



**The Meadows**  
Primary School

# Meadows Newsletter

Issue 11

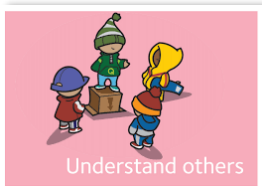
27<sup>th</sup> June 2023

## Forthcoming dates

28/6/23	Sports Day
3/7/23	Y6 Rounders Competition at The Meadows Primary Academy (Team to be selected)
5/7/23	'Moving Up' transition at The Meadows
5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Transition Days at Madeley School
6/7/23	EYFS (Foxes and Badgers) Sports Day
12/7/23	Y3,4,5 Trip to The National Space Centre
19/7/23	Y6 Leavers' Play at Madeley School 6pm
24/7/23	Last day of term
morning	Class Parties
2-3pm	Celebrations Assembly at The Madeley Centre
25/7/23	INSET

Pupils across the school have been immersed within assessments over the past few weeks. The children have been demonstrating many of their Secrets of Success during the process including working hard, concentrating, and pushing themselves. Most of our pupils seem to embrace this opportunity to show what they know and take the week in their stride. Such fantastic attitudes will certainly help them in the future – we know that tests are part of the process of learning (e.g. GCSEs), are required for careers (qualifications required often involve testing) and for the development of life skills (such as driving). Well done children.

Such assessments also help us to identify the progress your child has made during the course of the academic year and their summative attainments. This information will be shared with you at the end of term in your child's report, which the teachers are working incredibly hard to write now. The reports will be a celebration of all that they have achieved both personally and academically, as well as give some information of areas in which your child needs to continue to improve. Reports will get sent out to parents at the end of term.



## SET Surveys

A huge thank you to all who took the time to complete the parent survey. I am in the process of looking through the results and feedback from the staff, pupils, and parents, and then will analyse and share the results with the community so that you are able to see the strengths of the school from different

perspectives, and the areas we will continue to work on. We have received some lovely comments from all aspects of the community – thank you for your support, encouragement, and your constructive feedback. There are two comments that have particularly touched the staff from parents, in relation to the strengths of the school:

***"Recognising each child as an individual. Supporting the child emotionally. Creating a welcoming, inclusive, community environment."***

***"Providing a very good level of education, but also looking after the children's mental wellbeing and development and truly caring about the children. All of the staff within the school (teaching and non-teaching) contribute to this and are all truly exceptional."***

Helping all children to be successful – both personally and academically- is the mission of our school. We are working hard to ensure that this school is nurturing family ethos innovative, where we deliver an inspiring and inclusive curriculum where all learners become independent and resilient and have the possibility to exceed their potential. Thank you for recognising and celebrating this. 😊

## Celebration Concert at The Victoria Hall

Last week, the Owls class (Y3/4) thoroughly enjoyed showing off the skills and knowledge they have acquired this year in their weekly Ukulele lessons when they performed at The Victoria Hall. It was a wonderful celebration of all that they have learnt and the children really embraced the experience. At The Meadows, we recognise that performance is one of the characteristics of a musician, and the children did themselves (and us) proud, pushing themselves out of their comfort zones. Miss Sutcliffe and Mrs Panagi were incredibly impressed with your excellent attitudes and behaviour too. Well done, Owls!





### Transition Morning

On 5<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> July, Y6 will be visiting Madeley School for their transition days. To prepare them, they have already had a visit from their new head of year, Mrs Carter, who came to talk to the children about life at high school and answers lots of their burning questions.

Today, Reverend Tim and Ruth (from All Saints Church, Madeley) came to visit the Y6 children to lead a transition workshop, giving them lots of tips to help quell their understandable nerves and to look forward to the exciting next stage of their learning journey.

At The Meadows, we will be holding our **transition morning on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July**, where all children will spend the morning getting to know the class and teachers they will be with next year. Parents of children in Reception have already received an email on Parentmail regarding arrangements for their children on this day as they join us at the main site for the morning. **Please note: all afternoon lessons will continue as normal** – there will be no changes to PE on that day. **If you child normally does PE on a Wednesday afternoon, they should come in their PE kit as per usual.**

### Fundraising

A huge thank you to all who came to support our Quiz night last week. Thank you for all of your positive feedback and good humour on the night – it was great fun. 😊 A huge thanks to Mrs Cooper for arranging the event. In total, we raised £110, which will go towards the recent purchase of air conditioning units for the main site. We hope to run another quiz night next term, with a Harry Potter theme.

Going forward for the next academic year, we are looking to create a calendar of events (including workshops, fundraising events, family learning sessions and celebrations) to give out at the start of the academic term. We hope that this will give you plenty of advanced warning and help with your family plans. This is not to say that events won't be added along the way, and plans may change due to unforeseen circumstances that are unavoidable. We will endeavour to do what we can to support you along the way with reminder too.

### Celebrations Assembly

The end of term is fast approaching. Our **last day of term will be Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July**. A reminder that Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> is an INSET day for staff training, therefore the school will be closed to pupils.

On **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July**, we will have **our class parties in the morning** (an email will be sent home about this over the next few weeks). In the **afternoon, we will be holding our Celebrations Assembly at The Madeley Centre**, where we will celebrate our children's success over the course of the academic year. Last year, this was done internally with the children at school. However, this year, we would like you to join us, so that our whole community can celebrate together and say goodbye to our Year 6 leavers too, who have been such an important part of our school during their time with us. The event will **start at 2pm**, and **access into the hall will open at 1:50pm**. Due to the growing nature of our school, unfortunately we will only be able to accommodate two adults per family. A form will be sent out on Parentmail for families to inform the school of who the two members will be. Pupils can then be taken home from the centre after the assembly has **finished at approximately 3pm**.



### Summary of the Event

Event: Celebrations Assembly

Date: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July

Location: The Madeley Centre

Time: 2-3pm

Details: 2 adults per family, form to be sent out on Parentmail, collection from the Madeley Centre at 3pm

## Competitions

Last week, children in Y5/6 represented our school at an athletics competition at Northwood Stadium against nine other local schools. We were so proud of the children, who were excellent representative of The Meadows, modelling fantastic behaviours and sportsmanship. Overall, the children performed brilliantly, and we won 1 gold (200m girls); 6 silvers (80m boys, 800m boys, 400m boys and girls, 200m boys); and 5 bronzes (200m girls, 80m sprint girls, long jump boys, high jump girls and boys). What an amazing achievement for a small school. Mr Skellern was overjoyed when he heard the news! Well done children.



## Class Updates

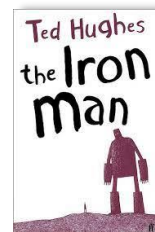
Here are a few updates about some of the exciting learning that has been taking place over the past few weeks in school:

**Foxes and Badgers** have been loving their new role play areas linked to their book, 'The Snail and the Whale'.



The **Kingfishers** have been learning about the different parts of a plant in Science and D&T. They particularly enjoyed exploring the part of a plant you can eat in D&T, where some tasting was involved. Yummy!

The **Owls** have enjoyed delving into the opening of their new text in English, 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes.



The **Hawks** have been learning about translation on a four quadrant co-ordinates grids.

## Red 2 Blue

At The Meadows, one of our **aims is to help our children to be personally successful**. We do a lot of work with our children to help their personal development. Every day, our pupils come into school and have **121 time with their teacher to scale how they are feeling**. This daily dialogue helps our children to feel recognised, to develop their social and emotional language and it also helps our teacher to triage and address any worries or concerns they may have, putting immediate support into place. We use **Zumos** to help us do this, which all children have access to at home. We also promote personal development through **our curriculum, our assemblies** and through our **restorative approach to managing behaviour**, as indicated in our policy.

This year, we have focused on helping children to **self-regulate**, so that they recognise strategies they can use to help them to regulate their emotions. Across the school, we have **now launched our new 'Red 2 Blue' approach to support pupils' emotional wellbeing and self-regulation**. This is an approach that has been launched across The Shaw Education Trust family and is an approach that is being implemented at Madeley High School too. As mentioned in previous newsletters, **Mrs Davies and Mrs Panagi have completed their coaching qualifications** and have delivered training to staff. Leaders have launched this approach with pupils in assembly and teachers are beginning to explore it with pupils through their daily interactions and through PSHE.

In school, we are going to be using a new approach to **help children to recognise and manage their feelings so that they can focus on the things they need to be doing, like our learning**. We recognise that **where our attention goes, our energy follows**. Certain feelings can stop us from focusing on the things we need to be doing for example, feeling worries, anxious, upset, overly excited, angry or nervous. Whilst these are normal emotions we all experience at times, they can be unhelpful because they can divert our attention and energy away from the things we are supposed to be doing.



When we are feeling these emotions, we refer to them as our **'Red Head' state**. Having a 'Red Head' might **make us feel**:

- hot



- uncomfortable
- not ourselves
- distracted
- not able to concentrate

Having a **'Red Head'** might make us:

- Act aggressively (shouting, pushing, shoving)
- Say, "I Can't!"
- Say, "I won't!"
- Use unkind words
- Do and say things we don't mean



We are working with the children to help them to know the **tools and techniques they can use to move from red to blue.**

When we have a **'Blue Head'** we can concentrate. We might feel **cool, calm, clear and aware** of what we have got to do. Also:

- We will say, "I will try!"
- We will say, "I will do!"
- We control our actions and our words and make good choices.



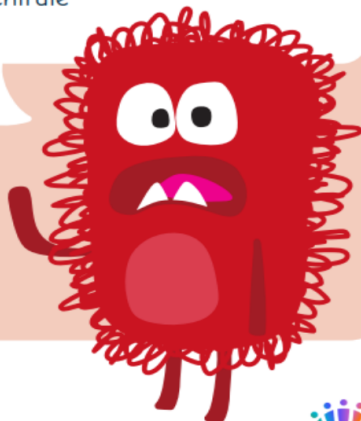
We have to **choose to move from red to blue!** We are working with the children to choose some techniques to help them to move to blue. They could include:

#### EXERCISE 2

### ZOOM OUT / ZOOM IN

When you feel yourself drifting off or becoming busy inside your head, try looking up and noticing as many spaces around you as possible. Count them.

Refocus and concentrate



#### EXERCISE 3

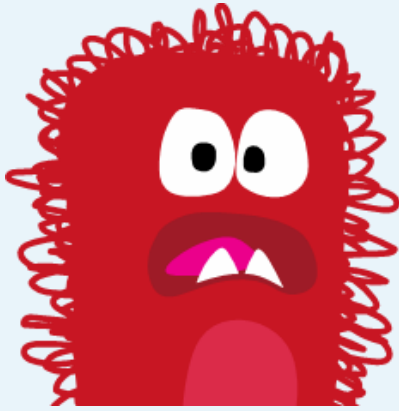
### GROUNDING

- 1 Place tongue on the bottom of your mouth
- 2 Feel ground under your feet
- 3 Feel your stomach move in and out as you breathe
- 4 Hold the first two fingers of your left hand (optional)



# Get Physical

When you feel your  
**Red Head** coming...



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We are in the early stages of our implementation. We are currently creating a group of 'Wellbeing Warriors' – pupils who would like to know the approach in detail and work with other children to help them move from red to blue. We are looking to hold workshops in the Autumn term, when implementation is further along, to help you to know how you could use the approach to help your child to move from red to blue outside of school too.



## Individual Liberty

There are some situations or challenges we face that may be tricky. Learning how to manage risks can help us make choices and take action in response to these.

- Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs
- Mutual respect

## British Values

One of the aims of our school is to help our children to develop into reflective, tolerant and respectful global citizens of the future. Our curriculum is designed to help our children to know what it means to be British, and the values that underpin our society, namely:

- The rule of law
- Democracy
- Individual liberty

One way that we teach the children about these values is through our weekly British Values assembly, where the children explore topical news content together. This week, their assembly will be focused on the British Value, 'Individual Liberty'. They will be exploring the question, 'What is bravery?' and will hear about the recent story of four children that were found alive after surviving a plane crash and spending 40 days in Columbia's Amazon rainforest. They will explore the story, what the terrain was like, and the skills the children had been taught by their family and community that helped them to survive.



## UN Rights of a Child



Governments should let families and communities guide their children as they grow up. The Huitoto traditionally learn hunting, fishing and gathering from a young age.



## School Life

To find out more about life at The Meadows, please follow us on Twitter @primary\_meadows. This is a great way to find out what your children have been learning and for us to signpost events coming up. You can help us to raise the profile of our school in the local community too by liking and sharing our tweets.



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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