



Newsletter

24 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

This week at Meadowdale Academy, pupils have been learning about the fundamental British Values, focusing on individual liberty. Pupils learned about their right to have freedom of speech, choice, and to do as they want within rules and laws. I wonder if pupils can name any more of the fundamental British Values...

Thank you to all parents/carer who attended this week's parent consultation meetings. It was great to have you all in school to hear about your child's wonderful achievements. Thank you for sharing your feedback on the success of the consultations, it is very much appreciated.

We have asked this week for feedback on home-school communication. Please complete the form via the link shared this week. We will use this to improve our communication with families.

As we approach the end of the term, we are looking towards Easter. We hope pupils and families can participate in our Easter egg designing challenge. Take a hard-boiled egg/polystyrene egg and decorate it! You may wish to create a background to go with your egg design. All entries should be brought into school on Monday coming to be judged by our governors and Executive Headteacher. There will be the first, second and third place prize for each class. Winners will be announced in Friday's end of term assembly.

The Easter Bunny came to Meadowdale early! Thank you for all donations for our Easter raffle. It's not too late if you still need to bring your donation in. Raffle tickets are also still on sale until Friday 9am.



I hope you all have a lovely weekend (possibly full of art and crafts).

Inquisitive Owletts!

Our owletts have got green fingers. The beanstalks have grown right up to the giant's castle! This week we are decorating our room ready for Easter.



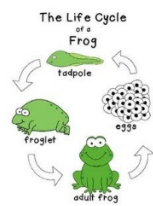
Pre-School Rummaging Robins!

The Robins have enjoyed spending time outside in the sunshine, reading books and balancing. They have been reading *Wish Upon a Star* about a boy who wants to catch a star, the children have been designing and building traps to try and catch a star.



Perfect Puffins!

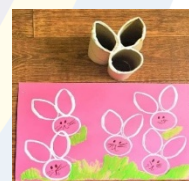
The Puffins have been busy this week learning about another type of life cycle – this week frogs! It is great to see them applying their scientific knowledge and discussing the stages of metamorphosis.



Our caterpillars from Grandad Fred are wriggling and beginning to eat their food in their tub. Miss Holmes is taking them home each night to keep them warm.

In maths we are recapping what we know about 2D shapes and using what we know to investigate how some 3D shapes are made. The Puffins enjoyed predicting which 3D shape different nets would create and also searching for 2D and 3D shapes in our environment.

On Wednesday we found out about World Water Day, the Puffins enjoyed using Google Earth to see just how much of our planet is covered in water! We then discussed why water is so important and the Puffins were great at thinking about ways we could save water in our day to day lives.



We are all looking forward to some fun and exciting Easter activities next week!

Curious Kingfishers!

Our Kingfishers have absolutely loved learning about the Great Fire of London this week! We have been learning the facts in topic lessons and reading and writing about it in our English learning. Check their knowledge - ask them if they can tell you where and when the fire started, or who was Thomas Farriner?

We've also talked a lot about being healthy this week - both physically and having good mental health. We talked about what we can do if we are feeling worried or sad or even mad and the children shared their personal strategies. Our feelings can feel pretty overwhelming when we are 5 and 6 years old and we are learning how to manage these.

Shining Skylarks!

A busy week of learning in the Skylarks classroom. In English we began our new unit – Adventures in the Pits – using a short video as inspiration for writing a recount. We started by collecting powerful verbs and using these in our first paragraph of writing.

In maths this week we have been using the five times table facts to help us solve division calculations.

In science, we have been thinking about what humans and animals actually need to survive – comparing the needs of a number of different animals. In topic lessons we have continued to learn about Magnificent Monarchs, this week focussing on the life of Elizabeth. In computing we have been practicing writing and using simple algorithms.

Super Swifts!

The splendid Swifts have been writing their own stories about an encounter between two characters based on The Iron Man by Ted Hughes. They are focusing on creating the atmosphere to set the scene using pathetic fallacy. They will advance the action by introducing dialogue between the characters; which will build the tension even further.

They have continued to measure perimeter and upped the challenge level by adding and subtracting their findings. Also, the Swifts have all increased their confidence using an Atlas and their knowledge of our world.

Heroic Harriers!

A great week we have had in the Heroic Harriers! We have produced some excellent similes and personifications linked to our story, 5 Children and IT. We are also becoming masters of punctuation dialogue! In maths, we have impressed with our subtraction of fractions! We have also explored rivers from around the world and been on an invertebrate hunt in forest school!

Marvellous Merlins!

The Merlins have been enjoying their PE lessons where we have been playing badminton and hockey. We had the nets up for the first time in our badminton lessons and we are going to start playing a real game next lesson. In hockey, we looked at attacking and defending and how accurate passes could get us past a defender.



Outstanding Owls!

Year 6 have had another fantastic week of learning in school. I was so proud of the lovely cards they made to say thank you to a special person in their lives - they even managed to use the subjunctive mood in their verses! They were very respectful to each other during their music lessons where they listened to each other's keyboard compositions and gave really positive feedback and they have enjoyed competing against each other in our maths relay races. Well done to each and every one.

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: Jake
Reception: Kasper
Year 1: Toby
Year 2: Olivia A
Year 3: Beth
Year 4: Nancy
Year 5: Harry
Year 6: Maisie Mc



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

School Lunches:

Ordering lunches in school is taking up important teaching and learning time. After half term, you must order your child's lunch on the school gateway at home, we will send a text home to remind parents. **We will not be able to take lunch orders in school.**

Adult on Gate:

We can no longer commit to having an adult on the gate at the end of the day due to staffing. Once children have been handed over to parents/carers, responsibility for pupils' care is with the adult who has collected them.

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.

Uniform

Please can we remind families that full school uniform should be worn to school (and appropriate PE kit on PE days). Pupils with hair longer than shoulder length must tie their hair back – this is for safety and hygiene. Pupils must only wear studded ear-rings – no other jewellery should be worn for school. Nail varnish and false nails are not permitted. Please see uniform list below.

For Rising Threes and Pre-school children-

Have the option to wear a blue sweatshirt/cardigan, white t-shirt and either grey/black trousers or skirt –**none** of the items of clothing should have the school badge on as we realise that children grow so quickly.

Indoor black shoes

Wellies or outdoor shoes that are kept in school for playtime

Warm, waterproof coat

See-through named water bottle kept in school and taken home on a weekend

Children do not require any other school equipment

Please can everything be labelled first and second name to ensure that items that are misplaced are returned to their owner.

From Reception to Yr. 4

Blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school badge

Blue polo shirt with or without badge

Grey/ black trousers or skirt

Grey pinafore

Blue and white gingham summer dress

Indoor black shoes

Wellies or outdoor shoes that are kept in school for playtime

Warm, waterproof coat

See-through named water bottle kept in school and taken home on a weekend

Children do not require any other school equipment

Please can everything be labelled first and second name to ensure that items that are misplaced are returned to their owner.

P.E. Kit

Blue hoodie with or without Meadowdale school badge

White polo t-shirt or blue and white Meadowdale t-shirt

Blue logo or plain jogging bottoms or blue shorts

Trainers (optional for Reception)

Yr. 5 and Yr. 6

Blue shirt, Meadowdale tie and V-necked sweatshirt or cardigan and grey/black trousers or skirt

Indoor black shoes

Wellies or outdoor shoes that are kept in school for playtime

See-through named water bottle kept in school and taken home daily

Children do not require any other school equipment

Please can everything be labelled first and second name to ensure that items that are misplaced are returned to their owner.

P.E. Kit

Blue Meadowdale hoodie

White polo t-shirt or blue and white Meadowdale t-shirt

Blue Meadowdale or plain jogging bottoms or blue shorts

Trainers

Emblematic are our uniform providers and you can order with them online.

<https://emblematic.co.uk/bedlington-store/>

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
91.3%	99%	96.9%	97.8%	97%	97.4%	95.8%

We have noticed recently a number of pupils' attendance has dropped below our target of 96%. Please ensure your child attends school daily if they are well enough to do so. Pupils should also be in school, ready to learn by 8:45am. If you require any support regarding your child's attendance or punctuality please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. For any safeguarding support, speak to Mrs Morgan or Miss Coates.

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



PE Days for Spring 2 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. Hair must be tied back if it is longer than shoulder length. Thank you.

Next week's lunch Menu

The menu for week beginning 27th March is Week 2.

School dinners are £11.25 per week, paid online by Monday please.

Meals must be ordered on the school gateway – orders will not be taken in school any longer

Class Information

Rising 3's: Please do not let your child bring toys into school

Nursery: PE & Forest School every Monday – please wear PE kit/Joggers

Reception – Please 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 –There will be a reading/ phonics update and task posted on school360 for your child. This will be updated weekly. Please can you prioritise this task over any other optional homework tasks. There will only be new, optional, homework in books every fortnight. Please can you make a note in your child's reading log each time they watch the phonics video/ complete the task.

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 – Please could all Year 6 children bring their homework wallet to school every day. Please continue to sign reading diaries whenever you hear your child read at home. Thank you.

**Year 6 SATs Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May
Booster sessions every Tuesday and Thursday until 4.00pm,
beginning Tuesday 28th February. They will run until the Easter
break. The final sessions will take place on the 30th March.**

Asda Vote

Please click on the link below or go to Asda Green Token web site and choose Blyth as your local store to vote for our school, to raise funds to support the children through making the school activities a fun place to learn. We need new equipment for these activities to support these events.

<https://www.asda.com/green-tokens/store?store=4955>

Message from Admin

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

School Office hours are:
8.00am – 4.00pm

Clubs for week commencing 27/03/2023

Tuesday – Choir years 3,4,5 & 6 3.15 – 4.15

Thursday – Multi-skills Years 1 & 2 3.15 -4.15 – **Fully Booked**

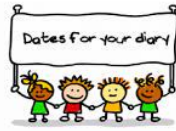
Spring Term Dates

School Closes – Friday 31st March and re-opens Tuesday 18th April

School Closed - Monday May 1st – May day

School Closed - Monday May 8th – Kings Coronation

Spring half term – School closes **Thursday 25th May** and re-opens Monday 5th June 2023



Easter Themed Events

Easter Egg Decorating Competition – we would like to encourage families to work together this year to create their own designs. Please bring any entries into school on 27th March. They will be judged by a panel of judges, including Governors and our Executive Headteacher, Mrs Bartlett. Winners will be announced on Class Dojo. Parents/carers may need to come and collect any prizes containing alcohol on 31st March.

Raffle tickets will be on sale from 13th March for our end of term Easter assembly. Pupils and families are able to buy raffle tickets via the school gateway app: £1 per strip. The raffle will be drawn on 31st March.

To ensure we have exciting **prizes**, we would like to have a non-uniform day on Friday 24th March in return for a donation of an Easter treat (e.g. Easter egg/sweets). We ask for all donations to be brought into school on 24th March. If families would like to offer any further donations of raffle prizes, they are more than welcome. Thank you.