

**Spring Term Edition**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

Comets	Hurricanes	Meteors	Spitfires
128	118	80	139

## **Message from the Head**

A lot has happened since our last edition! The Inspection process this week involved many hours of preparation on Tuesday, followed by two very busy and intense days with our Lead Inspector. We are pleased with our feedback and hope to be able to share the written report before the end of this term when it is published. Many thanks to those who completed the parent survey, supported us all with kind words of encouragement and for your ongoing commitment to our school family. It all makes a huge difference. The biggest thank you goes to your incredible children, who showcased their learning and our values to perfection, throughout the visit. Their behaviour and attitudes were singled out for glowing praise and we are very proud of each and every one of them!

## **Meadowside Class News**

I've given class teams a week off from their news updates. Instead, I'm going to give you a flavour of each class's learning, having spent plenty of time with everyone over the last 2 weeks!

In Reception Class, the children have enjoyed 'The Gingerbread Man' this week, with themed activities including a puppet theatre, cooking and story mapping. Last week, they also recreated a Victorian school room complete with chalk board and strict schoolmistress, who made Miss Thomas sit out at the front of class, for disobedience! They looked wonderful in their outfits too!

Year 1 and 2 showed off their Geography, phonics and reading skills for the Lead Inspector, who was most impressed by their attitudes. This week, they have experienced bucket chains first-hand, to understand more about how the Great Fire of London was extinguished. Today, several grand Tudor houses were burnt to a cinder on the amphitheatre – a memorable learning experience!

Years 3 and 4 generated an impressive list of Victorian words and phrases gleaned from their immersion into Oliver Twist's world. They were able to define and use these in their own writing accurately. Year 3s sang me a rendition of Food Glorious Food. When I quizzed them about some of the lyrics, they were able to explain them perfectly! I'm afraid that Mrs Whitlock has taught Year 4 how to pick pockets expertly – watch out, you have been warned! Both classes have been creating volcanoes this week to extend their geographical understanding. We are anticipating eruptions imminently!

Years 5 and 6 impressively demonstrated to visitors the accumulation of their knowledge and skill. Whether talking about reading, mathematics or topic work, their enthusiasm for learning shone through! Teamwork and problem-solving were needed, to recreate mechanical Trojan horses and plenty of technical vocabulary was on show, to describe and demonstrate these in action.

## **Class News Continued**

The staff team have put their heart and soul into life at Meadowside this week, as they always do, to ensure that learning came to life and that children could showcase their talents. Thank you to all the teaching teams, governors, and support staff who make Meadowside such a great place to work and to learn.

### **Mrs Parker**

Mrs Parker (Y3 teacher) has been off school with viral meningitis and has had to spend time in hospital. She's now recovering at home, but won't be allowed back to work for another couple of weeks. Mrs Bouvier is going to cover as much as is humanly possible, with support from Mrs Smith.

We all wish Rhiannon a speedy recovery.

### **Mrs Swankie**

Hopefully, you will have seen the feature in Gloucestershire Live, about Mrs Swankie's time at Meadowside. She came in to lend a hand during the Inspection too, which was lovely for all of us.

### **Scout**

Scout is settling well into the Meadowside environment and the children are always excited and happy to see her. They are all following the safety rules perfectly!

During the course of the next few days, each class will get an opportunity to meet Scout in Forest School. She will stay on the lead and they will sit round in a circle on the logs (or behind the forest school rope if they prefer or are nervous). It will be a chance for them to ask some questions and learn a bit more about dog/animal safety, but the environment will be controlled and contained and they will all be asked to stay at a distance, during the activity.

Please come and talk to Miss Thomas if you need to know anything further.

## **Friends of Meadowside**

A huge thankyou to everyone who came out in the wind and rain to support the Krispy Kreme event - we feel it went much better this time and no disappointments, so thankyou for all that supported.

We have a couple of events coming up - the annual Roast Dinner Hunt on Sunday 29th March with this years theme of "A sweet ending". Tickets will be £2 per child and on sale before and after school in the playground next week.

The annual chocolate raffle will be held on the last day of term - Fri 3rd April, and we will begin to sell raffle tickets in the playground for this next week at £1 a strip. We would appreciate some donations of chocolate eggs to go into the raffle - these can be dropped into the office with Miss Noble.

We are still selling Early Bird tickets for the Circus, and will start externally advertising the event after Easter. For tickets, please fill out the paper forms, or use Paypal and the online system below. For those who didn't come to the previous event, Happy's Circus is a professional all human (no animals) 2 hour performance. The acts will be different that what we saw in 2018, and this years theme is Fantasies and Faries! Tickets are £8pp, or £30 for a family ticket of 4

Paypal - <https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/my/profile>

Debit / Credit Card - <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofmeadowside/index.cfm...>

Finally, a reassurance that if any of our events are cancelled due to Corona-virus updates, we will refund tickets bought. We will take advice from the school on cancelling any events as and when required.

## Other news

### **Little Meadows Holiday Club**

Please find attached a booking form for Easter Holiday Club that will be running from Monday 6th April - Thursday 9th April inclusive. The closing date for bookings is Friday 20th March. The forms can also be found on our website or in the lobby.

We anticipate the club will be busy so early booking is advisable, and please remember we cannot confirm your booking without payment. If you wish to pay via childcare vouchers please contact me in the first instance.

### **Meadowside: Coronavirus Forward Planning**

Like all of us here at Meadowside, you will be watching daily updates on the spread of the Covid-19 virus and the Government response to this. In school, we also receive a daily bulletin from the DfE (Department for Education).

Until we have any directive at this level, we will not be closing Meadowside. We will know more at the same time as you do – we have no advanced intel on when or if this might happen.

Meadowside staff and senior leaders will be meeting on Monday, to begin preparing some online learning resources, in the event of a forced closure.

In the meantime, we will continue to keep healthy, look after one another and encourage the very best hygiene habits.

## **Dates for your diary**

### **INSET dates**

**(school shut for pupils)**

**May Bank Holiday 2020 is**  
**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March**- Bikeability week for Year 5

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** – Sign up for Parents Evenings (in hall)

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March** – Rock Steady Concert, 9 30a.m.

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March** – FOM Easter Hunt; 'A Sweet Ending'

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April** – Parent Consultation Evening 4-7pm

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** – Parent Consultation Evening 3 30-5 30pm

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** – FOM Chocolate Raffle

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** – **End of term 4 – Finish at 2PM**

**Don't forget to check the website**

**[www.meadowsideschool.co.uk/calendar](http://www.meadowsideschool.co.uk/calendar)** for all key dates.

**Date of next newsletter: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

