

Autumn Term Edition

Friday 3rd December 2021

Comets	Hurricanes	Meteors	Spitfires
83	120	94	103

Message from the Head

We have been extremely busy over the last two weeks and have missed lots of poorly children and staff. I'd like to thank everyone in the school family for the way you have adapted to these challenges and looked after one another. I hope we will be able to enjoy the run-up to Christmas feeling healthy and happy! This year, we are going to collect donations for Gloucester Food Bank during the last week of term, leading up to 'Christmas Jumper' Day on 17th December. Children can wear anything festive on that day– no school uniform is needed. We also finish at 2pm on that day – a pre-pandemic tradition which we are returning to!

Meadowside Class News

Reception-

Last week we found out about the Bog Baby, a magical creature that only a few have seen. We heard a description of it and tried to imagine what it looked like. Later in forest school we had good look but although we thought we glimpsed one we did not find a real one. Bog Babies like to live in the wild so even if we found one it would not be good for it, to keep it at school. It was fun however to use our imaginations to think about what would happen if a Bog Baby did come to school. We have made some great Bog Baby pictures and even created one out of clay.

On Wednesday this week we read another story featuring the love monster, this time he was looking for the perfect present. What would be your perfect present? It is something we have been thinking about in Elm class. Not all presents can be gift wrapped, a hug or spending time with someone we love for example.

This week is the end of our Marvellous Monsters topic. We have had a great time with all the different Monsters but now we are ready to start getting festive.

Year 1-

What an exciting few weeks we have had in Year 1! We absolutely loved the nursery rhyme puppet show; everyone joined in with singing, shouting and we all laughed a lot! We also got to experience our first disco and even won the wake and shake off!! By the time you read this we will have celebrated our first shine – pirate day! We met Captain Rocky Cliff and he taught us some information about pirates, played some pirate games (including making us walk the plank!), he left us some treasure in the form of tasty sweets and then we got to discover some real treasure during our afternoon treasure hunt! We all had a fantastic day and everyone looked amazing! Now, we turn our attention to Christmas and getting ourselves camera-ready for our production!

Class News Continued

Year 2-

By the time the Friday Fortnightly comes out, Years 1 and 2 will all have had an amazing time being pirates for the day! We will have met Cap'n Rocky Cliff, who told us all about the facts and fiction surrounding pirates ***and*** told us all about the women pirates who were very successful. Hopefully all the children solved the treasure hunt and have come home with their very own jewels- their share of the loot!

We have been practising sharing in mathematics as well this week as we have begun to learn about division and have been using the process of sharing between people etc and sharing into small groups to help us understand what division is! This week, we also went onto school's TTRockstars website. This is a site that will help the children learn their timestables. They each took their login card home, so please allow them to practise at home as we need to learn our 2, 5, and 10 times tables in Year 2 and practise makes perfect! (**PLEASE NOTE- the children have been told that you are not allowed to help them, so if they tell you to let them do it themselves, they are quite right!!! (Even though it is very tempting!)) - The website uses an algorithm to learn which facts they need to practise, so the wrong answers are just as important as the right answer so that the system can target questions appropriately!)

Have fun!

Year 3-

Year 3 are coming to the end of our Really Revolting topic. We have been busy thinking about how revolting our learning has been. We have scored the ten areas of learning to help us order a top ten... from the least to the most revolting. Next week we will be writing scripts in English and trying to record our own 'Really Revolting Top Ten' TV programme. Ask your child "What was the most Revolting thing you have learnt about?" Ask them to justify their answer.

In computing we have finished our unit of work on coding and we have moved on to using a variety of art techniques to try to create our own Egyptian wall painting. If your child enjoyed our unit of work on coding, there are plenty of activities they can do at home, why not have a look at <https://hourofcode.com/uk/learn> and continue your learning!

Next week we will also be recording our offerings for the Meadowside Selection Box (The Christmas production). For this it would be really helpful if your child could bring to school a hat, scarf, gloves and a coat each day to enable us to rehearse and then record on Friday. Also, if you happen to have a snowman costume, please could you send it in. (Please do not go out and buy a snowman costume!)

Year 4-

We are coming to the end of our 'Really Revolting' topic and the children have created their own papier mache 'death masks' inspired by Tutankhamun. Also, some beautiful sunset watercolours of the River Nile and an investigation into parasites from the river and beyond have taken place. In English, we have been writing our own versions of the Egyptian Cinderella story and we move on next week to writing a script and recording persuasive video presentations of our thoughts on which aspect of our topic was the most revolting and why. We allocate time each Thursday afternoon for children to visit the school library and change their library book.

Our multiplication and division work in maths has focused on x6, x7 and x9 tables and this work has helped the children recognise the importance of regular practice at quick recall of division and multiplication facts. Please encourage your child to make good use of TT Rockstars throughout the week.

So to Christmas..... At the end of next week, we will be recording our contributions to a Christmas production. Please would you send in a Christmas t-shirt, hat/ scarf and trousers, in a named bag with a hanger. Also, please bear in mind our request for you to send your child back to school in January with their own copy of 'Brightstorm', for them to use next term.

Thanks for your support.

Year 5-

What a fortnight! We've had a lot going on in year 5 over the past two weeks. In English, we are coming to the end of our class text, Floodland and have explored the social and physical dangers that a warming world will create. This has led to exploring compass points, climate and precipitation in topic work. Maths has included addition and subtraction. Once we ironed out a few misconceptions, we managed to get up to speed. Christmas has well and truly begun and over the next week, we are preparing to record our class performance. Year 5 are very excited about sharing it with you. In computing we have begun exploring databases and in P.E we have had the apparatus out in gymnastics (it's been such a long time!) whilst continuing our invasion games on the field. We have completed our assessments in reading, writing and maths and will be sharing the results with the children shortly. Please contact us if you have any questions. Merry Christmas!

Year 6-

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas in Year 6! This week we have made our classroom look a little more festive with paper snowflakes and paper chains. We have also started making our beautiful Christmas cards with Mrs Drummond and rehearsals have begun for our Christmas performance. In Maths we have been working hard with fractions- finding common denominators, comparing, ordering and simplifying. Our English has been writing biographies of David Attenborough. We have loved finding out more about his fascinating life and the impact he has had on the world. Our topic sessions have had a Geography focus over the last couple of weeks and we have been using Atlases and Google Earth to explore continents, countries, cities, towns and villages.

Don't forget the Christmas Window trail starts next week too. Have a great weekend.

Illness and Absence

Over the last 2 weeks of term, we need to be particularly alert to the children's health and wellbeing, as it is an exciting but very different school experience and those changes from routine can unsettle some children.

We do have a small number of Covid cases amongst children at the moment and wish them all a speedy recovery.

We are seeing a wide range of illness currently, including sickness, coughs, colds, and rashes. Any of these could potentially be first signs of covid infection in children and we are actively encouraging families to get PCR tests to rule this out. With only a short time until Christmas Day, we want everyone to spend time with friends and family and feel well – especially after our Christmas 2020! Please stay vigilant and if your child needs time away from school while they are tested and get some rest, this is absolutely fine. Remember to contact the school office every day that your child is absent.

Thank you for your continued amazing support, Meadowside Family!

Friends of Meadowside

Friends of Meadowside have had a busy few weeks preparing and organising our latest fundraisers, and we firstly want to thank everyone who is volunteering their time to make these events happen.

We hope everyone enjoyed the disco last week - it was great to see the children having fun and our first disco in nearly 2 years. We know that a lot of children couldn't attend, but rest assured, we will run another disco in the Summer term to make up for it!

Onwards to our Christmas events. Tomorrow (**Sat 4th Dec**) will start our **Walking in a Window Wonderland Trail**, which will run in the evenings until **Sun 12th Dec**. As last year, we hope that this is something you can enjoy with your families and get into the festive spirit. To purchase a ticket (£3 per child) please visit our PTA events site (link below), or you can purchase using cash at our Carpark Carols event. An enormous thankyou to the residents of Green Farm and Meadowside art club for producing some fantastic displays!

Carpark Carols will be taking place on **Weds 8th Dec between 4-5pm**. We'll be serving some refreshments (Mulled wine, hot choc and hot dogs) for you to enjoy as well a small number of gift tables and games, so please bring some cash if you want to purchase / have a go at some of the activities. The event will be completely outdoors so please wrap up warm and bring some torches!

The final date for purchasing our **2022 calendar** is **Weds 8th Dec**, you can order online using the link below, or we'll be taking orders at the CarPark carols if you wish to pay cash.

Our PTA events link for purchasing online is <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofmeadowside>

Our email address is friends@meadowsideprimary.co.uk if you would like to contact us at all.

INSET dates 21/22 (School shut for pupils)

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Monday 6th June 2022

Thursday 21st July 2022

Dates for your diary

**4th - 12th Dec - Walking in a Window
Wonderland trail**

**Wednesday 8th December 4 – 5pm– Car park
Carols at Meadowside**

Wednesday 15th December- Christmas lunch

Friday 17th December- Christmas Jumper day

**School will finish for the
Christmas break on Friday 17th
December at 2pm**

Don't forget to check the website

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

Date of next newsletter: Friday 17th December



Meadowside School