carols and Christmas Fair take place straight after school on Tuesday 3rd December. This year we have a variety of stalls (including hot food), some amazing raffle prizes and a Brass Band to accompany the carol singing. Doors open at 15:30pm and carol singing is planned for 16:30pm. If you are free between 14:00-15:00pm to assist us with setting up, or you can be free during the event to help run a stall for 30 minutes then please let us know by emailing us as soon as possible at friends@meadowsideprimary.co.uk.

Governor News

At a time when school funding is high on the national agenda and schools are being asked to do more, with less money, we need to be smarter than ever with our allocation of funds. There are two extra sources of funding that we receive in Meadowside that must be used in specific ways to enhance the children's learning and governors help to monitor how this money is spent:

- Pupil Premium
- Sports funding

The Pupil Premium is funding allocated to schools for the specific purpose of boosting the attainment of pupils from low-income families. Funding is allocated to schools to work with pupils who have been registered for free school meals at any point in the last six years, for children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months, and children of service personnel. This funding is used to provide extra activities, events and interventions to effectively support the emotional and social wellbeing of the pupils who receive it. ***If you would like to check whether your child is eligible for Pupil Premium then please speak to Miss Noble or Mrs Wilks in the office, or email kwilks@meadowsideprimary.co.uk.***

The aim of the Sports funding is to give every child a love of sport and encourage them to be more active. Children are supported to participate in a wider range of sports and physical activities at school and are given chances to compete against others. We have used this funding to train Meadowside staff to teach some sports e.g. tennis, to take part in inter-school competitions/events and to purchase sports equipment and resources for the children, as some examples. You will hopefully have noticed or heard about the two new Table Tennis tables recently installed next to the Year 5 & 6 classrooms that are very popular!

For more information on how we are spending these two types of funding and the impact it has had on the children at Meadowside, please see the school website:

<https://meadowsideschool.co.uk/information/pupil-premium/>

<https://meadowsideschool.co.uk/information/sports-funding/>

Other news

Gloucester Library are holding a Christmas Fayre on Tuesday 10th December between 3:30pm-6:00pm, Brunswick Road, GL1 1HT. There will be live music, a treasure hunt, Christmas stalls and crafts, and a Santa's grotto.

Our Meadowside Clubs have now finished for the Autumn Term. Thank you to families who have supported and enjoyed these. Many thanks to all staff who give up their free time to run these activities, too. We will look to run new sessions in the Spring Term.

General Election 12th December - Though we will be open as normal on this day, Little Meadow will be used as the polling station and the back of our car park will be accessible for voters to use. Please be particularly vigilant during the school runs on the day.

Well done to our Cross Country Team who struggled through the soggy conditions to represent us last Friday. It was certainly a 'character-building' experience!

INSET dates

(school shut for pupils)

Monday 6th January 2020

**May Bank Holiday 2020 is
Friday 8th May**

Monday 1st June 2020

Monday 20th July 2020

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 3rd December- Christmas market and Car Park carols

Friday 6th Dec – Y1 and 2 Pirate celebration day

Tuesday 17th Dec – 7 30 pm Holy Trinity Choir performance

Tuesday 17th December – 9:30am- KS1 Performance
1:45pm- KS 2 performance

Wednesday 18th December – 9:30am- KS2 Performance
1:45pm- KS1 performance

Thursday 19th December- School Christmas lunch

Friday 20th Dec – Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 20th December - 2pm School finishes for Christmas

Don't forget to check the website

www.meadowsideschool.co.uk/calendar for all key dates.

Date of next newsletter: Friday 13th December 2019

