



Meadows Newsletter

Issue 1

January 4th 2023

The Meadows
Primary School

Forthcoming dates

9/1/23	Year 6 SATS Information Meeting
12/1/23	Year 2 SATS Information Meeting
20/2/23-24/2/23	Half Term

Happy New Year!

I hope that you have had a lovely Christmas holiday and that our whole school family is now feeling refreshed after the break, eager to start the Spring term.



This new year and new term marks a fresh chapter in the life of The Meadows. Before the holidays, we ended the term with gratitude for the wonderful work Ms Bebbington has done in her time here as headteacher. We wish her all the very best in her new role and know what a blessing she will be to her new school. As you are all aware, I feel privileged to have had the baton handed over to me and am committed to ensuring that our children continue to be provided with the very best education possible. I look forward to working

with you all, over the coming weeks and months, in my new role as headteacher. Together we will ensure that our children exceed their potential.

Since I will no longer have a class, Miss Parry now has the exciting opportunity to teach Class 4, which I know the children are looking forward to. Miss Parry is an excellent teacher and I know and she will support our children as they become 'secondary ready'. We also have the pleasure of welcoming Miss Sutcliffe to our team, who will replace Miss Parry as Class 3's teacher. She is a wonderful edition to our school family and the children have already enjoyed a few weeks of getting to know her before the holidays. She looks forward to getting to know our whole school family in more detail too.



In addition, Miss Cluer will be joining our Nursery/Reception staff for her teaching training placement this half term – we look forward to introducing her to you when she begins at the end of January. Also, Mr Magee (a valued member of our team already) will expand his current role by taking on caretaking responsibilities.

Understandably, change can bring on a sense of trepidation for some, and this situation is no different, particularly since there have been so few changes to staffing at The Meadows in the past ten years (something which is most unusual for other schools). However, change can also be a time of excitement, innovation, positivity, progress and new opportunities for growth. We will continue to be child centred and ensure that these changes have a positive impact on our children both personally and academically. We will support our children, and each other, every step of the way just as our motto, 'Learning by caring and sharing' implies. We thank you, in advance, for your support and patience during this initial period of transition.

Changes to the PE Timetable

Due to the changes of staffing structure, we have had to make small changes to the curriculum timetable including in PE.



The children will have PE on the following days, **commencing on Thursday 5th January:**

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Class 3	Class 1 (Nursery/Reception)	Class 2
Class 4	Class 2	Class 4
	Class 3 (Swimming)	

As Ms Bebbington informed you last term, we have reviewed our swimming provision after discussion with our swimming instructors and colleagues from SET. It has been decided that Class 3 will continue to go again this term. We feel that focusing our provision on two years groups will have a significant positive impact on the progress they make, and it will reduce any loss of learning so that the children retain the skills they develop. **We are awaiting confirmation of the date when swimming will recommence.** However, it will not be tomorrow so Cl3 are not required to bring their swimming kits into school, rather just come into school in their PE kit instead.

Start and End of the Day Arrangements



Last term, we began to see an increase again of parents entering school through the car park rather than using the crossing near the monument, which is patrolled. This continues to be a concern as it is a much more dangerous place to cross due to the speed of the traffic travelling down the road and the poor visibility. Please can we urge you to use the manned crossing, modelling positive behaviours to the children so they know how to keep themselves safe when crossing roads. This is excellent preparation for when you decide that they are old enough to walk to school unaccompanied, something that many children do when they go to high school.

In an effort to promote safe crossing, we will be closing the car park gates between 8:30-9:00am and 3:15-3:45pm. The side gate by the school will remain open, as per usual, should you need to go to the school office.

Y2/Y6 SATs Meeting

Next week, Miss Parry and I will hold an information meeting on **Monday 9th January at 3:00-3:30pm** for **Year 6 parents** to discuss SATs week (and the preparation beforehand) and how you can support your child. Mrs Farrand will hold a similar meeting for **Year 2 parents on Thursday 12th January at 3:00-3:30pm.**

If you are a parent of a child in either of these year groups and are able to attend, I would strongly encourage you to as it will hopefully provide clarity on what SATs are, what will be expected of the children, and how we can work together to prepare and support the children over the next two terms.

Curriculum Updates

If you would like to find out what your child will be learning this term, please visit our school website. On each class you will find our long term and medium-term curriculum overviews. We are constantly updating information on our website, so do take time to explore the wealth of information on there.

Class 1 (Nursery/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>

This week, your child's teacher will also send home knowledge organisers to each unit they are covering in their subjects. These organisers provide you with the knowledge the children will be required to know during their unit. In some subjects, such as in Maths, the document will also give you examples of the representations and methods the children will use to help them learn. We hope they will be useful – they are a great way of keeping informed of the content your child is learning. Please take time to explore them with your children.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

A form will be sent out tomorrow, via Parentmail, for the children to select which extra-curricular clubs they wish to attend this term. Please return the completed form by **Friday 6th January**. All clubs run from 3:30-4:30pm and will commence next week.



School Uniform

A reminder that we have some supply of pre-owned school uniform in school on sale at a fraction of the cost of new uniform. We all know how quickly our children grow out of their school uniform, so please do check at school before heading to the shops. All donations go towards school funds.

If your child has grown out of any of their uniform, please also consider donating it to school. This is a great way of giving back to our community as well as looking after our environment by reducing the amount we throw away. Every little bit we can do matters and is appreciated!

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 are focusing on 'Democracy', exploring the question: **Should all the energy we use be renewable?**

In order to explore this question, we will be looking at the recent news story that a flatpack wind turbine, invented by then 15-year-old Douglas Macartney from Scotland, has now been developed into a working prototype to help provide power to communities in need.

Please take the opportunity to discuss this at home with your child, and feel free to share any interesting conversations that you have with your children via our class email address. You can use the resource below to help you:



Should all the energy we use be renewable?

In the news this week

A flatpack wind turbine, invented by Douglas Macartney from Scotland, is to help provide power to communities in Kenya, Africa. Douglas designed the turbine for a competition four years ago, when he was only 15. It has now been developed into a working prototype with two additional solar panels by teams of student engineers from Glasgow Caledonian University. It is hoped the device, which can be assembled without any specialist training, will be used to help areas recovering from natural disasters and in rural settlements.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Do you have any sources of renewable energy either in your home or at school? What are they used for?
- > Share your thoughts on Douglas' invention. How do you think it may benefit the rural communities in Kenya?

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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School Life

To find out more about what your child gets up to each day, please remember to check out our website <https://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk> and follow/share our Twitter account @primary_meadows. They are great ways to keep up to date with school life and up-and-coming events too.

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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