

Summer Term Edition

Friday 30th April 2021

Comets	Hurricanes	Meteors	Spitfires
94	131	126	124

Message from the Head

The Summer Term has begun in earnest and all classes have returned with a positive, enthusiastic attitude! This term, we are boosting our staffing levels across the school, to provide a range of interventions which will help children recover lost learning and improve resilience. Mrs Cordall has joined us for 2 days in Y1 and 2, Mrs Bouvier is doing extra teaching across years 3 and 4, and in Y5 and 6 we have extra teaching time from Mrs Rowntree and Mrs Iles. All children will benefit from the increased time with Meadowside adults, as a result. We are pleased to see so many children opting to attend after school clubs, which bring so many benefits too.

Next week, we hope to be contacting you with details of how to book your Parents Evening appointments virtually.

Reception-

It was lovely to see the children after the Easter holiday and hear about what they had been doing. They welcomed Mrs Greig and have helped her quickly feel part of Willow class.

This term our topic is 'Amazing Animals'. We have already talked and learnt a lot about pets, setting up a vets in the role play area. This week we went on a mini beast hunt and found all sorts of interesting things in forest school. There are now some amazing mini beast clay models in the classroom and some beautiful butterfly paintings. We have also been using information books and have found some amazing facts about Lady birds. If you know a member of Willow class ask them what they know.

Year 1-

Year 1 were very excited last week to find that our classroom had been transformed into an aeroplane! We boarded the plane, got our passports at the ready, chose our in-flight meals and were so excited to find out where we were going to go when... it turned out all of the teachers had packed to go to different destinations! [Some people wanted to go to the beach, some the city, some to the countryside and some even wanted to go skiing!](#) This meant we were unable to go on holiday last week. But, rather than feel disappointed, we decided to find out some more things about holiday destinations, what holidays were like in the past and the sorts of things people do on holiday. Once we have done this, we can then go on our real holiday! We are all looking forward to a real holiday but we know we have lots to learn first!

Class News Continued

Year 2-

Year 2 were very excited last week when we announced that we will be taking Year 1 and 2 on a holiday at the end of this topic!! (More details to follow soon) We soon discovered, however, that the teachers had made a mistake and that we had all packed for different places!! This meant that we needed the children's help before we could plan anything. The children helped us generate questions and aspects of holidays that we would like to know about, such as map reading and what holidays were like in the past. This term, our new topic Buckets and Spades is all about the different places in the United Kingdom and how holidays have changed over the past 100 years- Year 2 were astonished to find out that children 100 years ago did not go on holiday at all! With COVID restrictions beginning to lift, we are all looking forward to finding out where we can go and being able to venture out on our own holidays soon!

Year 3-

Year 3 have had a fantastic start to the new term and are thoroughly enjoying the topic 'You've Been Framed!'. Last week there was a real buzz of excitement as the class used their detective skills to try to find out who had stolen the Mona Lisa, which was on loan from Le Louvre! The class produced posters, wrote questions they wanted answers and then had the opportunity to decide who they thought was guilty and give reasons for their decisions. Due to her suspicious behaviour, Mrs Whitlock quickly became the chief suspect! Fortunately, it was a simple misunderstanding and the Mona Lisa had been taken away for a repair to the frame. The class were delighted when Miss Thomas announced the painting had been returned!

We have also enjoyed the opportunity to study some other artists and produce some pieces of artwork in a similar style. A particular favourite was Andy Goldsworthy, the children produced some great work in the Forest School area and have photographed their creations. Other artists we have already looked at include Mondrian, Pollock and Picasso. Why not ask your child who their favourite is and why?

Year 4-

We have started our new topic, 'You've Been Framed', and the children have immersed themselves in the wonderful world of artists! This term's class book is 'Vincent's Starry Night and other Stories - a Children's History of Art' by Michael Bird. We have enjoyed finding out about Picasso, Mondrian, Pollock and Andy Goldsworthy; we have created some beautiful art inspired by these artists.

To help consolidate our progress in reading, it is really helpful if you hear your child read as often as possible and ask them about their reading. If they are reading books other than their staged ones, please write a comment in the reading record to let us know.

Through recent assessment activities, it has become clear that a significant number of children in Year Four do not have a secure grasp of multiplication and division facts up to x12. TTR Rock Stars is an ideal platform to build speedy recall and this underpins much of the mathematics in the Juniors. It is accessible through smart phones, laptops, tablets and pcs; using it regularly through the week does make a difference.

Thank you for your continued support.

Class News Continued

Year 5-

The new term began with an INVASION! We had to make our own communities and build them on the field. It was a peaceful time until the invasion began! Homes were destroyed and villagers had to either run, be slaughtered or join the invading crew. This was all part of our topic launch and you will find the photos on Teams. We are studying the Vikings this term. We have already looked at some Viking artefacts, created our own timelines and researched Viking mythology. In maths we have begun to look at fractions whilst in P.E we have started our tennis and cricket lessons. Bikeability has been a great success; thank you for your support. It has been a brilliant start to the term and we are looking forward to the next fortnight already!

Year 6-

We have had a fun packed couple of weeks where we have launched our exciting new topic INVASION. We have been investigating the impact of the Viking Invasions and placing it on a timeline amongst other periods of History that we have learnt about on our Meadowside journey. We have been creative and produced some Viking inspired designs as well as further work with real Viking artefacts from a museum. Hands on history learning at its finest.

In English we have embraced our new text Viking boy and looked at existing characters as well as creating our own. In Maths we have been assessing some key skills and what we can remember as well as new skills such as multiplying fractions.

In PE we are now enjoying Tri Golf and Rounders-some good classic summer sports!

Little Cherry Farm by Phil Harrison, with illustrations by Tanina Visaranta

Phil is one of our Y2 parents and a published author, with books available on Amazon. His latest children's book has been illustrated by our Y4 Teaching Assistant, Miss Visaranta and can be accessed using the following link.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Little-Cherry-Farm-Philip-Harrison/dp/B092PG6JLY/ref=mp_s_a_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=philip+r+harrison&qid=1619289522&s=books&sr=1-1

A proportion of all profit will go directly to Meadowside school, which we are delighted about and very grateful for. Phil and Tanina are already working on a sequel and hopefully we will soon be able to enjoy more animal adventures!

Please pass the link to friends and family.

INSET dates
(School shut for pupils)

Monday 7th and Tuesday
8th June 2021

Wednesday 21st July
2021

Dates for your diary

Monday 3rd May- Bank Holiday Monday

Thursday 6th May – Polling Day at Little Meadow. Please be aware of extra traffic on the school run.

Monday 17th and Wednesday 19th May – Virtual Parents evenings 3 30 – 6 00pm.

Friday 28th May- End of term

Date of next newsletter: Friday 14th May 2021



Meadowside School