



# Newsletter

20th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our pupils have had such an exciting week as you will see below, they rose to the challenge I set them in assembly regarding attendance and on Monday we rewarded an impressive 5 classes who achieved 96% or more for their attendance. There was an impressive biscuit tower to give out to these classes to say 'well done'.

We met our new Head teacher this week and are all looking forward to Miss Coates starting at Meadowdale on Monday, she was very impressed by the warm welcome she received from pupils when she visited each class.

We wish our Y3 teacher Mrs Moore well as she leaves us on Friday to begin her maternity leave, we hope she gets a little time to relax before welcoming her new baby. Miss Bartlett, who has worked closely with Mrs Moore this week, will cover Mrs Moore's maternity leave.

## Inquisitive Owlets!

This week the owlets will be celebrating Chinese New Year. The year of the rabbit.

We are very busy making Chinese lanterns to decorate our room.

We have enjoyed tasting noodles and rice even having a go at using chopsticks with impressive results.

We will finish off our celebrations with a dragon dance at the end of the week.



## Pre-school Rummaging Robins!

The Robins have enjoyed playing in the snow this week and attempting to build a snowman. We have been reading "Colour Monster" and made a puppet show.



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

### **Perfect Puffins!**

The Puffins were so excited to see the snow at the beginning of this week! We put on our coats, gloves and hats and spent some time together enjoying running, laughing and writing in snow on the playground.

Our journey back in time continues, as we explore our information text 'Dinosaur Safari'. The Puffins are adding to their every growing vocabulary with another group of wondrous words, including 'hunt, fossil, safari, predators and swamp'.

The Puffins have also enjoyed leading their own Pinny Time this week, challenging each other to Speedy Sounds and Fred Talk.

Our Maths this week has seen us investigating the composition of 5. The Puffins are now so quick at showing different ways of making five, using their fingers, Numicon, playdough and counters - we even painted our Mathematical thinking on Tuesday!



Another great week of learning. Well done Puffins.

### **Curious Kingfishers!**

What a chilly week! A perfect time for the Kingfishers to discuss the seasonal qualities of winter during our science lessons! We have also begun to look at our new topic all about materials. Our first lesson was all about natural and human made materials and we had fun matching objects to their materials.

Our authors have been becoming familiar with a story called 'Something Fishy' and have worked hard to retell the story using full sentences and descriptive language. Ask your children about the story – can they remember what happened? Can they use their storyteller voice to tell you the story? Can they use First, next, then, after that and finally to sequence their story?

In our computing lessons we have begun using Microsoft Word to build keyboard and typing skills and, even though it's tricky, we've really enjoyed persevering and exploring the different functions of the keyboard. We now know how to type a capital letter and how to make spaces and full stops.

We have been working on our flexibility and balance in our PE units of Yoga and gymnastics and are enjoying learning about how our bodies work and how to keep them healthy. Some of the yoga poses can be challenging but we never give up and are having fun learning to master them!

### **Shining Skylarks!**

Another action-packed week of learning! In maths this week we have been using column subtraction to subtract with two-digit numbers. We were really impressed with the Skylarks as they persevered to grasp this rather tricky topic! We even learnt how to exchange one ten for ten ones.

In science, we have moved from habitats to microhabitats and have been recording the range of insects that we found in each different microhabitat. We also observed what the conditions were like in each place and thought about what each insect must need to survive. In computing we enjoyed making music on Google Chrome's Music Lab – the link for this can be found on school360, if children would like to continue this at home.

In story time we have been enjoying reading Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown and have found Stanley's adventures quite entertaining. We all agreed that being flat could be really fun!

### **Super Swifts**

The Swifts have had yet another amazing week. In their geography unit, they thoroughly enjoyed conducting a rock investigation to identify the different types of rocks. They have also enjoyed continuing their P.E learning journey in yoga and have demonstrated some amazing poses.

On Wednesday this week, the Swifts met their new teacher, Miss Bartlett and had lots of fun with her. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all members of the Swifts and others who I have taught this year, for a wonderful 5 months together and I wish them all the best of luck for the remainder of their year as I set off on my own exciting journey.



### **Heroic Harriers**

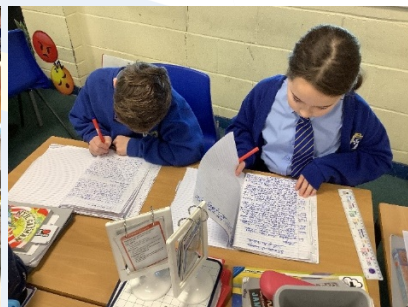
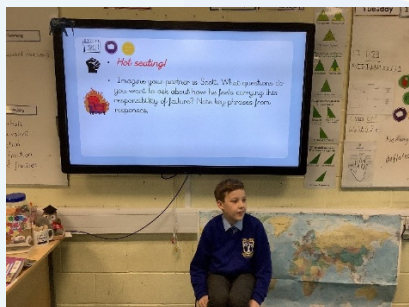
What a wonderful week the Heroic Harriers have had! We have explored the Amazon Rainforest gathering vocabulary for our new English topic: The Great Chocoplot!

In maths we have been using our Times Table knowledge to help us work our more complicated sums and then develop a more formal written methods for multiplication.

In science, we have started to look at Solids, Liquids and Gases and the particles that made them up. We did a great impression of how the particles moved! In Gymnastics, we were perfecting our jumps and how we can safely land from a height and change direction.

## Marvellous Merlins

Year 5 have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Captain Scott's tragic yet spectacular expedition to the South Pole. We have added to our diary entries this week and we had one child (George) in the hot seat. He was able to answer questions from the other children about what he could have done differently. This led to a very interesting discussion and George was able to give thoughtful answers to every question he was asked. Good job Merlins!

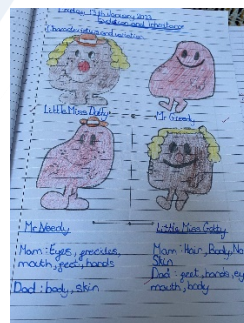
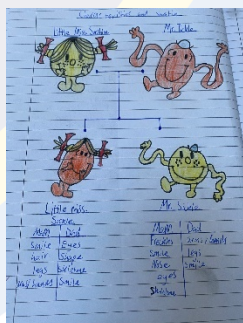
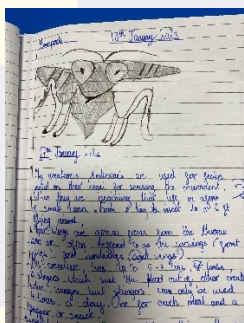


In PE, we have had our first yoga lesson where we learned the moves for the Salutation story as well as breathing techniques. We also know how to start and end a yoga session. The children were absolutely fantastic and it was a relaxing end to the week. I can't wait to see what poses we will be learning next week.



## Outstanding Owls

The Year 6 Owls have continued to be amazing this week. They have produced work to be proud of across a range of curriculum areas and they continue to display an outstanding attitude to learning, every single day. A highlight of the week has been learning about inherited characteristics in our science lessons - they achieved this with a little support from their 'Mr Men and Little Miss' friends. They have also been really engrossed in our writing this week, as they prepare to write reports about life on 'Pandora' and describe the 'Hexapods' which live there. Keep up the fantastic work Owls.



## 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: Romeo  
Reception: Ethan A  
Year 1: Elise  
Year 2: Darcie P  
Year 3: Ruby  
Year 4: Setaysh  
Year 5: Millie D  
Year 6: Callum E



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

### Start times

All children from Reception to Year 6 should 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 then 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. Mr Grant opens the top gate at 8.30am and will lock it at 8.45am.

### 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
94.7%	95.3%	99.6%	100%	100%	96.5%	98.2%



**PE Days for Spring 1**  
**Children to wear PE kits to school on PE days**

**Reception** – Monday  
**Year 1** – Mondays and Thursdays  
**Year 2** – Tuesday & Thursday  
**Year 3** – Tuesday & Friday  
**Year 4** – Tuesday.  
**Year 5** – Wednesday & Friday  
**Year 6** - Monday and Thursday

**Next week's lunch Menu**

The menu for week beginning 23rd January is Week 3.

School dinners are £11.25 per week, paid online by Monday please.  
Our school menu can now be found on our website. If you would like to look at the menu please click on the link below

<http://www.meadowdaleacademy.co.uk/school-information-1/school-meals>

**Class Information**

**Nursery:** Please could all children bring a named water bottle and a small bag to stay on their peg.

**Reception** – Please now bring your book bag to school every day.  
**Year 1** – On Outdoor Learning days, can children wear waterproofs if they have them. Children must wear long trousers on Thursdays to protect them if we venture into Forest School.

**Year 2** – Please can all homework books be returned to school on a Thursday so that new tasks can be put in.

**Year 3** – PE kits on a Tuesday & Friday please

**Year 4** – Swimming is Thursday (Wear PE Kit).

**Year 5** – Homework will be given out on a Thursday with Tuesday being the deadline for all homework to be handed in. Children have homework books to complete their homework which will go home on a Thursday.

**Year 6** - Homework will continue to be given out on a Friday and returned to school by the following Wednesday. Can I also ask that your child is reading every night at home. We are currently finding out about Environmental Art and will begin to make their own works of art in next week's lesson. Please could they bring recyclable rubbish into school to help them with their project. Items could include: scrap paper, cardboard, plastic bottles / bottle tops, scrap material (old clothes), tin foil, beads, string / wool. Thank you for your support.

Lego League is back! I need a team of 10 Year 6's to compete in March. If you are interested in taking part, let me know and I will pick a team. Session will be after school on a Monday and the occasional lunch time. Many thanks, Mr Carney

**Year 6 SATs Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

**Clubs for next week**

Tuesday – Choir years 3,4,5 & 6 3.15 – 4.15  
Thursday – Multi-skills Years 1 & 2 3.15 -4.15 – Fully Booked

**Spring Term Dates**

School closes – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February and re-opens Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February  
School Closes – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March and re-opens Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April

Thank you for your continued support, it is much appreciated. 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.

Mrs Morgan  
Deputy Headteacher