

Summer Term Edition

Friday 28th June 2024

At Meadowside, we are:

Aspirational **E**nvironmental **I**ndependent **O**pportunistic **U**nderstanding

Comets	Hurricanes	Meteors	Spitfires
95	119	167	123

Message from Miss Thomas

It's been such a pleasure to see staff and children from all year groups learning together in Arts Week – even the Headteacher delivered a couple of workshops!! We are collecting data and making assessments across the school at this time of the year, to celebrate the progress children are making as well as to plan their next steps. Your child's end of year report will highlight their academic successes but will always have a focus on their attitude to learning, their behaviour and their engagement across the curriculum. Events such as Arts Week, Athletics and Residentials give all our Meadowside children opportunities to challenge themselves and to shine – every new experience helps to shape their development.

Meadowside Class News

Reception

Last week we went flying into space with our topic. The children were all very interested in the different planets and what space travel would be like. It is very difficult to imagine floating around in zero gravity, but we had a go. We also did some science, investigating with paper planes. We discovered that it made no difference if we were on the grass or the playground, but they did fly better if we threw them into the wind. We will continue on our travels next week.

Arts week has been lots of fun and we have created several big pieces of art and 2 class poems. (Apologies if there were several days when your child came home painted too). It has been great for the children to work with other year groups too, they have come back to class full of the fun they have had.

Year 1

Last week Year 1 put their architecture skills to the test when they built their boats following their plans to enter our boat building competition! We tested these in the water tray this week with a mixture of calm and stormy seas to see if they could meet the criteria. All of the children had a brilliant time and were very complimentary of one another's work which was lovely to see! We will be taking winning boats to Weston next week for a sail in the real sea!

A few Weston reminders – we are going dressed as pirates for the day. You do not need to buy a pirate costume, old clothing and a bandana will more than suffice! Children can bring swords if they want, no sword fighting will be allowed, and these are the children's responsibilities to carry/look after. Please check the weather on the day and provide sun cream/hats or a jacket as appropriate. All children require a packed lunch and plenty to drink in a sealed water bottle which they must carry themselves in a rucksack. Children may also bring a small bucket and spade to play with on the beach if they wish! It is going to be a brilliant day and an excellent way to celebrate reaching the end of our topic!

Year 2

Year 2 welcomed a visitor into school last week to find out about holidays from the 1950s. They have been fascinated to learn just how different holidays were back then and astounded to find out you only went on ONE holiday (if you were lucky!). Ask your children about the caravans and the shelf bed that Mrs Mellersh's brother used to sleep on!!

We are eagerly anticipating seeing your best holiday photos next week to help us study our last era- 1970-2000. Please note that we will be using these in the morning, so if you wouldn't mind us looking at your holiday snaps from when you were little, please send them in with the children on Monday- 1st July. Thank you!

Our topic seems to have flown by and we are now looking forward to our 'holiday' to Weston super Mare next Thursday. Just a few reminders- we have asked the children to dress in the style of one of the decades we have studied (I have spoken to the children about how modern clothing is currently very 90s in style so there is no need to buy anything new!!) We will be leaving school at 8.40, so please arrive from 8.30 and meet us in the school hall where we will register and depart from. Lastly, the current forecast is cloudy and highs of 21 in Weston on Thursday, but please do check the weather forecast for Weston and send suncream/ hats/ coats as appropriate!

We will have a wonderful day!

Year 3

Last week we continued with our learning about Ancient Egypt and decoded hieroglyphics and practiced writing our names inside a cartouche. We also tried to create our own paintings inspired by the tomb paintings that can still be seen today! In maths we worked very hard with telling the time – this is still something that many of the class find tricky, so please try to ask your child to tell the time using an analogue clock to help support their learning.

This week we have been busy with Arts Week. We have written poems and diaries, made ship's maps, learnt how to draw fish, created translucent fish, origami boats, used lots of different paint techniques to create mobiles and big art! What a great week!

Year 4

Last week, Maple fully embraced the Wye Valley residential experience. It was so rewarding to see the children live out our Meadowside School Values and seize the opportunity to try new activities such as archery, fire building, den making and fencing. The way that they supported each other in our time away from Meadowside and our families was really impressive. We are so proud of this kind, curious and creative group of children!

This week, we have been writing poetry relating to the Vernet's painting, 'A Shipwreck in Stormy Seas' and exploring colour mixing to create giant waves. The final touch was using our maths skills to make silhouettes of sailing ships. The children really enjoyed two mornings this week where they were able to mix with children from Reception to Year Six and engage with four very different art activities. Next week is Assessment Week, we will be completing assessment tasks in Maths and English.

Year 5

We've had a fantastic fortnight in year 5! Arts week was obviously the highlight for the children (and staff!). We created: ships in bottles using material from forest school, plastic bottles and mixed media; view from a porthole using tissue paper and sharpies; seagulls using salt dough; poetry about blue whales and we also recreated Hokusai's wave. If that isn't enough, last week we finished drafting out balanced arguments about Banksy, learnt about angles in maths, solved logical coding problems in computing and practised for Sports Day in P.E! In music, we created our own rhythms using crotchets, minims, quavers and rests. Year 5 were awesome! Remember that we are visiting Severn Vale on Monday morning. Children need dropping off at school at the usual time, wearing their uniform.

Year 6

This week we have thoroughly enjoyed being creative and embraced our amazing arts week. We have been incredible role models for our younger children, supporting them in all of the mixed activities. We have had glowing feedback and are very proud.

In the classroom we have sketched the mariners from the painting we were studying. We thought of the emotions that the sailors must have been feeling; dragging themselves out of the water. We have also written poetry based on the stormy sea, digging deep to feel the terror and the power of the ocean.

In other areas, play rehearsals are in full swing, and the tickets, programmes and props are being created. Thank you for your support in the learning of lines and songs. We cannot wait to share the performance with you.

Sporting News

Athletics Championships

We had a fantastic time at the primary school athletics championships against other schools from Gloucester at The Prince of Wales Stadium in Cheltenham. From the tennis ball throw and long jump to hurdles and speed bounce, Meadowside came home with a medal hoard and produced excellent individual performances as well as exceptional relay team work. We are so proud. A huge thanks to Mrs Bouvier for making it happen!

Y3/4 Cricket

A huge well done to the year 3&4 cricket team who represented Meadowside so well in a tournament in Cirencester. This was their first ever time working as a team and they were amazing. They won all of their group games but were narrowly defeated in the semi final. - Well done. Special thanks to Amelie Bouvier for coming into school to help coach the team and for accompanying us on the day! Thanks also to those who helped drive us there, without your help, it wouldn't be possible.

Friends of Meadowside

It is going to be a busy last couple of weeks to end the year on a really positive note. Any help or support you can give with this last push we would hugely appreciate.

Firstly, this Saturday on the 29th June and Sunday 14th July we are welcoming volunteers to help with the much needed work in the meadow area to make a fabulous learning environment for the students. If you can come even for 30 minutes to help out we would really appreciate it.

Sponsored walk is happening on Friday 12th July and sponsor forms will come out to you next week with all the details you need. It's a fun event for the students.

Lastly, we have recently purchased an events tent which has been sponsored by some local companies. We hope to use this at our events but also for school to use and set up when they go to sports and other events at different schools. Once it is put up and ready to use we will share some pictures - you will easily spot us in a crowd now!

Thanks you everyone for your support this year. If you want to see how the year ends and maybe see if you'd like to participate in Friends of Meadowside next year please come to our AGM on the 18th July at 6.30pm.

Governor Corner

The governors are supporting the school in preparations for the new academic year at the moment so it is an exciting time but, it is also a time when we must face the fact that life beyond Meadowside calls us all at some point and we have to say a few farewells. This year the board will be saying farewell to one of our longest serving governors, Rhiannon Byron.

Rhianon joined the board in May 2012 meaning that she has clocked up an impressive 12 years of voluntary service. In this time she will have been part of more than 150 meetings either as part of the board, chair of the teaching and learning committee and in various working groups. However, she will have contributed much more in her commitment to supporting the school as a parent with an association to the Friends of Meadowside and as an active supporter of school events. We asked Rhiannon to share her thoughts with us:

“My time in post has been really enjoyable and began before my own children attended. I wanted to use my experience as a teacher in a different way and help provide different perspective in the board. The role has helped me get to know staff better and understand the inner workings of the school. There’s been many changes in the education world but there has always been stability at Meadowside because we have low staff turnover and a number of long-term experienced staff. I feel lucky that my own children were shaped by their time here. Now that my youngest is leaving Meadowside, it’s time for me to move on too and give others opportunity to be involved in such a nurturing, supportive, school environment. Everyone at Meadowside has the very best intentions for the children and I would urge you all to support them in their mission and get involved wherever you can. You’ll definitely gain from it.”

Many, many thanks Rhiannon!

If you are encouraged to find out how to get involved please ask in school, there are lots of volunteering roles including opportunities on our board, we would love to hear from you.

Key Dates for your diary

INSET Days 2024 (staff only)	INSET Days 2024/25 (staff only)
Monday 22 nd July	Monday 2 nd September 2024 Tuesday 3 rd September 2024
End of TERM 6 – Friday 19th July at 2 00pm TERM 1 begins – Wednesday 4th September from 8 35am.	Monday 27 th January 2025 Monday 24 th February 2025 Monday 21 st July 2025

Date	Event
Monday 1 st July	Year 5 Science Trip
Thursday 4 th July	Year 1 and 2 Trip
Wednesday 10 th July	Sports Day (morning only)
Friday 12 th July	Friends of Meadowside Sponsored Walk
Tuesday 16 th July	School Picnic
Friday 19 th July	Y6 Leavers assembly 9.15 - 10.30 a.m. (ish!)
Friday 19 th July	Last day of the school year - 2PM FINISH

Next edition due: Friday 12th July 2024

For all key dates, remember to visit the school website at

www.meadowsideschool.co.uk

