

Autumn Term Edition

Friday 27th November 2020

Comets	Hurricanes	Meteors	Spitfires
113	95	119	120

Message from the Head

We have enjoyed a colourful 20th Birthday celebration today! Thank you all so much for your efforts and for the very generous donations. We will soon be celebrating Christmas too, though not in all the ways we usually do. Please make sure you have completed the form giving permission (or not) for your child to participate in The Meadowside Christmas Story. We will begin filming next week! More news on other Christmas plans will follow in separate parentmails.

Meadowside Class News

Reception- There have been more Marvellous Monsters in the Reception classroom over the last couple of weeks. Last week we met the colour monster. He needed help to sort out his feelings. When he is happy he is yellow, we talked about things that make us happy. We also talked lots about other feelings and what we can do when we feel different ways. For example if we are worried or scared talking to someone helps. This week we have been looking for Bog Babies. We listened to a description of them and then drew what we thought they looked like. Later in the week an actual Bog Baby arrived in the classroom. We are not sure how long we will be able to keep it as we don't know what they eat. Let's hope the monsters we meet next will be as friendly.

In our maths we have been looking at the numbers 4 and 5, making them in different ways and looking at 4 and 5 sided shapes. As ever we are busy learning lots and having fun.

Year 1- We have been spending a lot of time looking at nursery rhymes in Year 1 this fortnight! We have been reading them, learning them, performing them, spotting rhymes and now we are planning to build our own moving pop up picture nursery rhyme toy! Each of us has designed a toy with a pop-up element, which we will be making next week so that we can provide some entertainment to the teddy bears when we have our teddy bears picnic! We have also been working hard to learn a special something for Christmas which you will get to see once it has been recorded soon!

Year 2- Year 2 have been busy investigating and comparing toys over the past few weeks- we have been lucky enough to be allowed to borrow some toys from the Museum Loans service from Cheltenham and have looked at the differences between those toys and the ones that we brought in from our homes. We discovered several differences both in terms of what they were made from and the things they could do. Quite a few of us said we definitely preferred our modern toys as they do "way more stuff"!!!

Class News Continued

Last week, we enjoyed learning some Nursery Rhymes- many of us didn't know very many off by heart! I hope your child recited the rhyme they learnt for you to hear! There were many that we didn't have time to learn- you could use this website

<https://www.enchantedlearning.com/Rhymes.html> to learn some others with your child! This week, in English we have begun to read a story all about a robot. We have made some predictions about what we think he might do in the story and discussed how robots are different to humans. We look forward to finding out more about him over the next few weeks.

Year 3-

After completing our Palaeontologist star, Year 3 have been working hard to earn our Geologist star. The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring different soils this week, particularly finding different insects such as worms and woodlouse. In Maths, we have started learning about the multiplication and division facts for the 3 times table. The children especially enjoyed the 3 times table song on the BBC Teach Supermovers website which can be accessed at home as well. In English, we have been focussing on vocabulary in our Pebble in my Pocket story and hot seating animals such as the sabre-toothed tiger by imagining what each animal might have seen, heard or done. The class have been impressing us with their reading both at school and at home so keep up the good work.

Year 4-

We have been responding to the text 'Stone in my Pocket' by creating individual and collaborative poems. This cleverly written book charts the journey of a stone through the different phases of Earth's development. In maths, we have been considering the properties of a range of 2-d shapes and sharpening our reasoning skills. The recent assessments have helped us gain a good picture of areas of maths that require consolidation owing to the first lockdown.

Our topic, 'Can you be a rock star' has taken us from palaeontology through to geology and we are still building towards our end of term celebration next month – details to follow shortly. Thank you for your support helping your child practise the lyrics to 'Silent Night' and 'Away in a Manger'.

Please ensure any food your child brings in to School does not contain nuts, a child in Year 4 has a nut allergy.

Year 5-

We are continuing to enjoy our topic, 'Could it be magic?' and really enjoyed our CSI session linked to magic tricks. With some careful analysis, we discovered the magic could be explained with maths and that the apparent mindreading was in fact something mathematical! In other lessons, we have investigated the nets of cuboids, pyramids and prisms and have now started a unit on addition and subtraction. We have talked to the children about the importance of increasing their mathematical fluency, so please encourage them to use Times Table Rock Stars regularly to sharpen up those multiplication facts.

We are enjoying Dorothy's adventures in the 'Wizard of Oz' and continue to use it as inspiration for our writing. We have now started a more detailed focus on the technical aspects of writing and are developing our toolkit to ensure all the necessary elements are there. Don't forget to keep an eye out for spellings on our Year 5 Microsoft Teams page. The children all have their Spelling Shed login for practising these words too. Our DT projects are coming along well and we look forward to creating magical scenes beyond the gates of the Emerald City. We have learnt more about the Pop Art movement and studied the work of Roy Lichtenstein, experimenting with techniques he used including Ben Day dots. We have also really enjoyed practising for our Christmas performance and look forward to sharing it with you.

Year 6 -Year 6 are continuing to explore the land of Narnia and we are enjoying meeting new characters and events along the way. We are being creative with our sentence types and learning how to manipulate and craft them into our writing. Using simple, compound and complex sentences all have a rightful place. We are also trying hard to find the meanings of all the new words we have encountered and apply them again at other moments.

In Maths we have been dividing 3 and 4 digit numbers by 2 digit numbers and learning how to express any remainders as fractions and decimals. At first the children thought they would not be able to do this, however resilience has paid off and hard determined effort is reaping rewards. Keep practicing at home.

In other news, we are preparing for our Christmas Videos and being creative in Art and DT. We are talented bunch in Elm class. Magical Science experiments continue to amaze us and allow us to investigate the theory behind forces.

Finally we have enjoyed planning for and raising money for our Friends of Meadowside in our Break the Rules day, and have embraced and enjoyed every minute. Thanks for making us smile!

**INSET dates
(school shut for pupils)**

**Monday 8th and Monday
9th March 2021**

**Wednesday 21st July
2021**

Dates for your diary

**Monday 14th December- proposed Christmas performance
release date**

**Friday 18th December- Christmas jumper day- Donations for
Save the Children**

**Friday 18th December- Finish time will be normal staggered
times**

Don't forget to check the website

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

Date of next newsletter: Friday 11th December 2020



Meadowside School

