



# Meadows Newsletter

Issue 12

February 16th 2018

The Meadows  
Primary School

## Forthcoming dates

Please do check the website regularly

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	School Re-opens Y2 SATS Parents' Meeting 9am
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Reading Workshop 3:30pm
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	World Book Day activities and own clothes day
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Mothers' Day Lunch for Class 1 only
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Class Photographs
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Quiz Night Leycett Cricket Club
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Class Trip to Potteries Museum
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Parental Pupil Progress Meetings
WB March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Road Safety awareness week
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	End of Term
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	School Re-opens
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Leavers' Evening at Madeley School

## Half Term Break

I am sure you are looking forward to the break next week. It's always lovely to hear the children talking with excitement regarding their plans and activities. I hope when we return, we have seen the last of the frosty mornings and can look forward to the longer days ahead. We return to school on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February.



## Academy News

One of the most significant changes in joining our Multi Academy Trust has been the considerable opportunities to share in the wealth of school improvement expertise. We now regularly welcome members of the executive team to our school who come along to observe our practice, talk to the staff and the children about learning and quality assure our provision.

This week we welcomed the Maths Director: Mr Greg Thorley. He observed all our classes in their maths lessons and was particularly interested in the impact of our FUN maths sessions. We were able to demonstrate how the children have improved considerably with their number fluency. The children were able to articulate their learning clearly to our visitor and showed a real positive attitude towards maths.

I am sure that you have heard in the news, lots about the new times tables test that the government are introducing next year for Y4 children. This will test their rapid recall of multiplication facts up to 12 x12! This of course was until 2014, an expectation of Y6. Our FUN maths sessions are one of the ways in which the school is responding to this challenge and equipping our children. We are also currently trialling a Maths App called 'Doodle Maths'.



You may want to have a look yourself as there is free access for home use.

Our parents' maths workshop was very successful for our Class 3 parents. Thank you to all of you who were able to come along and see for yourself how we are teaching times tables in a very creative and musical way. I hope the songs are stuck in your head now, as they are in ours. We shall hold a similar event for other classes during the year. You can find out more on our blog pages: <http://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk/blog/fun-maths-workshop-class-3-families>

## Communications

We have recently developed our use of Parent Mail even further by creating messages which allow you to give permission for trips and make orders electronically. This should make things easier for everyone, as you can read and consent at the same time. It also avoids the need to return paper forms to school. We have used this form of communication for ordering the World Book Day themed lunch on 2<sup>nd</sup> March.



## Academy Council News

I am delighted that we have successfully filled the vacancy for a Parent Academy Councillor. Mrs Emily Hinton, who is a parent of a child in Class 1, has joined us. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her thorough research regarding the role.

## Netball Competition

I would like to say thank you to the children who accompanied me to a netball competition at Keele this week. Whilst we certainly have skills to develop, we did use many of our Secrets of Success to push through and showed great resilience. It was obvious to me spectating, that our footwork did really let us down and was the reason for our losses as we were penalised multiple times for moving with the ball. Mr Skellern will be working on our netball skills over the next few weeks, so we can improve! It should be noted that all of our sporting clubs are inclusive and are not just open to a selected team.



After half term, classes 3 and 4 will begin their dance lessons in PE. We will be welcoming a new dance teacher to The Meadows called Miss Blake. The children will remember her from last summer, as she did a demonstration lesson for us all to enjoy. She will also be leading an afterschool Zumba club here at school for classes 3 and 4 on Wednesdays. You

should have received a letter today, detailing the revised clubs available after half term. We do rotate clubs over the course of a year so there can be a wider variety. Due to increased Sports funding from the DfE, all sports club will now be funded by the school.

### Attendance and Punctuality

	Attendance	Lateness
Class 1	98.41%	0.05%
Class 2	96.82%	0.37%
Class 3	97.55%	0.56%
Class 4	97.19%	0.75%
Whole School	97.33%	0.50 %

I will be looking for improved punctuality in classes 3 and 4 after half term.

A reminder that routine dental and other medical appointments should not be made during the school day. We of course do understand that there are emergencies and obtaining a doctor's appointment can be a challenge! It is also noted that hospital appointments during school hours cannot be avoided. We do insist that all appointments during school hours are supported by an appointment card or text reminder. Please do not be offended by this request.

### Personal Possessions

I would like to remind all our school community of the following:

*The storage of any personal property or possessions or, where pupils bring in personal property or possessions onto the school premises it is at the pupil's and parent's own risk and the school will not be liable for any loss or damage to personal property or possessions.*

*Please do contact me if you would like my assistance at any time, Mrs. Procter*



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