



# Meadows Newsletter

Issue 17

July 17th 2017

The Meadows  
Primary School

## Forthcoming dates

**Please do check the website regularly**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July** Celebration Assembly Madeley Centre 1:45 to 3pm

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July** Leavers' Evening Madeley High School 6-9pm

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July** End of term **Pupils only**

**Monday and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> July** Staff Training

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September** Start of the new academic year

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September** NSPCC pupil and Parent workshops 2-3pm

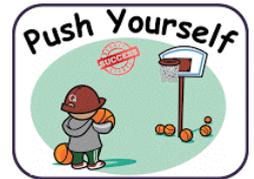
**Monday and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> /19<sup>th</sup> September** Bikeability Y5

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October** Half Term

## End of the Year

Suddenly the end of the academic year is upon us and I am sure I join lots of you, in thinking where did the year go? School life is always very hectic and working in a school is never routine, there are always new challenges and times of excitement to share with the children. Time really does fly!

This is of course the last week for the children and whilst the staff will be in school on Monday and Tuesday of next week, undertaking various professional training activities, we will be saying farewell to our Y6 class. They really have been a credit to our school and to you as they have been a joy to teach and really positive members of our school community. This year they will be moving on to three different high schools and whilst I know many are certainly eager and ready for their next challenges, we will think of them lots in the future and hope to welcome them back for a quick visit. There will be nerves in September for both the children and their parents, so I hope they will reflect upon their Secrets of Success, especially "push yourself" and remember that we all learn the most, when we are just outside of our comfort zones.



We have our Leavers Evening to look forward to on Wednesday and their production of Mary Poppins.

We have been even more busy than usual in the last few days and this will continue right up until Friday with various activities. A flavour of some of our opportunities are included in this Newsletter.

## Visits to the High School

All the Y6 children have spent time at their new schools which have provided them with a good insight into their new routines in September. It has been lovely to hear them all chat with excitement and compare their various adventures.

Ella and Josh were the lucky ones to be chosen out of a hat to attend a photo session at the high school. Along with a few other children from other feeder primaries, they modelled the new school uniform and will appear in new publicity materials shortly.



Additionally the Y5 children have visited Madeley High on three separate occasions over recent weeks. We know that they will already be curious about high school life and early visits help to foster a smooth transition. They have had a taster session in Badminton where they quickly developed their accuracy with the shots. Logan in particular showed great promise with this new sport. They have also taken part in a D and T vehicle challenge and had a computer coding session.

We really do appreciate the high school for their hospitality and making these opportunities happen for our children.

As we develop improved links with Madeley High, we have upon request, sent a range of children's work from Class 4 to be used in their staff training. We all feel it is essential that Y7 teachers understand our children's strong abilities and have a flavour of their learning activities in primary school. They have been very interested in how we use the Secrets of Success as they introduce the Growth Mind-set philosophy. I am looking forward to building upon these links further, so we use our dialogue to smooth the transition as much as possible.

## Dance Taster Session

If you were passing our school on Friday morning, you will not have been able to miss our outdoor dance lesson. We enjoyed a lesson led by a professional dance teacher who works for ASM sports, who also provide our other PE activities. The children danced to contemporary tunes which had everyone singing along in no time. They tried Zumba and also learnt a short routine with great speed. Their enthusiasm and was a delight to see. Even the staff couldn't help but dance along with the children. It certainly was a fun way to work on our fitness. We are currently appraising our dance curriculum, as we believe that our participation in Razzmatazz may very well need a review.

## Beach Day

On Thursday, classes one and two enjoyed their beach day. They were treated to a Punch and Judy performance, a visit from an Ice cream van and the most delicious fish and chips for lunch. Of course the sun did shine for us and helped

create the atmosphere for the children. I must say a huge thank you to Mr and Mrs Panagi who own the chip shop in Audlem. They provided the lunch for the children and staff, free of charge. I can honestly say it was the best school lunch I have ever had and there were NO leftovers from the children at all. We will be uploading a blog and lots of lovely photos shortly, so keep checking the website.



### **Class Four Trip**



To celebrate the end of the year and as a final treat to our year six children, the class enjoyed a very busy day on Thursday. They went to the Kilnworx Climbing Centre in Burselm and then on to Trentham gardens to enjoy the adventure playground and a picnic. The Barefoot walk proved to be popular with the oozing mud appealing to most children. You can see lots of photographs of the children doing their activities and read a blog written by them on our website: <http://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk/blog/class-4s-trip-kilnworx-climbing-centre-and-trentham-gardens>

Thank you to the parents who were able to come along and help and to all our parents for being so supportive given the short notice and arranging collection at Trentham. A return coach would have increased the cost greatly and we all must work together to overcome such financial barriers, wherever possible.

### **End of Year Celebration**

As you will be aware on Wednesday afternoon, we will be holding our annual celebration at The Madeley Centre. We will be presenting some of our awards to the children and will entertain the audience with the following: Classes one and two will be performing a song, class three will be doing a ukulele performance as will Mrs HB's lunchtime club. The signing group will be performing and there will be flute and guitar performances for us all to enjoy. On Friday we will be presenting further awards including the attendance awards. We have written to those families whose children will be presented with an award previously, but of course everyone is welcome. We will return to school on the coach with those children who are not collected from the Madley Centre.

### **String Lessons Opportunity**



On Friday, Mrs Hughes came into school to give the children a violin demonstration. Many of you will remember she was a very popular teacher here up until a couple of years ago when she went on maternity leave. We really have missed her enthusiasm and talent for engaging all the children in music. Lots of the children from KS2 remembered Mrs Hughes and were very absorbed in the activities! They enjoyed singing about BBQs, playing musical games, and one child even showed that playing the violin was like riding a bike (well done, Joe)! At the end of the session, she explained that from September the children could have lessons in the violin, cello or viola. These would be private, group lessons for as little as £1.90 per child (depending on how many children were in the group). If your child is interested in lessons from September, please contact the office. We need to have 10 children in a group for a £1.90 weekly price or 6 children for a £3.16 price. There will be free instrument hire provided by the Entrust music service. This would be suitable for children in Y3 upwards. Please do let us know this week if you are interested, so I can make the necessary arrangements.

### **French Club Update**

I wrote to parents of Reception and Y1 regarding a possible French club next year. This would be led by an external provider and as such there would be a cost to parents. Presently we have had a small amount of interest but need another 2 pupils to make this club viable. I will assess the demand again in September, once the new Reception class have joined us.

### **Children's Photographs**

We have been very fortunate to be joined by Chloe Cooper over the last few weeks who is volunteering in school. She is a very talented photographer indeed and has taken delightful candid shots. These are displayed on the monitor inside school and we shall shortly be updating our photographs on the website. Of course first of all, we need to review all the photographs and check parental permissions for such use. This does unfortunately mean we are unable to use all the photographs.

### **After School Clubs**

There will be no after school clubs this week, due to all the additional activities taking place this week.

### **Attendance**

In your child's report their attendance and punctuality record will have been communicated to you. Below 97%, improvement is required to bring it in line with the school's target. At the end of the academic year our attendance figures across the school are:

Class	Attendance	Lateness
<b>Class 1 (Reception)</b>	97.09%	0.62%
<b>Class 2</b>	96.46%	0.45%
<b>Class 3</b>	97.01%	0.78%
<b>Class 4</b>	96.92%	0.92%

It is pleasing to see that all classes are either above, or very close to the school's target of 97%. I really would like to see the punctuality improve though. A reminder that the register is taken at 8:55am.

### **Car Parking**



We are not alone in having difficulties with parking. I fully realise that due to the location of the school, there is very little parking available for parents. We can't even accommodate all our staff onto the car park. However large schools with huge car parks have exactly the same issues due to their numbers of staff. It really is a problem shared by all school communities. At least weekly I receive calls and sometimes visits from neighbours who are frustrated by the parking and they do expect the school to rectify the situation. I always explain calmly that parental parking is out of my jurisdiction and if they feel it is illegal, they should contact the police. I have observed that sometimes there is dangerous parking, such as on the corner of a junction or on the yellow zig zags. This does put the safety of everyone at risk, but it is also disappointing to hear that in such situations, as tempers flare, not all parents are positive role models for our children with their choice of language.

I hope you all enjoy the summer holiday. I can't remember it ever having been so hot and sunny for so long. Let's hope the good weather continues into August, so that we can make the most of the school holidays. A reminder that the children return to school on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September.



*Please do contact me if you would like my assistance at any time, Mrs. Procter*

