



The Meadows
Primary School

Meadows Newsletter

Issue 10

March 13th 2017

Forthcoming dates

Please do check the website regularly

Thursday 16th March	Kingswood Parents' Meeting 3pm
Thursday 23rd March	Mothers' Day Lunch Class 2 only
Monday March 27th	Class 4 trip to Manchester Science Museum
Friday 31st March	Race Night Leycett CC
Wednesday 5th April	Easter Service All Saints' Church
Thursday 6th April	Classes 1 and 2 trip to Gladstone Pottery Museum
Friday 7th April	Easter holidays
Monday 24th April	Start of summer term
Monday 24th - Wednesday 26th April	Kingswood Residential Class 3
Monday 1st May	Bank Holiday School closed
Thursday 11th May	Family Games Evening Leycett CC
Friday 9th June	Razzmatazz Victoria Hall Classes 3 and 4 6pm
Wednesday 21st June	Sports Day Keele Sports Hall 1:30 - 3:30pm
Wednesday 19th July	Leavers' Evening Madeley High School 6-9pm

Further dates to be confirmed



Department
for Education

Recognition Of Our Academic Success

On the first day back after the half term break, I was delighted to receive a letter from the Rt Hon Nick Gibb who is a member of parliament and the Minister of State for School Standards. The full letter can be found on our website, together with a summary of the writing practices we have implemented over the course of the last few years. All of which have led to such a positive impact upon our children's writing abilities. <http://www.meadowsprimary.co.uk/blog/letter-nick-gibb-department-education>. He notes that our school is in the top 1% of all primary schools in England for achievement in writing. "Thank you for your hard work and professionalism in producing such high standards and congratulations again to you and your staff for all you have achieved."

Those families who have been part of our community for a number of years will recall things were very different back in 2012, when academic standards led to the school being judged by Ofsted as Requiring Improvement.

Of course such sustained and considerable improvements are also testimony to the high expectations that our children and parents also value and uphold. I have shared the letter with the children and they were delighted that the government know about how hard we all work. This was indeed a very proud day for everyone at The Meadows.

School Crossing Update



We are delighted to welcome Mrs Brown, who is now helping our families cross the busy junction. She is one of our grandparents and I am sure is a familiar face to you and the children. Please do use this point to cross the road safely. It is concerning to see so many families exit the school via the car park and run across the road to Hillwood Road. It is a very fast road and visibility is very poor indeed.

Razzmatazz Reminder

Ron Case has now begun teaching dance to classes 3 and 4 on Wednesday afternoons. This will lead to the children showcasing their talents at the annual Razzmatazz event at Victoria Hall in Hanley. **ALL** children in classes 3 and 4 are expected to attend. It is very disappointing when children spend weeks learning routines and then due to family commitments are unable to participate in the evening. If your child will be unavailable on the evening of Friday 9th June please inform us **NOW**, so that we can choreograph the routines accordingly. Ticket details will be communicated nearer to the time. Thank you for supporting such enrichment and performance opportunities.

Pupil Progress Meetings

Thank you to all the parents who attended and discussed their child's learning behaviours and progress with the class teachers. As you can imagine the organisation of such an event in a very small building is challenging. Unfortunately we did have some parents who missed their appointment. Please liaise with your child's class teacher to rearrange another appointment.



Toast

As we approach the end of the financial year, Mrs Boulton our part time school Bursar has been analysing the accounts for toast sales carefully. Unfortunately presently we are not currently covering the cost of the food and labour costs. (Please note we do purchase branded 50/50 bread and we use a high quality spreadable butter) **Therefore when we return after the Easter break the cost will increase to 25p per day, which is £1.25 per week. All payment must be made via ParentMail.** We will be unable to process any cash payments. The payment option for toast will not appear until Easter on your account.

Your child may of course bring their own morning snack into school. This however should be a cereal bar, fruit or similar.

School Term Dates Amendment

As you will recall the governors strongly object to the forced use of the school building as a polling station. The recent by-election was held at The Crewe Arms Hotel as the Council agreed to trial an alternative venue. We have been informed that this arrangement will continue for the forthcoming election in May. **Therefore the school will no longer need to close on Thursday 4th May. This INSET day will now be moved to Monday 24th July.** I am sure you will be delighted that the children will now break up on Friday 21st July. I am only sorry I have been unable to confirm this until now.

Football – Australian Style

During PE last Friday, the children at The Meadows were given the lovely opportunity to learn how to play Aussie Rules Football. One of our parents Mrs Greig gave up her afternoon to come into school and give the children a taste of the main principles of the game.



Aussie Rules Football is a really popular sport in Australia, both with adults and children, and is starting to be played by children in their PE lessons in the UK. It is played using an oval shaped ball and involves kicking the ball between or behind goal posts, which are positioned at the end of the pitch.



Administering Medicines

Please do remember that members of staff are unable to administer any painkillers such as Calpol, Ibuprofen etc. unless it is prescribed by a doctor. The bottle should be in its original container with the pharmacy label clearly visible. All requests need to be clearly documented using the form available from the office. A copy of the school policy is available on the website.

Safety Warnings

It has come to my attention that the high school sent a text to their parents on Friday concerning a potential threat from the driver of a white van. I was concerned that I had no knowledge of any such threat in our area. It is procedure to receive such safety warnings from the police. I have investigated further and I can confirm that an email was circulated amongst heads of secondary schools in the Newcastle area. The area referred to was Newcastle rather than Madeley. There has been no involvement from our local police; hence no warnings have been issued to The Meadows.



Film Night

Thank you for your supporting our fundraising event. The children loved the film and the opportunity to sing along. All the adults commented on how enjoyable it was to spend this time with the children. Their behaviour was exemplary. We raised £203.95 which has been placed in our fundraising account which is used for improving the library environment. A huge thank you to all the staff members and also to Mrs Bradshaw for their time.



Race night Reminder

Horses are available at £2 each via the school office. Slips need to be returned by Monday 27th March. Please see the letter/posters for further information. We kindly ask your help with prizes. We are asking for bottles of wine, prosecco and chocolates. Thank you

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



