



Meadows Newsletter

Issue 5

November 26th 2019

The Meadows
Primary School

Forthcoming dates

Please do check the website regularly

Friday 6th December	Non Uniform Chocolate Tombola donation
Wednesday 11th December	Flu Immunisation All year groups
Thursday 12th December	Christmas Disco Leycett Cricket Club
Monday 16th December	Music Performance Classes 3 and 4 All Saints' Church 1:45 pm
Tuesday 17th December	Classes 1 and 2 Trip to Hawkstone Park Santa Safari
Wednesday 18th December	Classes 3 and 4 Trip to Crewe Lyceum Peter Pan
Wednesday 18th December	Nativity Performance The Madeley Centre 1:30pm Classes 1 and 2
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Lunch
Friday 20th December	End of Term
Tuesday 7th January	Start of New Term

Christmas Countdown

December is quickly approaching and we are beginning to feel the children's infectious enthusiasm building throughout the school. Christmas is such a special time for children and is certainly a highlight of the school year.

Classes 1 and 2 have begun to rehearse their nativity play, which is always an absolute delight to watch and brings such very special memories for our families. I would like to say a special thank you for your support with the costumes. If anyone has any issues providing these, please do let us know so we can help. A few parents have asked me if they can video the performance. I feel passionately that parents should have the freedom to do this, so they can capture the memories and share with other family members. We do ask that you use all images of the children for personal use only and do not upload them to social media. It is important to remember that we do have some children in school whose parents do not give consent for their child's image to be used.

The performance will be held in The Madeley Centre, which means we have use of the stage and can ensure sufficient seating. This does however bring challenges regarding rehearsals. Due to limited availability at the Centre, we will need to do the dress rehearsal on the morning of Wednesday 18th December. We ask that children in classes 1 and 2 are dropped off at the Madeley Centre at 9:00am rather than the school. We will transport the children back to school later in the morning using the Rural Run-around mini bus. I realise that this may be an inconvenience for some parents, particularly those who do not drive or who have older siblings to also drop off at the school. Unfortunately, there isn't another option. We will understand if your older sibling is late due to transport issues that morning. If you have difficulty with this, please do let us know, so we can try our very best to help.

As we now have two music specialist teachers supporting our curriculum and also providing private instrumental and singing lessons, we feel it is important that the children have a performance opportunity. We have therefore arranged with Rev Peter from All Saint's Church, to hold a music performance. This will be for the key

stage 2 children only, we will walk to the church on the afternoon of the 16th December. Parents who have come along to watch will be able to collect the children after the performance has finished. We know the children are looking forward to proudly sharing their talents with you and it will also be a lovely time for us to share some festive cheer together.

You will be aware that this year we are supporting the All Saints' reverse Advent Calendar. This is where we ask families to make a contribution to the local Foodbank. You should have received an email explaining on which day of the month your child has been asked to contribute and a suggested item. This is entirely voluntary and if you can't supply that particular item, alternative items will be greatly appreciated.

Sporting Competitions

Our school does network with other schools in the Newcastle area so that we can arrange opportunities for our children to participate in events and develop not only their competitive skills but also develop their sportsmanship attitudes. Due to the small size of our school, such events do present many challenges both in terms of pupil numbers and releasing staff to accompany children to these events. I would like to take this opportunity to thank so many staff members for transporting the children and adjusting their teaching timetables to accommodate the competitions.



We are so proud of the team who participated in the Indoor Sports Hall athletics competition this week. They took part in a number of events which tested their athletic speed, flexibility, coordination and strength. We came third, which is a tremendous achievement.

Our football team joined Mr Skellern in a tournament held at Keele University last week. It was bitterly cold that afternoon and the boys did so well showing resilience in the conditions. Whilst we did suffer some defeats, we also did enjoy some draws and even a win! Well done boys – you represented the school with pride and it was lovely to hear such glowing reports of your interactions with each other and the other teams.

Trip to Quarry Bank Mill

In History this term, Class 4 have been exploring the Victorian era. So far, we have explored the chronology of the Victorian era, linking to previous eras we have explored throughout school including the Stone Age and ancient civilisations such as Greece and Rome.

Furthermore, we have investigated what life was like during the Victorian era for people (specifically children) and how it compares to life today. For example, we have explored different jobs that were common for children including: working in mines, in cotton mills and working as chimney sweeps. Throughout the course of the unit, we have explored how we can learn more about the era through the use of primary and secondary sources of evidence. Therefore, to aid our learning in class, last Friday Class 4 went to visit Quarry Bank Mill, which is one of the best-preserved textile mills of the Industrial revolution and is now a museum of the cotton industry. During our visit, we had the opportunity to:

- Investigate how the cotton industry changed from being done in cottages and homes by hand, to being done in huge factories with more complex machines.
- Explore what life was like for apprentices who lived and worked there.
- Recognise the dangers involved working in a mill.
- Recognise common cures for ailments, including the use of leeches to purge the body of illness.
- Identify how water was used to power the mill.

The day was thoroughly enjoyable. The children's behaviour, as ever, was impeccable. We had so many comments (from staff, volunteers and members of the general public) about their wonderful attitudes, learning behaviours and polite manners. I was exceptionally proud of them all.

Please take a look at the class blog to share some photographs from the day.

Mrs Kuffour



School Ambassadors

Due to saying farewell to one of our Ambassadors, we have been faced with a very difficult decision in school concerning a replacement. After a great deal of discussion between the staff and a vote, I would like to congratulate Finlay upon his appointment. I know Christi is looking forward to welcoming him to the role.

Parking

Finally, I would like to remind our parents about the importance of parking safely around the school area. I know that it gets very congested due to the road junctions and the amount of traffic. I also appreciate that parking along the streets is limited. There are two very dangerous issues happening currently which have once again been brought to my attention. Firstly, a car parked on the corner of Hillwood Rd junction and secondly, parking on the yellow zig zags outside of school. Both of these are not only illegal, but are putting the safety of children and other pedestrians at risk. Please take the time to park a little further away and keep all of our children and families safe.



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.



Mrs Procter



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