



# Newsletter

17 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

Meadowdale staff and pupils have worked incredibly hard this week, during Assessment Week. This has given pupils the opportunity to show us what they have learned and remembered whilst informing teachers of pupils' next steps. Staff will be sharing this with parent/carers next week during consultations.

This week has been British Science Week and we have been learning all about the fields within the overarching title 'science': technology, mathematics, engineering and – of course – science! The theme of 2023's celebrations was 'communication'. We discussed ways in which humans communicate and then were taught some sign language by Ella in Year 5. I wonder if pupils can remember how to sign the first 3 letters of the alphabet...

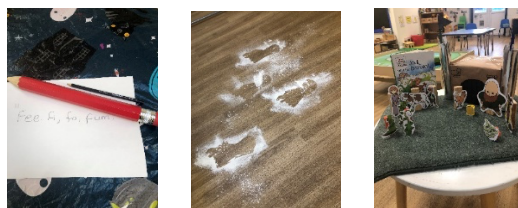
I would like to remind parents raffle tickets are now on sale for our Easter raffle. Next Friday is our prize-raising non-uniform day. In receipt of coming into school in non-uniform, we ask that each pupil brings in an Easter themed treat: an Easter egg, Easter sweets, Easter colouring etc. We hope to create some fantastic prizes!

## **Inquisitive Owlets!**

We had a visitor during the night he left large footprints and a note written with a very large pencil! Can you guess who it was?

The Owlets will be retelling the story 'Jack and the Beanstalk' in their own words using small world props.

There might also be something special made with love for Sunday hidden in their bag.



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

This week the Robins have been celebrating Science week by making connections through experiments. First, they used pipettes to make planets by dripping coloured water. Then, they tested whether things around the classroom floated or sunk. Another fabulous week of learning with the Robins.



## **Perfect Puffins!**

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

Puffins have enjoyed another week of fantastic learning.

In PE, we have been working on our balancing skills, working independently and with a partner to balance objects on different parts of our bodies. The Puffins remembered all the strategies to improve their balance; arms out, head still and focused and keeping their lifted foot still.



In Maths, we are continuing to embed and apply our knowledge of number bonds to 10, the Puffins are getting quicker and quicker with their recall when looking at tens frames, Numicon and number sentences.



Literacy has taken us into another life cycle, this week the life cycle of a sunflower, which has brought us all some warmth and smiles during this chilly week. The writing we are seeing from the Puffins is amazing, I am excited to see what they can all do next!

British Science Week has seen us looking at all kinds of connections this week – animals and their habitats, plants, seasons, floating and sinking and even some wonderful colour connections.



The Puffins have also planted some cress and created some beautiful cards to share with a special someone over the weekend.



**Curious Kingfishers!**

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

The Kingfishers have been working hard to improve their reading fluency this week and I have been so impressed with how they read so confidently and sensibly with a partner! They have also been putting in excellent efforts with their reading homework too - well done team!

In maths, we have continued to secure our in-depth knowledge of numbers to twenty and have enjoyed learning a song all about numbers in the teens - have you heard it at home yet?

Red Nose Day was full of laughs and jokes (as it should be); we also talked about the more important reasons behind the day and what it means to be charitable.

### **Shinning Skylarks!**

Another great week of learning! Skylarks have also worked hard completing termly learning checks in reading, writing and maths. Everyone enjoyed showing off all the fantastic learning they have done this term.

In science, we have been taking a closer look at the lifecycle of humans this week and talking about the 5 stages of development. We also went in search of signs of spring outdoors, observing and thinking about the changes in the world around us. What is happening and why?

The focus of our history learning this week has been Henry VIII, a fascinating monarch – the Skylarks decided he wasn't a very good monarch. We will be learning more about Elizabeth next.

### **Super Swifts!**

This week, the Swifts have been studying the opening chapters of the classic children's novel *The Iron Man*, by Ted Hughes. They have been discovering how the author captures the audience's attention, the techniques used and how dialogue is presented in the novel and how it advances the action.

They have begun to study perimeter in Maths and continued to build on their knowledge of the world around them in Geography and increased their map skills.

The Swifts have also been discovering more about STEM; particularly communication and careers.

### **Heroic Harriers!**

We continue to work hard in the Heroic Harriers. We have risen to the challenge that our learning has brought this week and I could not be prouder of everyone.

This week we have been classifying vertebrates in science, tracking the journey of a river from source to mouth and taking a closer look at the River Tyne in our geography learning.

We have been working on our stamina and speed in PE and looking at data logging in computing! Blink and you miss it in the Harriers!

### **Marvellous Merlins!**

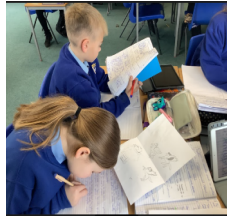
The Merlins have had a busy week! The mini-police met with Ramona and Natalie from the Neighbourhood Policing team to learn about online safety. They listened really well and, hopefully, will spread the message in school how to be safe online. Don't they look smart in their uniforms!



In science, we have been learning about air resistance therefore we made slow devising spinners to see how air resistant they could be. We then modified our original spinners to see if they would fall more slowly. They were some great inventions and modifications!



We have published our first piece of English writing in our 'Publishing Books'. The children worked diligently to present their best work. Well done everyone.



### Outstanding Owls!

The Owls have had another fantastic week this week. They have had a trail run of their SATs assessments so that they are fully prepared and know what to expect in May, and I am extremely proud of each and every one of them.

In other curriculum areas, they have improved their golfing skills, practised dribbling and defending in football and were amazing in their music lesson with Mrs Henderson where they demonstrated our golden standard of 'Respect' very well whilst listening to each other's compositions on the keyboards.

They have been thinking about paradise in their RE lessons and comparing their ideas with the Islam belief of Jannah and the Christian belief of Heaven. Well done on another outstanding week, 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: Louis  
Reception: Vladimir  
Year 1: Leo  
Year 2: Georgie  
Year 3: Jake S  
Year 4: India Rose  
Year 5: Tristan  
Year 6: Olivia



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.

### 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.

### 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
96%	97%	100%	96.7%	91%	98.7%	85.8%

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 20<sup>th</sup> March 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>

### Class Information

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

**Nursery:** Please order your child's lunch on the gateway

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

### Message from Admin

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

### Clubs for week commencing 20/03/2023

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

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

### 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>

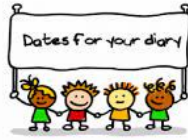
### Spring Term Dates

School Closes – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March and re-opens Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April

School Closed - Monday May 1<sup>st</sup> – May day

School Closed - Monday May 8<sup>th</sup> – Kings Coronation

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



### **Red Nose Day**

Thank you for your kind donations – together we have raised £129 for the charity.

### **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 31<sup>st</sup> March.

**Raffle tickets** will be on sale from 13<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup> March.

To ensure we have exciting **prizes**, we would like to have a non-uniform day on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> March. If families would like to offer any further donations of raffle prizes, they are more than welcome. Thank you.

### **Parent/Carer Consultations**

Our appointment system is now open for parent/carers consultations on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Please speak to the school office to book your consultation. SEND plans will be reviewed and new ones shared with parents during these meetings.