

Autumn Term Edition

Friday 27th September 2024

At Meadowside, we are:

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

Comets	Hurricanes	Meteors	Spitfires
122	134	121	110

Message from Miss Thomas

We have reviewed our Meadowside Expectations with all children at the start of the academic year and have enjoyed celebrating achievements in school, which can be linked to academic success, effort, improvement, personal targets or embodying our school values. We reward these with stickers, house points, certificates and above and beyond bands.

At times, where behaviour choices fall short of our shared expectations, there will be a consequence. Most of these serve as an instant prompt or reminder to adjust behaviour – a focused conversation and/or additional work to complete before going out to play; for example, where learning time has been lost. There are times when sanctions are more serious in order to have an impact. These could include a missed playtime, a loss of privilege, a Restorative Lunch (Years 5 and 6 only), removal to another classroom or the Head's office to work in isolation from peers.

We rely on parental support as we strive for the very best behaviour in our school community and our communication with you and your children will always help to strengthen our school family and its shared values.

Attendance

We have a new section in our Friday Fortnightly! This section is about updating our school family on national changes to attendance, our school attendance statistics and how we can improve school attendance at Meadowside.

There have been some change in the law to how attendance is challenged at schools in Gloucestershire. Please visit our website to find out more: [Attendance - Meadowside Primary School \(meadowsideschool.co.uk\)](http://meadowsideschool.co.uk). This includes information on fixed penalty notices (fines) and legal action.

Whole school attendance for the first half of this term is **95.3%**. We need a rapid improvement on this percentage. Well done to **Year 3** as they have achieved the highest attendance rates so far this term with **97.8%**! There is a concern with the number of unauthorised absences (19 sessions). Just a reminder that under the new guidance, holidays will always be unauthorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. Parents will get a fixed penalty notice from the local authority once children have 10 sessions (5 days) unauthorised absence. Please remember the penalty notice will be issued per parent for each child.

*1 session = a.m./p.m.

Meadowside Class News

Reception Cherry

It has been great to welcome all the class in together this week, meeting up with old friends and making new ones. The year 6 class came into our classroom to meet us and become our buddies. They read us each a story and have met up with us at playtimes too. This week we also stayed for lunch for the first time, enjoying jacket potatoes, roast and fishfingers and chips. All the children are settled well and we have started our phonics, listening out for initial sounds ready to work on learning all the sounds soon.

Year 1 Oak

Year 1 have been very busy this past fortnight answering 2 of our topic key questions! We have found out a little bit more about where Meadowside is (see if your child can tell you which country, city or town we are in!) and we loved looking at Meadowside from up above using Google maps! We have also been unleashing our creativity to answer our key question – where can you find art in nature? We studied Andy Goldsworthy pictures and had a go at crafting our own using conkers, leaves, sticks, stones and shells! What a creative bunch Oak class are!

In English, we have been learning some new vocabulary. We have learnt that a noun is the name of something and a verb is an action that we can do. Why not see how many verbs or nouns you can come up with? In maths, we have been focusing on consolidating our knowledge of numbers to 20. We have been counting forwards, backwards, finding 1 more and 1 less as well as ordering numbers. Some of us are finding it tricky to count those pesky teen numbers backwards so this is a great thing to continue at home too.

Thank you to everyone who has been engaging with Learning with Parents and Numbots so far this term!

Year 2 Beech

We have moved on to Key Question 2 this week- What makes a good home? We have learnt the scientific word habitat and have discussed how a plant and animal's habitat is always determined by what that plant or animal needs to survive. We have thought about food chains and how plants and animals are linked by this chain. We discussed how all energy comes from the sun and travels down the food chain as each animal eats/gets eaten! See if your child can tell you what every food chain starts with and what type of animal it ends with. If your child would like to play the game again, visit <https://www.sheppardsoftware.com/science/animals/games/food-chain/> which has lots of great information to extend their knowledge!

Year 2 have been poets in English this week- we used our brand new sketch books to sketch our 'wild' (the meadow!) and have written and published poems to go up on display in the Key Stage 1 corridor next week! In maths, we have been working hard to add 10s and 1s and have been using money to do this as well as mathematical equipment.

Excellent work on Learning With Parents and Numbots this week- I have had to give out a record number of House Points for everyone who completed a task! Fantastic news- keep it up!

Year 3 Elm

In Year 3 we have been investigating what plants need to grow healthily. We set up an experiment and this week we looked at the results and drew some conclusions. Why not ask your child what a plant needs to grow well.

In English we have been reading the Green Ship by Quentin Blake and we have been writing a variety of sentences to help our descriptions make an impact on the reader. Next week we will be starting to write our own books.

Please remember that we hope to go on our river walk on Monday. Please send your child wearing long trousers or joggers and with a waterproof coat! Mrs Bouvier is going to do an additional walk on Sunday and if there is any concern the walk will be postponed.

Year 4 Willow

Year 4 started off the fortnight with a trip to the canal, where we sketched the landscape whilst cheering on passing runners! We then used our sketches to produce some beautiful watercolour paintings of the canal, surrounding boats and greenery. In English, we have come to the end of our book 'One Plastic Bag'. We were able to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of single-use plastic and form our own opinions on this debate. In maths, we are continuing our work on place value, using a number line and counting in multiples of 25, 50, 100 and 1,000. We have been singing a catchy song to help us to remember the 6 times tables too! In P.E, we have thoroughly enjoyed getting sweaty and showing off our moves in Zumba! The children have really begun to settle into a routine and as a class, we are working on our listening skills to maximise learning time and learn from each other.

Year 5 Maple

Another productive and busy fortnight for Maple Class!

Our Topic of Meadowside Explorers has provided us with opportunities to investigate how the land is used in our locality within Gloucester Docks. Using OS and online maps to examine the changes that have taken place to the area over time. Maths lessons have seen us strengthen our understanding of place value in numbers up to 6 digits. The class has practised writing number names and numerals, positioned numbers on incomplete number lines and compared them using $<$ $>$ and $=$ symbols. In our English Lessons, we continue to look at the structure of biography texts and have explored using adverbs for time and manner as well as using brackets for parenthesis to improve our sentence writing. During P.E, we have been developing our rugby skills, particularly passing and moving within small groups and put in a great effort in the Meadowside Cross Country Trials. We enjoyed our KS2 French afternoon yesterday, taking part in various activities ranging from learning songs, playground games, using colour in art to scavenger hunts in the forest, online games and learning animal names; tout en français! Collaboratively, Maple Class have been working successfully to improve our class target of calmer, more effective transitions between lessons. Well done everyone, keep it up!

Year 6 Yew

It was lovely to kick this fortnight off by seeing so many of you at our 'Meet the Teachers' event last Monday! Lots has happened since then, both inside and outside the classrooms. Year 6 have been looking at decimal numbers and negative numbers in Maths and working on placing these numbers on number lines and comparing them using mathematical symbols. In English, we finished all of our preparation work for our narratives (sequels to The Viewer by Shaun Tan) and were able to use this to start writing our stories! The children came up with some absolutely fantastic ideas and have been thinking carefully about their story structures, tense and vocabulary. In Geography we have used compasses (eight points!) to direct each around our school. In Design and Technology we have looked at what Bug Hotels are and what makes them successful; we then designed our own, creating detailed diagrams. In addition to all of our normal learning, this week Year 6 buddied up with our new Reception children. Each Year 6 child selected a book and read to their Reception buddy and had some time to get to know them. We are so proud of how every single member of our class has responded to this and have had lots of positive feedback from other members of staff about the interactions between our oldest and youngest children. Tuesday afternoon was another proud moment watching the encouragement our class gave to the younger children during cross country- not forgetting their own impressive efforts as they completed all 9 laps!!

Sporting News

Cross country

On Tuesday afternoon all the children from Year 2 – Year 6 participated in our school cross country event. We have used the results from this to choose our squad. Training for the Gloucester School's Cross Country Championships event will begin on Thursday morning – a email has been sent to all the successful runners!

Girls Football Well done to the Year 6 girls who braved the awful weather conditions to take part in their first tournament. The girls showed great determination and resilience in the matches. We drew one and lost 2, we were very proud of their great sportsmanship. We look forward to our training sessions with Mrs Drummond, which are due to begin on Tuesday.

Boys Football

Congratulations to all the boys who took part in football trials. The A team have their first league game in two weeks, whilst the B team will have opportunities to represent Meadowside in festivals in terms 2 and 3.

Learning With Parents News!

We're excited to announce that we have been chosen to become a Learning with Parents Money Skills Pilot school! This resource will focus on how to build a healthy relationship with money.

Parents and carers are the best people to help their children build confidence with money. The Money Skills videos and activities are designed to help you do that in a way that suits your family. The activities are engaging, practical and off-screen. They will help children from Reception to Year 6 learn about spending, saving, budgeting and lots more. There will be one topic each half term to give you plenty of time to do the activities together.

We will share more information with you on this when we get it! But, look out in your inbox for a brand new resource coming soon!

Friends of Meadowside

Hello everyone, we had our first meeting on Thursday 26th where discussed our upcoming calendar. A few things for you to note in your diaries:

Our annual Bake Off Competition is back on Tuesday 22nd October, more details will follow soon about our theme and how you can enter.

Thursday 21st November will be our Dis-Glow event.

Wednesday 27th November will be our non uniform day to gather donations and prizes for our Christmas Fayre

Christmas Fayre will be held on Wednesday 4th December.

We will release more information about all of these brilliant events in due course but if you'd like to support any of them please speak to a member of FOM.

Thank you form your support.

Governor Corner

The governors meeting is now scheduled for first week of October. Whilst there is not much business to report as yet watch this space for our next update where we will share the list of governors and our next steps with you all.

Key Dates for your diary

INSET Days 2024/2025

Monday 27th January 2025
Monday 24th February 2025
Monday 21st July 2025

Date	Event
Monday 30 th September	Year 3 Trip
Tuesday 1 st October	Black History Month begins
Monday 14 th October	Year 1 Special Visitor
Thursday 17 th October	Year 2 Trip
Friday 18 th October	Fancy Dress/Non-Uniform fundraiser (more to follow)
Tuesday 22 nd and Wednesday 23 rd October	Parents' Evening (online) 3.30 – 6 p.m.
Tuesday 22 nd October	Bake off Competition (more to follow)
Thursday 24 th October	Individual and sibling photographs
Friday 25 th October	Meadowside Explorers Shine! Whole School. Last day of Term 1
Friday 8 th November	Year 1 Trip
Monday 11 th – Friday 15 th November	Anti-bullying week. Wear odd socks on Monday 11 th !
Monday 18 th – Friday 22 nd November	Road Safety Week
Monday 25 th November	Year 5 trip
Thursday 21 st November	Dis-Glow event(more to follow)
Wednesday 27 th November	Happy 24 th Birthday Meadowside! Non uniform day
Wednesday 4 th december	Christmas Fayre
Wednesday 11 th December	KS1 Christmas Performance: 9.30 – 10.30 a.m. KS2 Christmas Performance: 2 – 3 p.m.
Thursday 12 th December	KS2 Christmas Performance: 9.30 – 10.30 a.m. KS1 Christmas Performance: 2 – 3 p.m.
Friday 20 th December	Christmas Jumper Day (non-uniform) Finish at 2 p.m.

Next edition due: Friday 11th October 2024

**For all key dates, remember to visit the school website at
www.meadowsideschool.co.uk**



Meadowside School