



Newsletter

2nd December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Another week of learning has flown with so many highlights that have made us so very proud of our children. It has also been a very exciting week as Buddy the elf arrived to spread Christmas cheer and kindness. Our children were amazed at his kindness that he had decorated school with Christmas trees and decorations. They are also enjoying spotting where he is hiding every day! Did you spot the elf on Thursday?



Christmas Kindness

Our children are collecting tokens for showing kindness and care to their friends in and out of the classroom. The class who achieve the most will achieve a special treat from Mrs Allison.



Inquisitive Owlets!

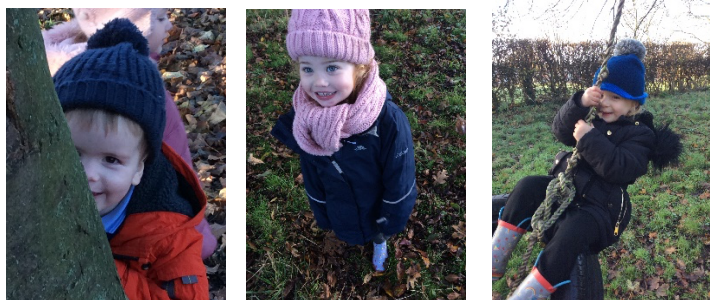
Our amazing owlets have enjoyed learning a new poem this week. We introduce a new short poem each week with actions and by the end of the week these can usually be recited from memory. Our favourite book of poems is 'A Great Big Cuddle' by Michael Rosen. This week's poem was 'Chop Chop Choppity Chop'



Keep up to date with more school news via our website and social media channels.

Pre-school Rummaging Robins!

This week we have been reading "Betty and the Yeti", on Monday we looked for Yeti footprints in forest school. We have been busy learning our Christmas songs and getting festive with Christmas crafts.



Perfect Puffins!

This week the Puffins have been very keen to practise their nativity performance. On Monday, spirits were high as we headed to the hall for our first rehearsal on the stage! The Puffins did not disappoint, their listening, singing and acting skills were second to none. Alongside our Christmas magic, the Puffins have remained composed and concentrated in our phonics and maths lessons, learning more special friends and playing board games using one less. As the Puffins have such a clear understanding of the importance of staying safe in and around school, they excelled again this week, winning the golden cup which earned them a well deserved extra break time where we headed out onto the field for some bubble fun!

We are so looking forward to seeing you all for a little bit of Christmas magic on Tuesday afternoon next week.



Curious Kingfishers!

Our wonderful year one learners have had a busy week full of learning, fun and friendship! In history we have been learning all about timelines and how people change from babies through to adulthood. This will lead us into looking at childhood in the past and the types of toys children would have played with. Do you have any stories to share with your child about your childhood about games you played? Or maybe you have kept some treasured toys that you could talk about?

Our beautiful voices have been filling the air as we rehearse with our Year Two friends for our Christmas show: 'The Big Little Nativity'. Mrs Bennett is so impressed with how well those with speaking parts have learned their lines and the confidence of each and every child with their makaton signs and songs in the performance. We have a few stars in the making! On Monday, Year One gave an assembly to promote disability awareness. The children helped Mrs Bennett to highlight some important messages for our Meadowdale family and they really impressed everyone with their rendition of 'This Little Light of Mine' complete with sign language. They really are superstars.

There was excitement in the air on Thursday when Brian the kind elf was busy overnight and left our class a Christmas tree! The children were super excited and very curious when they found a note left by Brian. He ran out of time and midnight and was frozen in our classroom for the day! In his note, he asked that Mrs Bennett choose a lucky Kingfisher to add the final touch to our class tree and place the star on the top.



Shining Skylarks!

The Skylarks have now completed their writing block and have learnt many new skills as a writer, including writing in sentences, using capital letters correctly, using adverbs and even how to use speech marks. They are super excited to be planning their very own story now.

Their ideas so far have entertained and impressed us both! We can't wait to read the final story. In science this week we began learning all about habitats, starting with zooming in on our own habitat. I wonder if they can spot any different habitat when out and about over the weekend.

Super Swifts

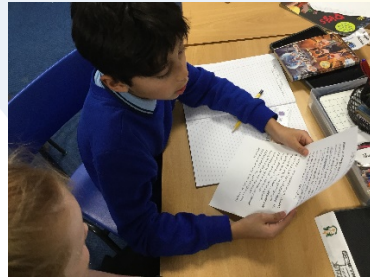
During their art lesson this week, the Swifts have been practising their clay skills to create prehistoric pottery. They practised this week using multi-coloured clay and next week will be perfecting their ideas.



Heroic Harriers

Our Heroic Harriers have been playing the glockenspiel and developing their skills at level 2. They have also been researching the daily life and routines of Buddhist monks and then shared their findings with the rest of the class

We have been inspired by William Morris and have been printing some example artworks for our fabrics using potatoes.



Marvellous Merlins

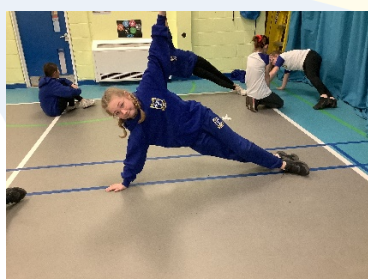
This week the Merlins have been producing sentences for our report on a mission to Mars based on the film 'The Martian'. We have explored scientific vocabulary, used acronyms and we are learning the techniques to write an informal report.

We are enjoying the challenges set by the Northumberland School Games where this week we focused on our balance and our core where we had to do a crab balance and move a cone over their body.



Outstanding Owls

The Outstanding Owls are working hard on their agility, balance and co-ordination skills in preparation for the upcoming Northumberland Games Multi Skills Competition. I am really pleased with the determination that they have shown in our PE lessons this week. Keep up the great work, Year 6.



Golden Awards

Our Headteacher Golden Awards were presented today to the following children who have all impressed their class teacher and shone very brightly.

- Nursery: Bobbie
- Reception: Junior K
- Year 1: Toby M
- Year 2: Jessica F
- Year 3: Georgia H
- Year 4: Eva
- Year 5: Joseph
- Year 6: Elliott



Well done to you all, we are very proud of you!

Start times

All children from Reception to Year 6 need to arrive from **8.30am - 8.40am** and go straight to their classroom to get ready for the day of learning. We close the top gate at 8.45am when all children are registered and ready to learn. All children will need to report to the school office if they are later than 8.45am parents will be notified that their child was late.

Class Attendance

The government expectation is 96% attendance for individual pupils and school. Attendance and punctuality really matter to your child's education - every day counts! When your child's attendance drops below 95% school will begin monitoring. Referrals to the local authority may also be made if there is no improvement seen.



Reception	Yr. 1	Yr. 2	Yr. 3	Yr. 4	Yr. 5	Yr. 6
84%	95.3%	95.6%	94.4%	98.3%	89.4%	94.8%

Healthy snacks

Thank you to all parents from Yr 3 upwards who have sent their child to school with a healthy mid-morning snack, we had seen crisps and sweets last half term which are not healthy options before their lunch. Everyone in the younger year groups is provided with a healthy snack. There has been a huge variety of snacks which the children have really

enjoyed and we hope that this continues throughout the year. If your child does bring sweets or crisps into school, they will be asked to keep them for home time.

Polite Reminder

If your child needs an emergency medical appointment, please provide evidence of the appointment with our Office team. If the booking has been made over the telephone, a text message is sent and this can be forwarded or a photograph taken and sent to our Office team. If in doubt, please ask. It really is important that we know where the children are.

Please remember that emergency messages for end of day pick up will be delivered to a class teacher and we will follow instructions from a parent/carer only when it is an emergency.

Dates for diary

December	
Tuesday 6 th December	EYFS Nativity
Wednesday 7 th December	KS1 Christmas Performance
Thursday 8 th December	M&M Productions – Cinderella and Christmas Jumper day for Save the Children
Friday 9 th December	Lower KS2 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 14 th December	Chris Bostock – Story teller
Thursday 15 th December	Christingle – Years 5 & 6 at St. Cuthbert’s Church
Friday 16 th December	Reception children sing at Morrisons
Friday 16 th December	Christmas Parcel book Swap
Friday 16 th December	Christmas story swap
Friday 16 th December	Christmas Chocolate or Bottle Raffle Prize Draw
Friday 16 th December	Christmas Lunch
Monday 19 th December	KS2 Online Science Christmas Workshop
Monday 19 th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Parties
Monday 19 th December	PTFA Magic of Christmas Movie Night
Tuesday 20 th December	KS2 Year 3 and 4 am, Year 5 and Year 6 pm Christmas Parties
Tuesday 20 th December	School closes for Christmas at normal time

Christmas performances

The performance times for every key stage. It will be a ticketed event with **two** tickets per family for the performance. **Our doors will open from 1.30pm** and you will be able to buy tea/coffee and a mince pie, purchase raffle tickets along with a mystery book stall.

Christmas Raffle

We would love to raise money for Save the Children this Christmas and raise money to support some of the extras that we give in school for our children like the Christmas pantomime and Chris Bostock visit. THANK YOU to everyone who has provided a chocolate prize or a bottle prize – it is much appreciated! Raffle tickets will be on sale before each Christmas production and online from **Friday 25th November**. We will then draw the raffle on Friday 16th December.

Christmas Lunch

Our new Catering Manager, Mr. Wright, is looking forward to the Christmas lunch for our children on Friday 16th December. The Christmas menu is:



Main course:

Roast Turkey, Stuffing, Pigs in blankets, Roast potatoes, Seasonal vegetables, Sprouts and gravy.

Vegetarian option:

Quorn and vegetable Hotpot, seasonal vegetables, Sprouts and gravy.

Desserts:

Christmas pudding and white sauce

Christmas biscuit with Juice

Chocolate yule log

Fruit salad

Our Year 6 parents have been invited to attend and we would look forward to this becoming a Meadowdale tradition.

PTFA Movie Night AND Santa visit – Monday 19th December



Details have been sent and our children will be able to watch whilst enjoying a delicious hot chocolate (or cold drink if they are not a fan of hot chocolate). Book online by Friday 2nd December.

Clubs This Week

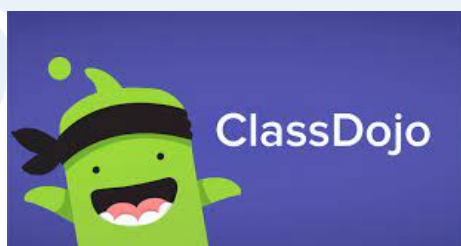
Tuesday – Choir – Years 3,4,5, & 6 – Last week

Thursday – Multi skills – Year 1 & 2 – Last week

Dojo Points

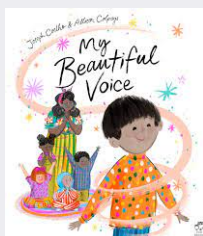
This week, on Thursday 1st December, we launched class Dojo points for children in Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 and parents received a letter on Wednesday with information about the scheme. Children in Year 4 with Mr Carney had trialled it and LOVED it so much they felt that they needed to share it and they did in assembly in Wednesday.

Our children are very excited about collecting points for their behaviour in school and they can be awarded points at home for going to bed on time and much more! Parents can then see how many points their child has collected every day and the reasons for the points. Class teachers can also post reminders about activities coming up to keep children and parents organised. They will also be sharing learning on the site. We will ask for pupil and parental feedback in the New Year.



My Beautiful Voice

Last week we launched our whole school poetry competition and I shared a beautiful illustrated story entitled 'My Beautiful Voice'. Our children are all invited to write a poem upon any subject. Poetry can make us think, laugh out loud and sometimes make us cry. Poems can rhyme but don't need to. Our children may wish to write about our world, things that make them happy or upset, pets, family- ANYTHING. We will award an EYFS, KS1, KS2 and an overall winner prize. We will share their work and hope to have some parent judges to help us decide upon the winners! The entries need to be in school by Friday 9th December. We then will display all poems and hope that our children will read them to their classes, sharing their beautiful words and voices.



Thank you for your continued support, it is much appreciated. Please remember if you have any queries, please do not hesitate in contacting school. We are always here to help and support our children and families.

Wishing everyone a happy weekend.

Take care

Mrs Allison