

Autumn Term Edition

Friday 26th September

At Meadowside, we are:

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

Comets	Hurricanes	Meteors	Spitfires
144	121	122	156

Message from Mr Port

It's been another fabulous fortnight at Meadowside! Behaviour and attitudes in class and assemblies are showing improvement but there is still work for us to do to reach the highest standards for which we are striving.

We've begun to look at leadership and on Monday, staff and governors met together to share their vision for Meadowside. We recognised and actioned the areas for development and celebrated our strengths. The Governing Body will be working very closely with the staff to ensure careful monitoring of our progress. They are our critical friends.

It's the first day of Black History Month on Wednesday and the theme is about strength and resilience. The staff will be selecting some inspirational people to share with their class over the coming week. Find out more about Black History month via [Newsround](#) or visit this [website](#).

Attendance

For the first time in a very long time, Meadowside is below the national attendance average. This is down to the amount of holiday requests we are receiving. I have only been able to authorise a small amount of these.

There have already been 26 lates recorded in our register this term. Please be on time to drop your child off at school. The benefits are huge. We understand that sometimes things happen that you can't help – please talk to us if you need any advice or assistance.

Headlines

Whole school attendance for the past fortnight: **96.7%**

Unauthorised absences for the past fortnight: **0.3%**

Well done to **Year 4** as they have achieved the highest attendance rates of the fortnight with an awesome **98.4%**!

There have been a total of **26 lates** so far this term

Whole school attendance for 2025/2026: **95.9%**

Whole school attendance for 2024/2025: **96.2%**

Mr Port

Attendance Champion

Meadowside Class News

Reception – Apple class

It has been a great week but tiring as lots of us have stayed for lunch for the first time and been at school all day. We have started our phonics, learning S A T P and done matching activities in maths. One of the highlights was getting together with our year 6 buddies. They have been looking out for us this week, helping us change our boots at playtime and helping us at lunchtime in the hall. We will make sure there are several times during the year when the Year 6 and Reception class can meet up for story time and games. The Buddy system is one of the special things about Meadowside School, seeing the year 6 children being so kind and caring is amazing.

Year 1 – Cherry Class

Cherry Class have continued working hard this fortnight! In our topic, we have planted some vegetables and some flowers in our new planters. We know it is going to take a long time for them to grow but we are excited to see what happens when they do! We have moved on to Key Question 2 Where is Meadowside? and enjoyed looking at some pictures of Meadowside from up above! We learned names of places like Green Farm, Quedgeley, Gloucester, England and United Kingdom.

In English we have been learning about the parts of sentences. We have learned that a noun is a name or a person, place, or object and that a verb is an action or something we can do. We had great fun labelling all the nouns we could find in the classroom and playing verb charades! Ask your child if they can act out any verbs for you!

In maths, we have continued our work on consolidating numbers. We have been learning numbers in words, identifying more or less, ordering numbers and finding 1 more and 1 less with numbers. If your child finds number recognition difficult, please remember that Numbots has games to help them. This [game](#) is also brilliant for supporting number recognition too and counting too.

Year 2 – Oak Class

We have moved on to Key Question 2 → What makes a Good Home? in our Meadowside Explorers topic. We also learnt the term habitat (ask your child to explain what this means

and see if they can remember!) We are enjoying seeing the results of our seed experiment as some of the results are puzzling us. We will be talking about the reasons behind these results next week! Our English work has linked to this experiment as we have written instructions about how to plant a seed. We enjoyed publishing our work today, thinking about how to make our writing appealing to our reader.

In maths, we have continued to think about the parts of numbers and have been ordering numbers according to the value of the 10s and 1s. Today we began to add and subtract 10s from a number, using our knowledge of the 10s digit. Next week, we will switch our attention to 2d shapes.

Year 3- Beech Class

We have continued to be Meadowside Explorers and have been focused on Key Question 2 – What do plants need to grow healthily? We have looked at flowering plants and their parts and have thought about the functions of the different parts. Last Friday we set up an investigation into the job of the stem. We left some white roses in coloured water over the weekend – we were very shocked to see the changes when we came back to school on Monday! - Ask your child what happened! We have now moved on to think about methods of seed dispersal – can your child spot any signs of seed dispersal over the weekend? In English we have been carefully crafting paragraphs to describe the storm that happened in our book 'The Green Ship'. Next week we will begin to plan our own books inspired by this story!

Year 4 – Elm Class

These past two weeks have really seen us harness our Meadowside Explorers topic. We have been geographers and scientists. We have developed our map skills first of all using atlases and google earth, then focused more closely using local street maps and locating places important to us in Quedgeley itself. We have learnt the difference between canals and rivers and how physical and human features of our locality impact each other. In Science we have explored how the Water Cycle works and we have learnt some specific scientific vocabulary linked to this. In Maths we are nearly at the end of our Place Value unit of work, whilst in English we are about to conclude our lessons all about a book called One Plastic Bag. Ask your child about the main character, Isatou. She is inspirational and carries our Meadowside Values all the way over in The Gambia. A great couple of weeks here in Year 4. Please note: Next Tuesday 30th September we are going to walk to actually see the canal as a class and take in the view. Watch this space!

Year 5 – Willow Class

Willow Class have had a busy fortnight. They have been writing biographies about David Attenborough in English. They have worked hard to research information about his life and

have created some detailed plans for their writing. The children have been writing their independent pieces using a range of sentence types and structures as well as using subheadings to structure their paragraphs coherently. In maths, the children have ordered and compared numbers up to one million and rounded 5-digit numbers to the nearest 10,000. In RE, the children have been discussing what the Trinity means to Christians with a focus on Baptism. They have expressed their ideas and thoughts carefully. In Geography, the children have located places on maps using compass points and 4-figure grid references with a focus on our local area. We have had lots of positives in Year 5 this fortnight – keep up the hard work everyone!

Year 6 – Maple Class

Proud teacher alert! Maple class have had a brilliant couple of weeks and are working hard in all areas. We have had our first look at (and go at) some old SATs papers so that we can understand what we are working towards. In maths we have been looking at decimal numbers and negative numbers including comparing, ordering and placing numbers on number lines. Alongside this we continue to practice other arithmetic skills each day. In English this week we put all our hard work from the past three weeks into practice, producing our first proper piece of independent writing. The children had to think about how they could create suspense in their narrative, while also including some hyphenated adjectives and expanded noun phrases in their setting and character description. Amazing work! Geography this fortnight has included navigating Meadowside using the 8 points of the compass and locating local places on a map using 6-figure grid references. In DT we designed bug hotels and in Biology we have classified plants and animals. In other news, our class pet Arthur has decided it's time for his big sleep. We will miss him while he hibernates but look forward to seeing him again in the spring!

Reception and Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance

Every three years, Reception and Key Stage 1 use St James' Church as the venue for the Christmas performance. This year is that year! The children will be performing twice on the afternoon of Tuesday 16th December, with a short break between performances. We will confirm timings soon. We are aware this creates difficulties for some families, but it is a beautiful service.

Friends of Meadowside

Hello Meadowside family, we had our first meeting of this academic year last night (Thursday) and it was so wonderful to have some new people come and see what our group is about and want to join our team. We hope you enjoy being part of something fun and you will make a difference to our school community.

If you wish to be a part of our helpers group or would like to come to our next meeting please send us a message and we will be in contact.

We have a very exciting year planned and we will let you know soon of all the amazing things we are doing but first a few dates for your diaries so you can plan.

13th October - Meadowside Bake Off Competition - more details to follow soon

14th November - Meadowside DisGlo

27th November - Non Uniform day - contributions for the Christmas Market

2nd December - Christmas Market - 3.30-6pm

Thanks, FOM.

Parking

It is not okay to park over people's driveways on the school run. We are an eco-friendly school. Park somewhere safe and walk your child to school. We have a duty to respect our neighbours. Whilst you may not be breaking any laws, it breaks our school rules and damages our relationship with the community.

Mr Port

Sporting News!

Congratulations to our girls' football team for a great start to the season. They competed at a mini tournament on Wednesday. They drew 2 games and lost 2. They were fantastic representatives of Meadowside and displayed all our Meadowside sporting values. Their next match is next week!

Other news!

Gloucestershire wildlife trust are running a program called Nature Nurtures which is aimed at children with low level mental health concerns. The activities across the 8 weeks focus on improving their confidence and connection to nature. This is a free afterschool series that families can sign up for individually, running at Robinswood Hill Country Park, Gloucester.

See www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/nature-nurtures for further details.

Key Dates for your diary

INSET Days 2025/2026

Monday 3rd November

Monday 26th January

Monday 20th July

Tuesday 30 th September	Year 4 Trip
Monday 1 st October	Black History Month Begins
Monday 6 th October	Macmillan Coffee (and cake! Morning 08:30 – 10:00 Parents' Evening 3.30 – 6 p.m. (face to face)
Tuesday 7 th October	Year 3 Trip Parents' Evening 3.30 – 6 p.m. (face to face)
Wednesday 15 th October	Year 5 Trip
Thursday 16 th October	Year 2 Trip
Monday 13 th October	Friends of Meadowside Bake off
Thursday 23 rd October	Individual and sibling photographs
Friday 24 th October	Last day of Term 1 (finish at 3.15 p.m.)
Monday 3 rd November	INSET Day
Tuesday 4 th November	Term 2 Begins
Friday 7 th November	Year 1 Trip
Monday 10 th Nov – Friday 14 th Nov	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 11 th November	Remembrance Day
Friday 14 th November	Children In Need (non-uniform)
Friday 14 th November	Friends of Meadowside Discos!
Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st Nov	Road Safety Week
Tuesday 25 th November	Year 5 Trip
Thursday 27 th November	Happy 25 th Birthday, Meadowside! Celebrate with us and hear about the future of Meadowside from Mr Port 6.30 – 7.30 p.m.
Tuesday 16 th December	KS2 Christmas Performance 9.15 – 10.30 a.m. Reception and KS1 Christmas Performances will be running from the Church in the afternoon. There will be two performances. Timings to follow.
Wednesday 17 th December	KS2 Christmas Performance 1.45 – 3 p.m.
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Dinner Day!
Friday 19 th December	Christmas Jumper Day (non-uniform) Last Day of Term 2 (finish at 2 p.m.)
Monday 5 th January	Term 3 Begins

Next edition due: Friday 10th October 2025

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

