



Meadows Newsletter

Issue 7

December 20th 2019

The Meadows
Primary School

Forthcoming dates

Please do check the website regularly

Tuesday 7th January Start of New Term

Monday 17th February Half Term

Thursday 2nd April End of Term
Easter Holidays

Monday 20th April Start of New Term

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone in The Meadows family for another fabulous term. This week I have had the pleasure of watching the children enjoy lots of Christmas activities which just fill my heart with pride.

The Christmas Concert at All Saint's Church on Monday enabled our musicians to share their talents. I was in awe of their confidence, particularly for those children who have had just a handful of lessons yet were able to perform for you. We heard carols in French and German and I know how much everyone enjoyed the folk style "Good King Wenceslas". We are proud that our music curriculum is so well supported by "Putting Music First". It did take a great deal of organisation and it is quite a walk to the church for the children, but it was absolutely worth it. Thank you to Rev John and the Church for making us so welcome.



The Nativity performance of "The Sleepy Shepherd" was magical. The children rose to the huge challenge of performing on the stage, in an unfamiliar environment. They all looked amazing in their costumes and were absolute stars. I never get bored of watching Nativity plays and believe me I must have seen around 30 now either as a parent or a teacher and each one is as special to me as the first.

We have received such lovely feedback about our children's performances – thank you. The staff really do appreciate your kind words.

This week has also seen two Christmas trips take place. The first one was a Santa Safari to Hawkstone Park for Classes 1 and 2. I was fortunate to be able to accompany the children on this. I can never resist an opportunity to see Santa!



After a fun Land Rover trip to reach the caves, we quietly walked over the troll's bridge making sure we didn't wake him! Inside the caves, they were beautifully decorated with festive trees, lights and magical scenery and we had to search through them looking for Santa. Along the way, we met some elves who had games for us to play like 'Hook a pudding' and skittles and then the children climbed through a giant Advent Calendar and were surprised to find a slide inside it! Once we reached the Grotto, Santa asked everyone about their wishes for Christmas whilst his elves made careful notes. We met his reindeer

(Donna and Blitzen) who had brought him all the way over from the North Pole. They were getting ready for Christmas Eve. All of the children received a lovely present and had a really fun day. Even Excitable Edgar came with us!



On Wednesday Classes 3 and 4 enjoyed our annual pantomime trip. They had a wonderful time watching 'Peter Pan' at the Lyceum theatre. As ever, the panto was great fun, with lots of jokes and audience participation involved-
"Oh no there wasn't!"
"Oh yes there was!"



The children's behaviour was impeccable and it certainly got us into the festive spirit - even Jeff and Kevin the Carrot enjoyed it.

Thank you, parents for your financial contributions to these trips. Without your support these would not be possible.

School Ambassadors

This week our School Ambassadors: Christi and Finlay have been set a challenge with a very tight deadline. They received a letter from the Regional Directors of The Shaw Education Trust. It asked that our school contributes to the official SET website. Each school has been asked to produce some information detailing what their school is like from a pupil's point of view.

Firstly, they met with the headteacher and discussed together some of the aspects of The Meadows which we are most proud of. There were lots of points they wanted to include but were reminded that they had to stick to a word limit. Furthermore, they had a deadline to meet which was only 4 days away! One of the key skills of the Ambassador role is working collaboratively and meeting important deadlines.

They have done an amazing job and we have proudly sent off their contribution to The Shaw Education Trust. You can read it here: <https://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk/blog/school-ambassadors-our-school>



Rewards

Today I had the pleasure of awarding lots of certificates to the children, to celebrate their continued good attitudes towards their learning. As you will be aware the children receive dojos for demonstrating each of the "Secrets of Success". These characteristics enable children to achieve personal success and develop into their very best version of themselves they can be. Success is about working hard, it is not about being lucky.



Resilience, kindness towards others and concentration are just some of these attributes.

By analysis of the data gathered this term, we identified the child in each class who has been awarded the most dojos in each of these areas. We also presented certificates to the runner up and overall winner in each class for having the most dojos overall. Congratulations to all of the winners.

This term across the classes, a tremendous 19,302 dojos have been awarded! Furthermore, our grand total positive behaviour percentage is 99%! I am always so very proud of our children's engagement in their learning, attitudes towards one another, manners and ability to accept when they have made a mistake.

I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank the wonderful team of staff, I have the pleasure of working with. Many of whom have persevered through coughs and colds over the last couple of weeks and even family sadness. They absolutely love their job, as do I and it is easy to understand why, when we have each other and most importantly such lovely children who are genuinely fun to be with during Christmas festivities and so hardworking that learning is a joy. The children are such a credit to our community and of course your families at home.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff, I would like to say a very sincere thank you for all your cards and generous gifts. They really are not expected, but I have to say that your kind messages in your cards, just bring so much joy to us all.

We wish you a restful break with time to spend with your loved ones and a very Merry Christmas.

Monday 6th January is a Staff Training day where staff will be working alongside colleagues from across our Trust of Schools.



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.



Registered address: Shaw Education Trust, The Lodge, Wolstanton High School, Milehouse Lane, Wolstanton, Newcastle-under-Lyme,
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The details of our academies registered as business names can be found at www.shaw-education.org.uk