

Summer Term Edition

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026

At Meadowside, we are:

Aspirational Environmental Independent Opportunistic Understanding

Comets	Hurricanes	Meteors	Spitfires
64	73	75	67

## Message from Mr Port

### Key Stage 2 SATs

We wish our lovely Year 6s the very best of luck as they take on their SATs next week! It's the result of 7 years of hard work by all the staff at Meadowside. Miss Davies' expert knowledge, support and guidance in ensuring the children are prepared for their SATs has been a joy to see. You can do it!

### Sir David Attenborough's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday!



The photo above was taken by the Harper and Zachary's mummy using her amazing drone! Thank you, Elize! We took this photo after having a lovely tea party on the playground and celebrating Sir David's achievements in assembly this morning. E for Environmental has been the star of the show today and all the entries for the art competition were fantastic. Miss Davies and Mrs McDade chose Florence in Year 1 as the winner and she received a special David Attenborough book. Well done to all!

### Uniform

We have spoken to the children about Meadowside Uniform over the past fortnight. Please find time to read our [Uniform Policy](#), which is in line with the latest national guidance. We have noticed an increasing number of trainers being worn to school. Please ensure your child is in the correct uniform. Our uniform is special to our school community and we take pride in our appearance.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mr Port



## Attendance

### Headlines

Whole school attendance for the past fortnight: **95.1%**

Unauthorised absences for the past fortnight: **1%**

Well done to **Year 4** as they have achieved the highest attendance rates of the fortnight with an awesome **98.9%**

There have been a total of **49 lates** so far this term

Whole school attendance for 2025/2026: **95.4%** (National **94.8%**)

Whole school attendance for 2024/2025: **96.2%** (National **94.8%**)

Lates are becoming an issue again. Please make sure you are on time to drop your child off at school. They are learning from the minute they arrive and every minute counts!

Mr Port

Attendance Champion

## Staffing updates

After a short time, Mr Read has left us as Caretaker and the position is once again available. Please let anyone who might be interested know. The job description and how to apply can be found [here](#)

We are also on the hunt for a new Midday Supervisor. Please view the job advert [here](#).

You are very welcome to come and talk to us if you are interested in these positions.

## Meadowside Class News

### Reception – Apple class

Over the last two weeks we have continued to be helpful and independent both at home and school. It has been lovely to share magic moments with the class where they have helped at home, doing things like: putting away shopping, making beds, laying the table and helping out with younger siblings. Keep up the good work apple class.

We had a lot of fun looking at our baby photos and talking about how much we have changed. Even over this year we have learnt so much and changed a lot. We took one another's photos to compare our picture now to then. It is trickier than it looks to take a good picture. Getting to the end of phase 4 in our phonics is just part of the learning journey we have been on. Most of us can't remember when we could not read or write at the start of the year. In our assessment it was clear that the common exception words are catching some of us out so please go over these at home too.

### Year 1 – Cherry Class

We have been on quite an adventure over the last two weeks! We learnt all about Grace Darling, a famous young woman from the 1800s who rescued some shipwrecked people during a terrible storm! We had our

own mini storm experience in school with some fans, water, sound effects and a lot of imagination(!) which led to some absolutely wonderful writing from the children! We have also begun to answer "KQ2 - What stories did sailors tell of the seas?" by learning some sea shanties and inventing our own sea creatures! We will continue this learning next week!

In maths, we have been focused on all things time related. We have learnt the days of the week, the months of the year, how to tell time to the nearest hour and half an hour (on an analogue clock) and how to sequence events. Time is such an important skill for children to learn and understand so please do continue this at home.

**Please do not forget about our trip to Weston - there are currently less than 50% of people who have paid or made the initial £5 deposit payment.** Please do come and speak to us if you would like a payment plan - we will always work with you to support payments. Although the deadline is a little while away, it is easy to forget! This is always a favourite trip for children and one that is regularly talked about in leaver's assemblies as favourite Meadowside memories, so we want to do all we can to ensure the trip goes ahead and allow Cherry Class to make all of those lovely memories too!

### **Year 2 - Oak Class**

Over the last 2 weeks, we have been taking a trip around the UK and learning the names and capital cities of our 4 countries. Talk with your child about these facts as they are very useful things to know! We used this website- [Project Britain](#) - to help us find out more about each country. We have also been extending our geographical knowledge by finding out some of the features of these countries. This week we have learnt the name of the tallest mountain in the UK- ask your child if they can remember its name and location.

Our maths work has focused on mental strategies for addition and subtraction - we have found out just how crucial knowing your number bonds to 10 really are as some of us found this a real stumbling block to our mental calculation. Extra practise is always useful so help your child practise them until they never get one wrong! Games like [Hit The Button](#) are great ways to practise quick fire recall (and can be done just verbally in the car too, once you know how to play!)

In our English work, we are refining our description and story telling skills and are practising everything we have learnt in Year 2. We are thinking about how to use the conjunctions we know to extend our sentences, how to use the sentence types we know to interest our reader and how to ensure that we use the punctuation and spelling rules that make these sentences easy to read and understand. We will be using Mairi Hedderwick's Katie-Morag stories to give us inspiration for writing, so if you wonder who Katie is- she's our new Scottish book-character-friend!

### **Year 3- Beech Class**

What a busy few weeks we have had in Year 3. We have been thinking about forces and how they help vehicles move and slow down. We also learnt about the role of a chassis and axles. We used this learning to help us design and make moving vehicles. We look forward to testing them out soon. In English we have been learning about Bessie Coleman, the first African American woman to fly a plane. We looked at the challenges that she faced and have used her experiences as a basis for our persuasive writing. We have been using rhetorical questions, imperative verbs, expanded noun phrases and repetition of the important information to make sure that our writing is really effective. In Maths, we have finished our unit of work on money and have moved on to a short unit of work on fractions. We have been busy calculating fractions of amounts. To make this easier, it is useful to know their times tables and the related division facts - please keep rehearsing these with your child.

### **Year 4 - Elm Class**

Over the past fortnight, Elm class have been working as hard as ever! In our topic 'We are Engineers', we have studied how food is digested by our bodies. There are a lot of scientific words and process to remember! This has linked into our English as we are writing an explanation text about the digestive system. In our writing lessons, we have focussed on subordinate clauses, adverbials of time, chronological order and subheadings. We have now moved on to key question 2 in our topic - 'What are the states of matter?' and we even made our own ice cream without the use of a freezer! Ask your child how they did it and what it tasted like! We have discussed what makes up a solid, liquid and a gas and where we may see these. In maths, we have begun work on fractions, including adding and subtracting fractions. This is a tricky topic, but Elm class are working hard to grasp it, especially the understanding of how to add a fraction to a whole. In French this week we have learned to tell the time! Why not ask your child to tell you the time in French? Our ukulele lessons continued last week and we will be inviting you to a performance soon – keep an eye out for the Parent Mail!

### **Year 5 – Willow Class**

The children have had a busy couple of weeks! Last Thursday, the whole class participated in a cricket festival at Sir Thomas Rich's Grammar School alongside many other primary schools in Gloucester. It was a fantastic experience for the children, and it was great to see so many of them flourish in this area. The children were put into three teams, and each team played two games each. Two of our teams won both of their matches and the other team won a match and lost one. The children showed great sportsmanship, and some children demonstrated some hidden talents!

In English, the children have been writing some great persuasive letters. They were asked if shops should be built on the land where their local park is located. The children were able to put their opinions across well using the relevant features of a persuasive argument.

In maths, the children have started their calculating fractions unit. They have been converting improper fractions to mixed numbers and mixed numbers to improper fractions. They have also been adding proper fractions with different denominators.

We have started our 'Curious Cases' topic and the children have been investigating what might have happened to some missing money! They have learnt about fingerprints and the importance of these in an investigation. They are putting their curious minds together to try and identify what they think has happened! We will be doing some science experiments to help us try and find out what has happened.

### **Year 6 – Maple Class**

The last two weeks have been full of lots of revision for Maple Class as we have counted down to SATs! The incredible work ethic of each and every child has shone through, and they should be so proud of themselves. They have truly taken ownership of their learning this week by deciding exactly what it is they want to work on. They have made their own revision cards and games and spent lots of time testing each other and setting questions for each other. We have tried to make it as fun as possible with games such as Who Wants to be a Millionaire and Million Pound Drop: SATs edition! In English, the children had lots of fun writing hilarious Trip Advisor reviews of a terrible imaginary holiday. The reviews were filled with sarcasm and wit and we enjoyed being able to have a good old rant! Before starting to write, each child looked at their previous pieces of writing and decided what they wanted to include in their writer's checklists based on what they still needed to check off their KS2 writing checklists. In topic lessons we have experimented with different ways of strengthening structures and made lots of paper straws ready to use to build our air-raid shelters next week! Lots of rounders, football and long afternoon breaks have been vital in keeping us in the green zone this fortnight. Don't forget that children can arrive from 8.15am Monday to Thursday next week for breakfast club and they also need to remember their water fight kit for Friday!

## Friends of Meadowside

### Thank You for a Fantastic Circus Event!

We would like to say a huge **thank you** to everyone who joined us for the Circus Event on **24th April**. It was a joy to see our whole school community together, having fun and making wonderful memories. Your incredible support for **Friends of Meadowside** helped make the event such a success – we truly couldn't do it without you!

### What's coming up next?

**Kids Bingo** will take place in the school hall on **Friday 15th May, 3:30–4:30pm all are welcome**, and there will be a tuck shop to get some snacks. Bingo sheets will be on sale in the car park next week, with sheets also available to buy on the door, although pre-sales are preferred.

Our **Summer Disco is coming up on Friday 12th June**. Pre-sale tickets will be available to buy after half term, with more details to follow.

We will also be holding a **Pre-Loved Uniform Sale in the school car park on 3rd and 4th June**. All items are £2, with a large variety of sizes available. We only sell school-logo items, and this sale helps reduce stock while supporting us through the final summer term. If you need uniform before then, please do get in touch.

Thank you as always for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

## Sporting news

Congratulations to our Year 3 / 4 Quad Kids athletics team, who participated in a Gloucester Schools championship and...**WON!** They were competing against 12 teams in four different athletic events and a relay. All the team were fabulous representatives of Meadowside and showed real determination and grit. We also won first place for the individual boys 'and girls' competition! Truly amazing!

## Meet the Governors

For the next few weeks, we will be including an introduction for each of our Meadowside Governors here on the Friday fortnightly.

### Name- Saffron Glass

### Curriculum Governor

**About Me:** I have lived in Quedgeley for 9 years now, all of that time being on Greenfarm. My daughter is a pupil at Meadowside and I work locally for a family furniture business, where I help with all aspects of the day-to-day running of the company. I'm passionate about supporting Meadowside in continuing to offer an environment where children feel safe, confident, and excited to learn. I'm really excited about the opportunity to contribute to the warm, nurturing ethos that already makes it such a lovely school, while also bringing my professional experience to help support the school.

**Fun/Personal Detail:** I love nothing more than a long walk through a rural village with lovely views; admiring the architecture and character of old buildings (the ex-estate agent in me!), with a coffee shop and children's play park at the end to keep everyone happy!

**Unique skill:** My family say I'm good at organising events whether it's holidays, hen do's, children's parties or a big family get together – I'm happiest when everyone is together having fun.

**Meadowside memory:** My daughter's first sports day, she had so much fun with her friends!

Policy Updates

### Key Dates for your diary

INSET Days 2025/2026	INSET Days 2026/27
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> January Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> Thursday May	Year 6 SATs week!
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Year 4 Residential
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Test Window Opens
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Residential
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Class Photos + Individual Year 6 Leavers' Photo
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day (9am – 11:45am)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 1 and 2 joint trip
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Oliver dress rehearsal (to rest of school)
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Oliver performance 1 (times to be confirmed)
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Oliver performances 2 & 3 (times to be confirmed)
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Children meet their new teachers!
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Maths Puzzle Day 1 Year 5 Science Trip (am only)
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Maths Puzzle Day 2 School Family Picnic! 4 – 5.30 p.m. Reports out to parents
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly (time to be confirmed) Last day of the school year! Finish at 2 pm.
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	INSET day (school closed to pupils)
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	INSET day (school closed to pupils)
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Welcome back! First day for children.

Next edition due: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

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



Meadowside School

FREE  
STUFF

Gloucestershire Bundles  
**Free Event**

Saturday 16th of May 10am - 12noon

Unit 2, Whitworth Court Baird Road

Waterwells Quedgeley GL2 2DG

**BLACKBRIDGE**

CHARITABLE COMMUNITY BENEFIT SOCIETY

# YOUTH CLUB IS OPEN!



At Blackbridge Community and Sports Hub  
For young people in school years 7-11



## Weekly Sessions

### Tuesdays - 6 - 8pm

Games • Music • Chill with friends  
A fun and friendly space for everyone!

### Thursdays - 6 - 8pm

Calmer • Sensory-friendly • Inclusive  
A quieter session for those who prefer a peaceful  
space

### Fridays

Fit Fridays Bookable Football - 5-6pm  
Youth Café, 5.30pm-7.30pm



Want to join or ask questions?

Email: [youth@blackbridge.org.uk](mailto:youth@blackbridge.org.uk)

Call or text Kelz on: 07507 908821

[www.blackbridge.org.uk](http://www.blackbridge.org.uk)



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