

**Summer Term Edition**

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

At Meadowside, we are:

**A**spirational **E**nvironmental **I**ndependent **O**ppportunistic **U**nderstanding

Comets	Hurricanes	Meteors	Spitfires
117	111	135	94

## Message from Miss Thomas

The last fortnight has flown by and was obviously very busy, with unexpected visitors to accommodate! Whilst Mr Port and I do not get to see the comments on the parent surveys you completed, we do get to see the data. We were extremely proud and delighted with the overwhelmingly positive feedback from the school family. Thank you for continuing to support our school so passionately. You will also be very pleased to know that every child was a credit to our school and demonstrated its values beautifully.

End of year reports will be with you in the last week of term – there will be plenty of achievements and successes to celebrate as well as helpful next steps for the new academic year. I will be reading them all and adding my comments over the next few days, ready for you to receive.

## Attendance

### Headlines

- Whole school attendance for the past fortnight: **96.3%**
- Unauthorised absences for the past fortnight: **1.2%**
- Well done to **Year 3** as they have achieved the highest attendance rates of the fortnight with a brilliant **98.1%**!
- Whole school attendance for 2024/2025: **96.1% (National 94.8%)**

Mr Port  
Attendance Champion

## Reception – Cherry class

Over the last few weeks we have been very artistic. We looked at art featuring water by some famous artists and then had a go at creating our own pieces. Some people collaged, others painted and a few used clay to make a sculpture. Everyone had a go at joining in with a big painting project. As a group they decided on their watery theme. We have a great beech picture and another sea scape. We also got very creative after reading the book the Rainbow fish. Designing and making our musical instruments was great fun. Thank you to all those who came to support and purchase them.

In our RE lessons we have been learning about special places. Now we are looking forward to our visit to the local church. Although it is getting towards the end of the year there is no letting up. We have created a calendar in the classroom to put on all of the different things that will be going on as well as the usual phonics, maths and writing. It has been lovely this week to welcome over the children from Little Meadows.

## Year 1 – Oak Class

The past two weeks have been jam-packed in Year 1! We have been getting stuck into all things pirate! We have learnt about a few famous pirates, the different parts of a pirate ship and labelled a diagram. We have also taken on the boat building challenge! We designed junk model boats to a very specific criteria and will have put our making into action as of Friday! We will leave the boats to dry over the weekend and then next week, we will test them out to see if we have any that fulfil the criteria and are able to accompany us to Weston to sail on the real sea!! Fingers crossed for some sturdy vessels!

In English, we have created a little non-fiction booklet about the different members of a pirate crew. Ask your child about some of the jobs pirates had to do and whether or not they think they could do them! We have also been reading a book called How to Find Gold. This has inspired some great writing all about searching for gold and what life might be like under the sea!

In maths, we have completed our learning about money by finding out more about pounds and notes as well as doing some problem solving. This game is brilliant to use at home to work on money addition skills ([Toy Shop Money Game \(GBP\) - Topmarks](#)) – we have played it in school and the children loved it! We have begun some work on mass and have enjoyed using the balance scales to help us understand this concept better.

## Year 2 – Beech Class

Year 2s have welcomed some little visitors into their classroom this week! On Monday we took a delivery of tiny caterpillars for us to care for, look after and observe in order to practise our science investigation skills! We cannot believe just how fast they are growing- they are already more than double the size they were on Monday! Over the coming weeks, we will watch them become chrysalises before we eventually release them into our meadow as stunning painted lady butterflies. What an exciting few weeks we have to come!

We are also reaching the end of our Buckets and Spades topic and are excited to be off on our holidays NEXT WEEK! We will be having a traditional Edwardian holiday of one day at our nearest beach! Remember- your child is invited to dress up in clothing of one of the decades from the eras we have studied in our history lessons- anything from the 1900s to the 2000s! This also forms the basis of our English lessons as we have been writing reports about each of the eras we have studied, learning about the changes in destination, accommodation, transport, entertainment and clothing (which we have found most entertaining!). Thank you to those of you that sent in photographs for us to investigate on Monday- they really put our history skills to work.

## Year 3 – Maple Class

What a busy few weeks Year 3 have had! In English we have been enjoying reading The Egyptian Cinderella and practicing using many of the techniques we spotted in it. This week, we have moved on to planning our own versions and we are really excited about writing them next week. In Maths we have been looking at measure, trying to measure accurately in centimetres and millimetres, then comparing and ordering different lengths. We have also continued to tell the time on analogue clocks – please keep practicing this with you child at home as many of them still find it quite tricky!

In Art we have really enjoyed practicing and using lots of different methods to create our own images in the style of Egyptian tomb paintings.

We have had great fun this week as part of DT week creating small bags which could be used to carry resin animals or even mobile phones. Many of the children were fascinated by the sewing machines and really enjoyed creating their designs. We would like to say a huge thank you to the volunteers who came into school to support us with our sewing!

#### Year 4 – Willow Class

This fortnight, Year 4 have been working hard writing up their recounts about their time on residential, which they will hopefully be bringing home for you all to read soon! We have now moved on to writing adverts for the toys we will be making soon, focussing on alliteration, comparatives and superlatives, rhetorical questions, rhyming, play on words and quotes. In maths, we have been looking at time, including digital to analogue and converting seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months and years. In our topic, we have been looking at volume and did an experiment, which the children loved, where we used different volumes of voice outside and measured them using the micro:bits. We have also been designing the toys we will make later this term after interviewing some children in Year 1. We enjoyed a special workshop from Michael, the story-teller and all the children enjoyed listening to the myths, as well as coming up with their own and discussing the morals that can be learned from them. Our ukulele lessons are still going well, and we have now progressed to using three strings! This week, we have been in full DT-mode making the pencil pots that we will sell at our DT fair. The children have used plenty of excellent skills such as finding natural equipment, measuring and sawing. They have done a fantastic job, especially since it was not an easy task!

#### Year 5 – Maple Class

Year 5 have thoroughly enjoyed DT week. They have made some wonderful wooden snails with Mr Jones and used a variety of tools to create their work. The children have also been busy making photo frames and decorating them with rolled up magazines to create a unique and interesting frame. The class worked hard to research, plan, make and evaluate their photo frame project this week.

In Maths, the children have been busy measuring angles using a protractor. They can identify and measure acute, obtuse and reflex angles.

In English, the children have written a discussion text about whether Banksy's artwork should be displayed in public places. They have used some good arguments both for and against the issue and expressed their own opinions well in their conclusions. The children have also enjoyed writing some setting descriptions of 'The Chocolate Room' from Roald Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

In Science, the children have been learning about reversible and irreversible changes and what happens to food when it is heated.

#### Year 6 – Yew Class

Year Six really are busy bees. We have just finalised our lengthy writing pieces and have reflected upon how far we have come. We can also be proud of being able to write in variety of styles and genres. We

welcomed our lovely moderator, who commented on the wonderful opportunities the children had to showcase their writing skills. Well done to all.

We have enjoyed some fabulous scientific knowledge lessons about the heart and the sound this week. We have written explanations and investigated using scientific skills. Ask us to recall this information using some scientific vocabulary. Fascinating facts have been learnt for sure.

In maths, we continued to have fun doing 'calculator crunches' and other investigations now that we have come to the end of our Year 6 maths curriculum. Preparing ourselves for secondary school now becomes our priority and we are aware that many of you have transition days booked in next week. This can be an exciting and anxious time so we continue to support each individual at this time.

Our attentions now are turning to the infamous school play: Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies. Please note that costume letters have been sent out yesterday so check your child's bags for them as we don't have long until the stage lights up for you all. Any questions do please ask one of the team.

### **Sporting News!**

On Wednesday we had a brilliant day at the Gloucester Schools Athletic Championships at the Prince of Wales Stadium in Cheltenham. Our team of 30 athletes from Years 2-6 competed against other Gloucester Schools in track and field events. They made us all so proud!

A special mention to the Year 2 team who won their age category and Year 3, who came 3<sup>rd</sup> in theirs! Well done to all who competed and huge thanks to the parents who accompanied our team – without your support we couldn't give our children these amazing opportunities!

### **Governor News**

This update must begin with the almightiest of thank yous to the staff and student community at Meadowside for holding themselves together so well in the midst of a soaring heat wave and post SATs to host our surprise guests from the OFSTED inspection team. So thanks to you all for demonstrating our Meadowside spirit and showing our school as a happy and welcoming place, inspectors enjoyed their conversations in school with you.

It will be sometime before we have feedback to share but we are hopeful that inspectors will have seen how Meadowside pupils are encouraged by diverse opportunities and supportive learning relationships with staff, that they know how to behave, look after themselves and others and that pupils see Meadowside as a place where they can feel comfortable.

These are things we have all worked hard at, especially post COVID. This time had big impacts on primary school children who have needed new approaches to build their confidence outside of home and family and try new things as well as catch up on learning. Pupils have helped us by thinking hard about what sorts of things they wish to see at school and staff have given endless energy and hours to realise those opportunities and changes.

This has been important in creating a Meadowside culture that is ripe for learning and our new curriculum is starting to embed in the school now as well. We know we are not through our 'to do' list so when we receive feedback we will be keen to do more of what is good, continue what is getting there and take advice and support on any improvements noted. One thing is for certain, the Meadowside spirit is here to stay!

## Friends of Meadowside

As we are nearing the end of the year we have just our final events and thanks to share with you.

Firstly, thank you all so much for those who came and supported at the discos last week. They were a great success (despite the heat) and the children loved them, it was a great way to send off the year 6s onto their next adventure.

Two key events are happening before we break for the summer:

SPONSORED WALK 4<sup>th</sup> JULY @ 2pm - letters detailing all the information you need to know has been emailed to you. Please encourage your child by giving a good sponsorship for each lap completed on average a KS1 child will complete about 5-7 laps. If you'd like to do electronic donations please click on this link: <https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QJ7MSY89>

AGM @ Meadowside School Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July to start at 6.30pm all are welcome to see how our year has gone, what we have raised and what we plan for next year!

As always, thank you all for your unwavering support over this year.

FOM

## Key Dates for your diary

### INSET Days 2024/2025

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025

Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> June/Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Maths Puzzle Workshops (all year groups attend a 1 hour slot)
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 1 and Year 2 trip
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Sponsored Walk
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Morning - 9 15 am start
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	'Shuffle up' day! (move to new classes for a lesson) Year 6 End of Year Performance!
W/b 14 <sup>th</sup> July	End of year reports out to parents
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Whole School Picnic (4 – 5.30 p.m)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Last Day of the School Year Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 9.15 a.m.

**Next edition due: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

**For all key dates, remember to visit the school website at  
[www.meadowsideschool.co.uk](http://www.meadowsideschool.co.uk)**



**Meadowside School**