


Summer Term Edition

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

At Meadowside, we are:

Aspirational Environmental Independent Opportunistic Understanding

Comets	Hurricanes	Meteors	Spitfires
152 Termly Total	175 Termly Total 	161 Termly Total	154 Termly Total

## Message from Mr Port

### Residential

A big welcome back to all our Year 4s, who had the BEST time on their Residential at the Wilderness. I was lucky enough to visit them last night and they were so happy! It's a wonderful experience for them all, made possible by the staff that have given up their time to make it happen. The children will make memories forever! There is no overtime in education and the majority of their workload on residential is voluntary. Thank you to Mrs Whitlock, Mrs Bowvier, Mrs Stevens and Mr Merrett.

### Safeguarding

Please do not just leave your child at the school gate and let them walk in alone if you are running late for school. You must sign them in – it is a legal requirement. We will be following this up with phone calls with strong reminders from next week. Thank you to the parents that take the time to sign their child in correctly.

### Protected Characteristics

Over the past fortnight, we have been talking in class and assemblies about the 'Protected Characteristics'. These include, age, disability and race. It is vital that children understand diversity and look after each other, regardless of their appearance of choices. This all fits into our 'U for Understanding' value and 'Be Kind' rule. #

## Parental Behaviour

I have mentioned that we are working hard on the behaviour of the children at Meadowside over the course of this year.

I would like to remind our parent community that we expect positive behaviour that reflects on our community – we are a community school after all. Inconsiderate and illegal parking is still an issue. One of our school rules is '**Show respect**' and this applies to all of us.



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Last Friday Fortnightly we asked you to find time to read our [Uniform Policy](#), which is in line with the latest national guidance. Our uniform is special to our school community and we take pride in our appearance. Please note that cycling shorts are not appropriate school uniform- tailored shorts only please!

Thank you for all your support and have a wonderful half term, especially as the sun is going to shine!

Mr Port

## Attendance

### Headlines

Whole school attendance for the past fortnight: **95.7%**

Unauthorised absences for the past fortnight: **1.1%**

Well done to **Year 1** as they have achieved the highest attendance rates of the fortnight with an awesome **98.1%**

There have been a total of **67 lates** so far this term

Whole school attendance for 2025/2026: **95.4%** (National **94.9%**)

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

Mr Port

Attendance Champion

## Staffing news

We have employed a new Caretaker, Tony Forster, who will begin with us on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June. We are really looking forward to him starting with us. Another huge thank you to Tony Barnes for caretaking for us whilst we advertised for this role.

## Meadowside Class News

### Reception – Apple class

It has been another busy couple of weeks in Apple class. Our question has been 'Who helps us in an emergency?' This led to lots of terrible accidents with broken legs, a field hospital was quickly set up in the classroom. The Drs and nurses did a great job of x-raying and feeding the patients. Luckily with all the great care all patients quickly recovered. As it is the end of our topic we had a big discussion about all the jobs that grownups do and then thought about what we would like to be when we are older. They have recorded their ideas in their learning journals. It will be interesting to see what happens in the future.

Forest school was great fun on Wednesday and we all had a brilliant time using our imaginations to play on the boat and car that we constructed with Mr Jones.

## **Year 1 – Cherry Class**

Cherry Class have thoroughly enjoyed finding out all about Titanic over the past fortnight! We have learnt about how it was built, the route it was planning to take to New York, the people who were on board (and what it was like for the different class of people on board!) and of course, the ultimate fate of the ship! We have a little bit more to do on Titanic after half term and when we will turn our attention to finding out about other famous voyages and ships too.

In English this week, we have been writing postcards as Titanic passengers and survivors as well as creating posters about the ship. The children have absolutely loved getting stuck into this part of topic and have generated some terrific writing based on it!

In maths, we have been learning about the foundations of multiplication. We have been talking about how it is counting in groups of (for us this is groups of 2, 5 and 10) and modelling how this is the same as repeated addition. For example,  $4 \times 2$  is the same as  $2+2+2+2$ . We have been drawing pictures to help us solve problems, looking at worded problems and also just counting in multiples too. The more secure children are in their counting in multiples, the easier this is for them, so please do work on this at home.

Have a lovely half term and we can't wait to continue our Setting Sail journey after the holidays!

## **Year 2 – Oak Class**

In Oak Class this past fortnight, we have been learning about the world and the continents and oceans that form our planet. We have learnt 2 very catchy songs to help us remember their names- ask your child to sing them to you to see if they really have remembered the names! We have used this website- [Continents and Oceans](#) – to help us learn where these places are. We have only used the Tutorial and played Level 1, so if your child would like to have a go at Levels 2 and 3 to challenge themselves further, then that would be a great display of being Opportunistic!

Our English work this term has centred around the Katie- Morag stories by Mairi Hedderwick. These books' illustrations have some lovely detail showing how different people live different lives. The BBC have turned some of these stories into a TV show on BBC iPlayer. You can talk to your child about the differences between the books and programme and how well they think the BBC did in casting the 2 Grannies!

Keep practising on TTRockstars and Numbots- we should be starting to learn our 2, 5 and 10 times tables **off by heart** now, so the children need all the practise they can get to allow them to work on trickier problems, using that key knowledge.

## **Year 3- Beech Class**

Year 3 have been busy finishing their topic of 'Planes, trains and automobiles'. We have been thinking about the key question of How we can be safe, be seen? We have learnt about sources of light and how the sun can be dangerous. We have also investigated transparent, translucent and opaque objects. This week we also investigated how we could change the size of a shadow by moving the light source! We finished the topic by using all our learning to help design some transport for the future!

In Maths we have started to learn to tell the time on analogue clocks. This is something that many children find increasingly difficult because of the digital world that we live in. Please try to help your child learn to tell the time to the nearest minute, half term is a great opportunity for you to work on this together!

## **Year 4 – Elm Class**

What a fortnight to finish the term for Year 4! In maths, we have been continuing our topic of fractions: adding, subtracting, simplifying and finding a fraction of an amount. We also discussed how fractions are useful in real

life situations. Next time you are dividing a bill or working out how much one versus a multipack cost, why not ask your child to help? In English, we have written up our explanation texts about the digestive system. This contained lots of scientific vocabulary as well as adverbials of time, subordinate clauses and subheadings. They are stuck in our topic books, which you will see at the end of the year. The children want to know how much you know about the digestive system too! In our topic, we have looked at the states of matter: gas, solid and liquid and how to distinguish these. We have also looked at changes of state and the water cycle, which involved a song and actions! And of course, the fortnight has culminated in the fantastic residential! The children showed the Meadowside values beautifully, everyone had a fantastic time, friendships were solidified and new goals were met. They should all be extremely proud of themselves and now you can enjoy the time with your children over the half term. I am sure they have been well missed and they will have many stories to share with you!

### **Year 5 – Willow Class**

Year 5 have been working incredibly hard the last two weeks. We have been doing lots of exciting science experiments in the afternoons. The children have investigated which clothing items absorb and repel the most water. They have discovered which objects are conductors and insulators because of the materials they are made from, and they have found out which drinking cup (made from a range of different materials) is best for keeping water the hottest for longest!

The children have been adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators including mixed numbers. It has not been easy, but Year 5 have tried their best and can now answer these calculations with more confidence. Well done, everyone!

In our English sessions, the children have been amazing at responding to the book: 'Tyger' by S.F. Said – a magical thrilling story of two children (Adam and Zadie) and a mythical creature set in an alternate London ruled by an Empire. Their world is on the verge of destruction, and the characters need to help before it is too late. The children have written some great character descriptions of a character who plays an intimidating and powerful role within the book.

Enjoy your half term break Year 5.

### **Year 6 – Maple Class**

Last week the children of Maple Class were a true credit to Meadowside. Their positivity and resilience made for a fantastic SATs week and some very proud staff. Since then (after conga-ing around the school and getting soaked in a celebratory water fight) we have been having a lovely time, relishing the opportunity to focus on other areas of the curriculum! We have spent lots of time working on building our air-raid shelters. In order to be successful they needed to be able to withstand a bomb (tennis ball) being dropped on them from a height. Miss Akhurst (our DT lead) came to do some bomb-dropping and judged her favourite shelter from the survivors. We had an afternoon of Science on Monday where we explored how light can be reflected and created our own light mazes. Children designed and constructed mazes with the aim of lighting up the Lego figure at the end of the maze- it was tricky but so interesting. Also on Monday, the winning Year 6 children from our K'Nex challenge (back in January) went and represented us at Renishaw New Mills at the final. Well done girls, you did an amazing job! In maths, alongside our daily arithmetic, we have done lots of problem solving linked to shape and experimented with drawing 3D shapes using isometric paper. In English, we have looked at advancing the action in narratives through the use of dialogue. This is something that children in Year 6 need to be able to show evidence of in order to meet the expected standard for writing. A half term holiday and a residential seem like suitable rewards for the fantastic attitudes and behaviours demonstrated by Year 6 this term!

## K'nex Challenge

Mrs Whitlock took the two winners of the recent K'nex class competition to the county finals at Renishaw in Wooton-Under-Edge. Emilie and Eva in Year 6 had to create a storage warehouse that transported packages. It was a big challenge and they did incredibly well and as always, represented us beautifully. Well done, girls!

## Sporting news

Well done to our Year 3 and 4 football teams, who competed in a girls' and boys' festival last week. Both teams were a pleasure to take and played some brilliant football. It was even better that both teams went undefeated across the whole tournament!

## 🌸 Friends of Meadowside – Upcoming Events! 🌸

Hello lovely Meadowside families,

We've got a fun-filled few weeks ahead and we can't wait to get everyone involved.

### 🎉 Summer Disco – 12th June

Get those dancing shoes ready! Our Summer Disco is just around the corner.

Tickets are on sale now via this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/q1cJPOUZnV> grab them early so no one misses out on the music, fun and good vibes.

We're also on the lookout for some volunteers to help on the night. If you can spare a bit of time, we'd love to have your support.

### 🚶‍♀️ 🚶‍♂️ Sponsored Walk – July

Our annual Sponsored Walk returns this July. It's always a brilliant community event and a great way for the children to get active while raising funds for the school. More details coming soon.

### 🛒 Pre-Loved Uniform Sale – 3rd & 4th June

Save money and support sustainability with our pre-loved uniform sale in the playground. Pop by after school on either day to pick up some bargains, £2 an item.

Thank you, as always, for your support. Every ticket bought, every uniform item reused, and every volunteer who steps forward helps make Meadowside even more amazing for our children.

## Policy Updates

Relationships and Sex Education in line with current statutory guidance. You can read about this [here](#)

## Key Dates for your diary

### INSET Days 2025/2026

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July

### INSET Days 2026/27

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 1 <sup>st</sup> June	First day of Term 6! 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 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026

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



Meadowside School



**FRIENDS OF MEADOWSIDE PRESENT**

# **SUMMER DISCO**

**12TH JUNE 2026**

**KS1 5-6:15PM  
KS2 6:30-8PM**

**TICKETS £3 EACH  
INCLUDES A FREE ICE POP!**



Use the QR code opposite or  
purchase your tickets in the car  
park from the 3rd to 10th June.

You cannot purchase  
on the night





PARENT AND CARER ALLIANCE PRESENTS

# SEND SUMMER CELEBRATION

**20TH  
AUG**

**DURSLEY RECREATION GROUND  
10AM - 4PM**



A fun-filled family event, creating connections, support, inclusion, and opportunities for every family.



Police vehicles and activities, displays, sports activities, sensory play, grant charities, stalls and stands, help and support available  
A huge free event not to be missed

We are hosting a SEND Summer Celebration as part of the Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme this summer. Please note: If you are not booked on via the Family Hub website, lunch will not be available.



For more information, visit

[WWW.PARENTANDCARERALLIANCE.ORG.UK](http://WWW.PARENTANDCARERALLIANCE.ORG.UK)

Gloucestershire  
**HAF**   
holiday activities & food



Parent & Carer  
Alliance C.I.C.



**WIDDEN OLD BOYS**

**JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB**

**FAMILY FUN DAY**

**&**

**RECRUITMENT DAY**

**SUNDAY 9TH AUGUST**

**11AM**



**BOUNCY  
CASTLES**



**RUGBY  
GAMES**



**MEET THE  
COACHES**



**BAR  
OPEN**



**FOOD  
AVAILABLE  
TO BUY**



**STALLS**



**ALL WELCOME!**

COME ALONG AND BE PART OF THE

**WOB FAMILY!**

**FUN  
FRIENDSHIP  
RUGBY**