

Autumn Term Edition

Friday 17th September 2021

Comets	Hurricanes	Meteors	Spitfires
63	76	72	83

Message from the Head

It's the first Friday Fortnightly of the new academic year and it's wonderful to be back! All the children have made such a positive start to the new year. In particular, our newest Reception children (who were unable to visit us in the summer) are doing remarkably well and we extend a very warm welcome to new families who have joined Meadowside. It was lovely to see so many of you at the picnic last week – hopefully the first of many community events this year!

We have introduced two new initiatives to reward positive attitudes and behaviour. The Recognition Board is in each classroom and children aim to get their name up, for meeting the whole school or class target. We are all working on 'Smart Walking' around school and your child can be commended by any member of staff who spots them. In addition, if your child comes home with an Above and Beyond wristband, they have been noticed by a Meadowside adult for going the extra mile in some way.

Meadowside Class News

Reception-

It was great to meet all the children who are in Elm class this year and welcome their parents to our stay and play sessions last week. The children have already got off to a confident start on their Meadowside journey. We have all been to the computer suite, forest school, done PE as well as exploring our classroom and the outside area. We are looking forward to getting to know you all better and have lots of fun learning this year.

Year 1-

What an exciting start to Year 1 Willow Class has had! We have been working hard to learn new routines and new rules – especially as lots of them are so different to what we could do last year! We have enjoyed being able to socialise and play with the rest of the school each day and getting to know children in other year groups! We have been learning about our five values – aspirations, environment, independence, opportunity and understanding. So far we have found out what makes Meadowside an Eco school, we've found the different habitats inside our school grounds, we have been understanding the different parts of our brain and investigating our similarities and differences! Now we are looking forward to launching our pirate topic!

Class News Continued

Year 2-

Year 2 have had a brilliant start to the year with a mini topic all about Meadowside and what makes us a Marvellous school! We have learnt more about the ways in which our school building was designed to make it environmentally friendly- see if your children can remember any of the features we spotted as we toured the school last week!

We have also been busily learning our 5 Meadowside values; one for each of the 5 vowels- Aspirations, Environment, Independence, Opportunity and Understanding. We have spent the last 2 weeks learning what these words mean and practising them in class so that we know what they look and feel like! You may have seen some of our work coming home these past 2 weeks as we pledged to make the difference in our homes too!

Next week we start a new topic that will last us to the end of next term- look out for an email early next week to tell you all about it!

Year 3-

Welcome back! Year 3 have had a fantastic first few weeks in Key Stage 2. We have spent time considering the Meadowside values and what they mean to us. We particularly enjoyed touring the school, looking out for all the environmental features that make Meadowside so special.

This week we have launched our first topic of 'Really Revolting'. The class enjoyed a hunt around the school for anagrams which were clues to our new topic. We then ordered the clues from least to most revolting. As the term progresses we will learn more about these things and then decide if they are truly revolting or not!

On Thursday we belatedly celebrated 'Roald Dahl day'; the class looked amazing. Thank you for helping make this day so special and sending your children in such fantastic costumes. We took part in a Roald Dahl maths hunt, learnt a dance from 'Matilda the musical' and even learnt to draw like Quentin Blake! Why not ask your child what else they learnt about the wonderful world of Roald Dahl?

Year 4-

We have really enjoyed getting to know Apple Class and welcoming them to a new school year. In maths, we have enjoyed a Week of Inspirational Maths and we have moved on to Place Value. Children who were unsure of their log in details for TTR have been reminded of their codes and we will celebrate each Monday with those children who have earned more than 1,000 coins in the preceding 7 days – it doesn't take long!

In English, we have enjoyed hearing Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes and focused on Cinderella. Our topic launch went very well and the Roald Dahl Dress Up Day was a great success – thank you for your support. We were very taken with the effort children had taken, particularly those that had created their own costumes. As part of our Life Skills, we have begun to read 'My Hidden Chimp', by Professor Steve Peters. This great book helps children to understand and manage their emotions and behaviour.

Year 5-

Year 5 have settled back into school life brilliantly and we have really enjoyed getting to know them. Our recognition board focus on smart walking has been very successful and we are working on our legendary line ups. We had a great first week appreciating the beauty and challenge of maths through our 'Week of Inspirational Maths' activities and focusing on the Meadowside values. See how many your child can remember (there are 5 and each starts with a different vowel). Highlights of the week included using things that help and hinder our aspirations to create our own version of Snakes and Ladders, a Forest School poetry hunt and extracting DNA from strawberries. This week in English, we have looked at sentence types and asked and answered questions about Saturn. In maths, we have started a unit on place value and worked on making, reading and writing 5 digit numbers. We launched our new topic 'Watch this Space' on Monday and had a lovely time creating tie dye suns, pocket solar systems and planet art work. We also enrolled in the Meadowside Astronaut Academy and discovered the impact reduced gravity can have on the body. PE has seen us improving our cricket skills and playing various games, and in Computing, we have re-familiarised ourselves with MS Teams and begun our Coding adventure.

Year 6-

What a wonderful start to Year 6. Last week we studied our new Meadowside Values and did some creative and imaginative activities linked to them. We spent a day focusing on each value as there are 5. Each starts with a vowel letter: A, E, I, O and U. Perhaps ask your child what the values are and see how much they remember?

This week we had a wonderful time launching our exciting new topic: 'Watch This Space'. As you know we are visiting the Space Centre later in the term so don't forget to pay for the trip which is on your parent pay account. We have made our topic book covers and created some effective tie-dye suns. What an artistic class!

English lessons have seen us looking at metaphors and writing some imaginative poetry whilst in Maths we are working with 7-digit numbers and comparing and investigating them.

Finally, we have all spent time getting to know our new class pet, Arthur. We researched how to take care of tortoises and are now sharing the responsibility. for taking care of him, including daily baths and exercise.

Other News

- Thank you for your generous donations in school and online, to support Rebecca in her Serpentine Swim and London Marathon missions! Good Luck tomorrow Rebecca!
- A reminder that children should not play on the amphitheatre area (where the drums are) on their way out of school and also that bikes and scooters must not be ridden in the car park.
- A further reminder that (sadly), we cannot permit dogs on the school site, including the car park area. Our school dog Scout has official Governing Body permission, a risk assessment and a policy to ensure her visits are monitored and safe. If you bring your dog up to school, please wait outside the gates/fence to meet/drop your child.

Friends of Meadowside

Welcome back after the summer break, we hope you have all had a good first few weeks, and the children have settled into their new classes well. A huge warm welcome to all our new families starting in Reception and to all the new children throughout the school! Welcome to the Meadowside family.

We are delighted that we are able to hold some of our normal fundraising activities this year, we'll share details of these as soon as we have confirmed after our first meeting of the year.

The first meeting of the year will be the AGM and will take place on Tues 28th September in the Hall at 7.30pm (please note - this is a change of date to previously advertised). Everyone is welcome to attend the AGM, where committee members will be appointed, and fundraising events can be agreed for the year.

The first fundraising event will be a combination of the Krispy Kreme donut sale, and a "Welcome back to Friends of Meadowside" refreshments in the Hall. It will be a chance to come and meet some of the Friends of Meadowside committee, find out what we do in the school and what we are fundraising for this year – as well as collecting your donuts and browsing our nearly new uniform stock. This will be held on Fri 8th Oct, to celebrate Reception class completing their first full week! You can pre-order donuts online, details of which will be sent out next week so keep an eye out for our email.

INSET dates 21/22 (School shut for pupils)

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Monday 6th June 2022

Thursday 21st July

Dates for your diary

Monday 20th – National Recycling Week

Tuesday 21st September- Flu immunisation

Monday 4th October – Yr 5/6 Space centre trip

Monday 11th and Wed 13th October – Parents Evenings (these will be virtual).

Don't forget to check the website

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

Date of next newsletter: Friday 1st October



Meadowside School