



# Newsletter

10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

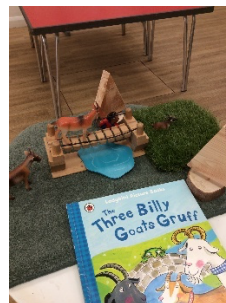
It's been a great week here at Meadowdale Academy! Pupils have adapted well to seeing a new face in school and have been extremely supportive in 'keeping me right' with the systems in place.

This week, you may have been kept up to date on our school's social media channels. If you haven't already, please give Meadowdale Academy a follow on Facebook and Twitter. We appreciate all of your activity on these pages, especially the likes and positive comments!

This week brought us National Story Telling Week! Here, at Meadowdale, pupils and staff alike have enjoyed telling and sharing stories together. Have you been telling or sharing stories at home? Why don't you let us know through our social media pages!

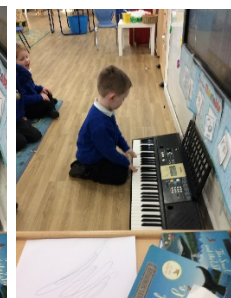
## **Inquisitive Owletts!**

This week our amazing owletts are enjoying the book 'Three Billy Goats Gruff' After reading the book the children used props in role play to retell the story using their own words. We will be talking about sharing and could we help the Troll make better choices?



## **Pre-School Rummaging Robins!**

The Robins have been musicians this week, we each chose a nursery rhyme to play while the rest of the class sang along. We have also been for a wellbeing walk with our friends where we discussed our favourite things to do at the weekend.



### Perfect Puffins!

The Puffins have been so busy with their learning again this week! We have enjoyed speedy sounds in phonics and are using our love of reading to open doors to the world around us, discovering more and more amazing facts about dinosaurs.



The children's knowledge of number bonds is growing stronger and stronger and they are now independently choosing to apply what they know within their play.



We had our second gymnastics apparatus session this week, and again the Puffins were fantastic, showing excellent gymnastic skills and control in their movements.



Another great week, topped off with a wellbeing walk, a fossil hunt and a big dinosaur quiz – what more could you ask for?!

### Curious Kingfishers!

We are practising our sentence writing skills and revisiting what is needed to write a story. We know that there is a beginning, where we meet the main characters and set the scene; a middle, where Lucas confidently informed us that is where we “stumble upon a problem” and an end, where the problem is resolved. We are doing lots of acting and role play to get to know our story well and lots of sentence work to prepare for writing our own version of the story.

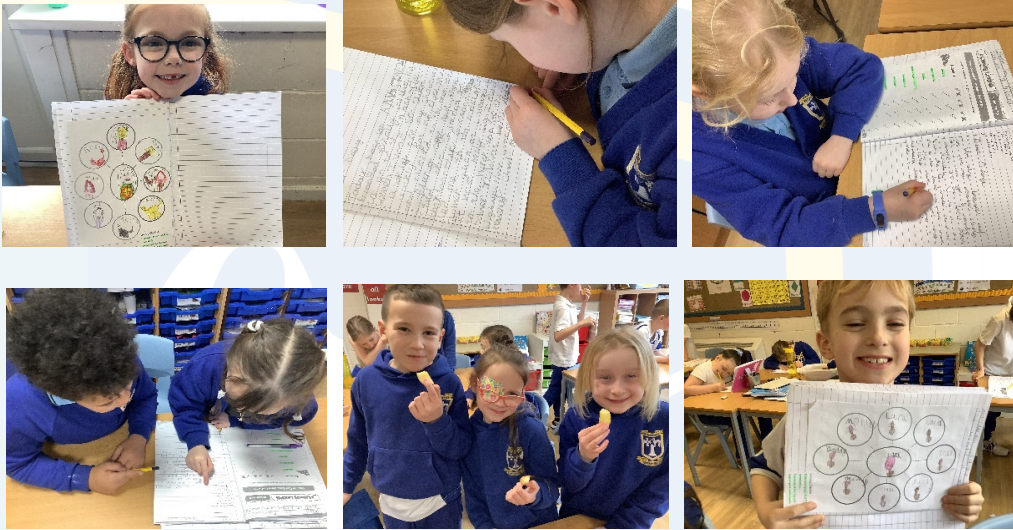
In maths we have been learning different ways to solve subtraction problems. So far, we have looked at using counters to help; subtracting by crossing out and also using a number line to count back. We have also used part whole models to support our understanding.

As part of our activities to support Children's Mental Week, we enjoyed reading 'The Invisible String' by Patrice Karst. This reminded us that we are all connected to the ones we love by an invisible string made of love. We talked about these connections and our loved ones, and talked about how we can help ourselves and others to feel happy and safe and have good mental health.



## Shining Skylarks!

To celebrate Children's Mental Health week, the Skylarks began the week by reading the Invisible String by Patrice Karst. We discussed the people in our lives that we are connected to and talked about why these connections are important to us.



'Commutative Law' has been the theme in maths this week. The Skylarks have been investigating whether or not multiplication equations give the same answer no matter which way around the numbers go. Using arrays and numbers we were able to prove that this is the case. And learnt an impressive new word in the process – commutative!

We have been learning all about the Jewish festival of Hanukkah in RE. This week we tried some tasty traditional treats and enjoyed the story 'The Hanukkah Mice'.

## Super Swifts!

This week Year 3 have finished their unit on multiplication and division and will be moving on to length and perimeter. They completed their investigation into the soil they collected and found out if it was sandy, silty or clay and then wrote up their findings, explaining the steps involved to determine the type. In English, they finished writing their instructions and have moved on to descriptive writing, working as a group to come up with their own examples of rhetorical questions, the second person and powerful adjectives to persuade a reader to visit a fairy tale home.



### **Heroic Harriers!**

What a fantastic week of learning we have had in the Heroic Harriers. We have produced some AMAZING TV news reports based on our English unit of work: The Great Chocoplot by Chris Callaghan. I was blown away by the language used, the confident speaking, the respectful listening and the sheer quality of the work produced!

We have also added the final touches to our art gallery display in our classroom. Who's work will be next to appear??



### **Marvellous Merlins!**

The year 5 Merlins this week have been learning about biomes in their geography lessons. We learned there are 5 biomes and how animals and plants have adapted to live in different biomes.

As part of Children's Mental Health week, we watched the video, 'Let's Connect' and looked at ways to keep our body and mind healthy in and out of school. We acknowledged that our yoga lessons have been great for our mental health

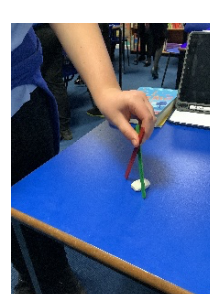
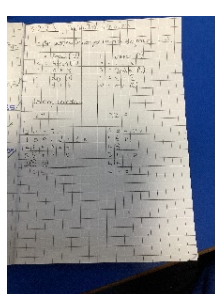
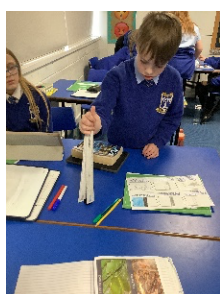


## Outstanding Owls!

This week Year 6 have had their first introduction to algebra. We used the book 'One is a snail, ten is a crab' to learn about variables and form equations. Who knew that algebra could be so much fun?

They have also enjoyed experimenting with different beak lengths to deepen their understanding of natural selection and the evolution of birds on the Galápagos Islands.

The Owls have also spent time talking about what it means to "Be Connected" as part of Children's Mental Health Week. They have shared postcards with each other and made new connections among themselves.



## 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: Isla-May  
Reception: Will H  
Year 1: Scarlett  
Year 2: Theo  
Year 3: Jacob  
Year 4: Harley-Ray  
Year 5: Ava M  
Year 6: Noah



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
98.3%	96%	98.4%	95.6%	94.7%	97.1%	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

**Jewellery, including stud earrings, must not be worn by the children for PE. Please try to ensure they are removed on those days. Thank you.**

**Next week's lunch Menu**

The menu for week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> February is Week 1.

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>

**Message from Admin**

Please inform **Mrs Bradford** before **9am** if your child is going to be absent from school.

**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

**From 1<sup>st</sup> March, families can register now to receive alerts about free fun days out and activities.**

<https://leadinglink.co.uk/northumberland-holiday-provision/>

The continued support parents, carers and families provide our school is invaluable. We appreciate this greatly. From everyone at Meadowdale, have a great weekend. We look forward to seeing you back at school on Monday.

Miss Coates  
Head of School

**Class Information**

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

**Reception** – Please bring your book bag to school every day.

**Year 1** – Homework books are sent home with a new task on a Friday and are required back in school with homework complete by Wednesdays. 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** – Bookbags to be brought be into school every day.

**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

**THERE IS NO MULTI SKILLS ON NEXT WEEK**