



Meadows Newsletter

Issue 8

January 7th 2022

The Meadows
Primary School

Forthcoming dates

C12 Swimming	Mon 10 th Jan
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Clubs commence	Mon 10 th Jan
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C14 TweenSAFE programme	Mon 10 th Jan, Mon 17 th Jan, Mon 24 th Jan, Mon 31 st Jan
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Y5 Bikeability	Thurs 17 th Feb
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Y4 Bikeability	Fri 18 th Feb
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Half Term	Mon 21-Fri 25 th Feb
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On behalf of all of the staff in our school community, I would like to wish you all a 'Happy New Year'. I'm sure we are all glad to see the end of 2021, and look forward in hope to a better year!



Welcome Back

This week, we have warmly welcomed the children back to school and have thoroughly enjoyed hearing all about their festive fun. They seemed to have made the most of their holiday and have had some lovely surprises from Santa! A huge thank you for all of the generous gifts that were given to the staff before the Christmas break – they were really appreciated.

One thing that has struck me particularly, from talking to children across the school, is how they have all mentioned that they enjoyed seeing their wider families this year, something that wasn't possible for many last year as a result of the pandemic. It has brought so much

joy for so many this year to be reunited once again with our loved ones.

During the Christmas holidays, I was also overjoyed to receive a lovely email from the store manager at the Madeley Moss Co-op, who thanked us for the lovely art work we sent out to our local community to share a little joy and kindness. Last term, the entries from our 'Christmas Kindness' competition were put up around school and sent out to our local community to spread some festive cheer. We had some fantastic entries, and they have certainly been appreciated. The email stated:

Good evening,

We have just received your lovely letter in-store this evening!

On behalf of the team at Madeley Moss Coop we would like to thank-you and your wonderful students for the amazing pictures we just received.

Myself and my team have opened them and they have brought so much joy and happy faces with in our team!

I am going to put these on display for our customers to enjoy too!

Thank-you so much for remembering us and bringing us love and joy at Christmas!



Well done children – little acts of kindness can make a big difference others! You have demonstrated our school motto, 'Learning by caring and sharing.'



Electronic Gadgets

There has been a lot of excitement this term over the many electronic gadgets that the children have had for Christmas. Whilst there are so many positives about the amazing technology available for us today (including the opportunity to communicate, be sociable, learn more and manage our finance etc), unfortunately there are dangers too. It is incredibly important that children are aware of dangers they may encounter, learning to protect themselves so that they can enjoy the many positives.

In school, we constantly promote online safety. This is done discretely through our curriculum. For example, in computing last term all children completed a unit focused specifically on staying safe online and being sharp, checking what they share. Also over the next four weeks, in PSHE, pupils in Class 4 will be participating in a programme called 'TweenSAFE'. These sessions will be delivered by an external agency and will provide children with support about how to be safe online. They will explore how to protect themselves from harm online, including how to protect their information.

In addition to discrete lessons, we also promote online safety each day when pupils are using technology. To find out more about our provision, including useful information and websites you can use at home to support your child to be safe online, please visit our website:

<https://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk/online-safety>

<https://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk/internet-legends>

Internetmatters.org have also created a fantastic digital toolkit to support parents with reviewing online safety at home. This can be found here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/digital-family-toolkit/>



Winter Weather

Since our return to school on Wednesday, it is apparent that the weather continues to vary - the mild Christmas weather disappeared for much of this week and the temperatures plummeted. Already we have had the first signs of snow for the year – something which caused great excitement for our children (and staff).



As a result, please ensure that your child comes to school well prepared for the cold. They should come wrapped up in warm waterproof coats, as well as hats, gloves and scarves please. This will ensure that they can continue to get outside at break times for much needed fresh air and downtime.

Covid-19 Update

As you will be aware, this week we have had many national updates from the government regarding Covid-19. The current climate regarding covid is continuously changing, and we will continue to adapt to ensure our policies and procedures follow national and local guidance, as well as guidance from our trust, in an effort to reduce transmission rates.

In school, we are continuing to promote our Secret of Success ‘Staying Safe’ with our children by:

- Promoting good respiratory hygiene, including ‘Catch it, bin it, kill it.’
- Encouraging frequent handwashing.
- Enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often.
- Staff wearing face masks in communal areas.
- Staggered finish time.

Our current risk assessment can be found here:

<https://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk/covid-19>



To help us to minimise the risk of transmission further, we strongly urge our school community to follow the guidance recently sent out on Parentmail, particularly regarding self-isolation. Since I sent the email out on Tuesday, we have already received additional guidance from the government:

Confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result are to be temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11 January. This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately and will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

If your child has any of the official symptoms, **even if they are mild**, they should not come in to school and should isolate immediately and follow the guidance stipulated.

New members of our school family

This week, it has been fantastic to welcome new children to our school family. Our nursery class continues to grow in number, and our new children have settled in brilliantly, demonstrating enthusiasm to make friends, to learn and to have fun.

Just a reminder that we still have places available in our Nursery class. If your child is 3 and you would like to visit our brand-new Early Years Unit, please give us a call on 01782 498105 to arrange an appointment.

On Monday, we look forward to welcoming our new playworker to school. Mrs Inskip-Edwards will be joining our team, working with children in our new EYFS setting and our after-school provision. She is exceptionally experienced in this role



and is well known to our trust family, as she currently works at Seabridge. I know that she is really looking forward to getting to know our children and working with them to help them thrive.



Vacancy -Lunchtime Supervisor

This term, we have a new vacancy at school. We wish to appoint an enthusiastic Lunchtime Supervisor to start February 2022. Your main duties will be to supervise pupils during lunch within a safe environment. The successful candidates will be able to offer an efficient service and be able to interact with the students. Experience is not essential; however, it would be an advantage.

If you are interested in joining our wonderful school family and committed team, please contact the school office for more information.

Vacancy – Academy Council

There is currently a vacancy for a parent Academy Councillor on the local governing body. Being on the Academy Council can be very rewarding. The role offers you the opportunity to make a real contribution to the life and work of our school. Councillors play a key role in the leadership of the academy and work together with the Executive headteacher, the Head of School, the Shaw Education Trust, staff and other councillors to ensure that our school provides a challenging and supportive environment for its pupils so that they can exceed their potential.

If you are interested and would like to find out more, then contact us here at the school. We look forward to hearing from you.

Learning this Term

Already the children have been working hard in all aspects of their learning. During the course of this week, they have been introduced to many of the new topics they will be exploring across the curriculum.

In order to find out more detail about what your child will be learning, please visit the class pages of our school website, where you will find detailed plans of the content that will be covered this term.

Class 1 (Nursery and Reception) - <https://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk/spring-term>

Class 2 - <https://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk/curriculum-page-0>

Class 3 - <https://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk/class-3-curriculum>

Class 4 - <https://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk/curriculum-page>

Becoming Reading Experts or 'Reading Explorers'

As you are aware from our last newsletter on 10th December, before Christmas we had a health review by our experienced colleagues from the Shaw Education Trust in order to support our continuous drive for school improvement. We are committed to ensuring our pupils are provided with the very best quality of education possible. The review was exceptionally positive. However, as with all aspects of life, there are always things that we can do to continue to develop and grow.

One of our new school priorities, in light of the feedback, is to tweak our Reading provision so that it provides more opportunity for fluency to be built and more focus on individual reading skills (linking to our Canine Companions). This has led to our shift in provision, from guided reading sessions to whole class reading sessions, or '**Reading Explorer**' lessons, as they are now referred to in our school. Here is a little more information from Miss Parry, our English Lead:

This week, the whole school has begun their Reading Explorer sessions. These lessons have replaced the guided reading sessions we once did. The children explore a whole class text together throughout the week, building their reading fluency and applying a range of Reading Dogs. The engagement and excitement towards these sessions has been fantastic! We have already seen an improvement in the independent answers the children are giving and improve confidence when reading aloud. Well done children.



We will be facilitating a reading workshop on TEAMs this half-term. More information about this to follow.

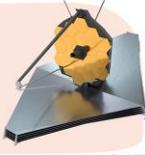
Promoting British Values

To help our children develop as global citizens, each week we have an assembly which explores events in the news and promotes British Values. This week, we have explored the question: **Do you think it is important to know the history of the world?**



Individual liberty

We all have the right to learn about the universe if we choose to. The James Webb Space Telescope may help us discover more than we ever have before!



To help us think about this question, we have explored the launch of the amazing new James Webb Space telescope by Nasa (costing £7.45bn), which will allow astronomers to study the beginning of the universe and look for signs of life-supporting planets in our own galaxy. We have also explored other types of telescopes used by scientists to help us know more about space.

Next week, all children across the school will be celebrating the launch of this phenomenal technology in more detail in class. We have sent a prompt out on Parentmail for you to use to help you discuss our question of the week at home too. We will send these prompts out now each week. Please feel free to share any interesting conversations that you have with your children via our class email address.

A few of our recent Twitter highlights:



The Meadows Primary School @primary_meadows · 9h

The children had a fantastic start to the new term yesterday. It was so lovely to hear all about their Christmas holidays. They settled down straightaway to their learning, showing fantastic learning behaviours. They were also excited to do PE with Mr Skellern again!



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TAKEHOME

In the news this week

Do you think it is important for us to know the history of our universe?

The \$10bn (£7.45bn) James Webb Space Telescope, thought to be one of the most impressive and ambitious, has been sent into space on top of a huge rocket. On Christmas Day, scientists confirmed that the observatory, which has faced many delays, was operating well following a nerve-wracking lift-off. Described as a time machine by scientists, the telescope will allow astronomers to study the beginning of the universe shortly after the Big Bang, 13.8 billion years ago, and to hunt for signs of life-supporting planets in our own galaxy.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Have you ever used a telescope? If so, what did you see?
- Does space and the wider universe interest you?
- Do you think it's important for us to learn more about our universe?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

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The Meadows EYFS @TheMeadows_EYFS

This morning we all got very excited when it started to snow, we went outside to make footprints. We then came inside because it was extremely cold but we made "magic snow" so we could still explore it inside, we added our small world people and pretended they were playing in it.



12:33 PM · Jan 6, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone



The Meadows Primary School @primary_meadows

In Class 3, we have been building algorithms in Computing this afternoon. The children have begun to create their own game!



1:46 PM · Jan 6, 2022 · Twitter Web App

If you are not yet a follower of our Twitter account, I urge you to do so. It is a great way of keeping informed and seeing snapshots of learning and activities in school. Our two accounts are:

@primary_meadows
@TheMeadows_EYFS

Have a lovely weekend.
All the best,

Mrs Kuffour

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.



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