



Newsletter

10 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

It's been another great week at Meadowdale Academy, full of learning and development.

This week, in assembly, pupils learned about the Hindu festival of Holi. They learned about the 'Festival of Colour's' celebratory events including spraying coloured powders on each other. Many of the pupils thought it would be fun themselves!

In our celebration assembly, we had many celebrations in school and out! Well done to Josh in Y3 for securing a role of a Munchkin in The Wizard of Oz and Millie for her 1st place trophy for Judo. Meadowdale pupils are making us incredibly proud.

We have many events coming up over the next few weeks. Please ensure you read the '**dates for your diary**' section of our newsletter to ensure you are up to date.

From Monday, can Key Stage 1 and 2 children please enter school through the side door where Mrs Morgan and Miss Coates stand.

Inquisitive Owlets!

This week the Owlets began to grow their very own beanstalk!

They made a cosy bed for the magic bean, gave it a drink, and then put the pot near the window to get lots of light. Hopefully the beanstalks will grow big and strong and maybe, with a little bit of imagination, we might get a visit from the giant!



Pre-School Rummaging Robins!

The Robins have had a fabulous week, starting with a move around of the classroom which has kick started some great learning. They have explored moon craters using flour and tin foil. The snow on Tuesday was a great surprise and the Robins went outside onto the big playground to play in the untouched snow. The Robins have also been learning about the festival Holi and made some colourful pictures.



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

Perfect Puffins!

Another great week for the Puffins in Reception.

At the start of the week, before the snow came, we became spring detectives in Forest School. We worked in pairs to carefully search for signs of spring around us, the Puffins we so careful about where they were stepping so as to be sure not to damage any new shoots. We found daffodil shoots, crocuses and, what we think might be bluebells.



Maths has seen the Puffins recapping their knowledge of the number 9 and then taking their learning forwards to work on investigating number bonds to ten. We have done this using Numicon, tens frames and some of our favourite active Maths games in the hall.

The Puffins enjoyed learning about the Hindu festival of Holi, this goes hand in hand with our 'Watch them grow' topic and allowed us to experiment with some amazing colour activities.



Well done to Scarlett for achieving his Golden Head Teacher's Award for working so hard on her speedy sounds and 'Fred talk'. We are all very proud of you.

Curious Kingfishers!

Our Kingfishers have been full of busy this week! We have been learning about counting to twenty by making ten in maths and practising our skip counting in 10s, 5s and 2s.

In English we've been working hard on our sentence writing skills and really pushing ourselves to become super speedy readers!

I think the highlight of the week for many was our transient art lesson, where we ventured out into the snowy outdoors on Tuesday to collect items to create our own natural masterpieces.

Shining Skylarks!

Thank you for so many of you for supporting your child with their reading and phonics at home. I will set a new link to videos once a week for the children that need them.

Based around the book 'The Paper Bag Princess' we have been learning more about expanded nouns and conjunctions in writing this week. The Skylarks then used this knowledge to write their own non-traditional fairy tale. In maths we have been making groups and dividing counters, then using this to write division equations. This has proved quite a tricky topic but we have all persevered and many Skylarks are now enjoying the success of having cracked it!

This week in computing we have begun learning about robot algorithms and gave instructions to team members to negotiate a simple route or draw a simple picture. This helped us to think about how computers work. Moving parts is our new theme in technology. All pupils enjoyed working with Mrs Corn to make a picture with a moving part this week.



Super Swifts!

This week in Year 3, the super Swifts have been working closely with a partner to help each other improve their writing and were also helping each other to redraft their work in order to make their reports as interesting and intriguing as possible.

They have been increasing their confidence in measuring, converting measurements and have solved problems in Maths which will give them extremely useful skills which they will be able to use in their everyday lives for the rest of their lives.

They have moved their own miniature 'tectonic plates' in Geography and in Science they have discovered how humans have used natural rocks and manmade rocks to build and change the world around us.

The Swifts have been coaching each other to improve their ball throwing skills through demonstrating to each other and giving their friends useful feedback.

Finally, they have been enjoying listening to some of their friends sharing information about their hobbies like different forms of dance and Karate.

Heroic Harriers!

Another great week in the Heroic Harriers. We are working super hard with our fractions learning and I am very impressed with how well our knowledge and understanding of the topic is coming on!

We have also produced some fantastic non-chronological reports about a 'Psammead' in our published writing books. We have been discussing our online wellbeing as part of our online safety learning and discussing the importance of reducing our screen time at certain times to help look after our mental and physical health.

Marvellous Merlins!

The Merlins thoroughly enjoyed coming to school in their pyjamas for World Book Day. We brought books to do a book swap and we spent some time in our library chilling and browsing the different books on offer



In our history lessons, we are learning about Ancient Greece so we spent some time looking at where Greece was located using atlases and we could not believe how many islands Greece has.



Outstanding Owls!

The owls have had an amazing week. They have really impressed me with their collaborative learning in the classroom as they have worked together on a range of problem-solving tasks during maths lessons and have supported each other with reasoning and understanding both orally and in written form.

Their writing, based upon our class text 'Holes' by Louis Sachar, has been a pleasure to read and I look forward to seeing their completed discussions about whether or not children should be sent to Camp Green Lake! They have also developed an understanding of data and spreadsheets during our computing lessons. Well-done all-round Owls, keep up the great work.



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: Austin
Reception: Scarlett
Year 1: Ben
Year 2: Ava-Leigh
Year 3: Sienna
Year 4: Honor
Year 5: Layla
Year 6: Nicole



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
96.3%	99.3%	96.9%	94.4%	96%	94.8%	91.8%

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.

Well Done Catering Team

Well done to our amazing catering team, once again they have achieved a Five Star Food Hygiene Rating. Don't forget to order your child's delicious lunch on the school gateway app!



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 13th March 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

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 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.**

Message from Admin

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

Clubs for week commencing 13/03/2023

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

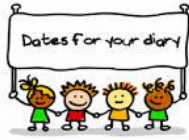
School Closes – Friday 31st March and re-opens Tuesday 18th April

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



Red Nose Day 2023

We will be fundraising for Red Nose Day through a non-uniform day on Friday 17th March 2023. To avoid any financial stress, we ask for a donation of £1 and hope children can come and support the cause by wearing something red! You can pay this on the school gateway.

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 (last week's newsletter did state the 29th; this was an error).

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.

Parent/Carer Consultations

Our appointment system is now open for parent/carers consultations on Monday 20th and Wednesday 22nd 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.