



# Meadows Newsletter

Issue 14

March 29th 2018

The Meadows  
Primary School

## Forthcoming dates

**Please do check the website regularly**

**Tuesday 17th April** School Re-opens

**Wednesday 25th April** Class 3 Trip to Kilnworx Climbing Centre  
**New Date**

**Thursday 17th May** Family Games Evening  
Leycett CC

**Monday 28th May** Half Term

**Monday 4th -6th June** Class 4 Residential Standon Bowers

**Wednesday 20th June** Sports Day PM  
Leycett Cricket Club

**Wednesday 27th June** Reserve Sports Day  
Leycett CC

**Wednesday 18th July** Y6 Leavers' Evening at Madeley School

**Thursday 19th July** End of term

We have reached the end of the spring term already! This last week has been even busier than usual due to lots of visitors to school and our road safety activities. We have had to timetable every minute to fit everything in! I couldn't possibly detail all our experiences in this newsletter, so will just provide a snapshot. Our blogs are very informative, although time consuming. When the staff get a moment to pause, they will update their blog pages to detail more of our activities.

Firstly I would like to share some of the road safety activities that the whole school community has been involved in this week. These have all been funded following an award of almost £1,800 from the Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership which has been coordinated by Madeley School. Partner agencies operating in the village have teamed up to help educate our young people and the local community. I am sure you have seen the banners around the village. Let's hope drivers do take note and reduce their speed as they drive through Madeley. Pupils have also been provided with fluorescent pump bags, which will help make them more visible to drivers on the walk to and from school.



Each class has been involved in activities such as: observed walks in the local area learning essential safety skills, participation in a truck safety session at the high school and taking part in role play activities using traffic lights and a pedestrian crossing. We also welcomed a visitor on Tuesday to talk to parents about child safety. One very alarming fact, which he did share, was that typically there is a gap of just 4 seconds in which to cross the road, between the school and Hillwood Road. It is concerning that this short cut is used frequently, rather than taking the slightly longer route via the school crossing patrol. It is of course made even more dangerous by the parking around the junction. If you do need to cross the road, I urge you not to cross from the car park entrance. Please do wherever possible cross with Mrs Brown our school crossing patrol officer.

Mr Paul Cope is a Road Safety Education Officer has led many of our activities this week. He has been so complimentary about our school and our children. I would like to share some of his words with you:

*I just wanted to mention that it's been an absolute pleasure working in your school during the last few days. Everyone has made me most welcome including the secretary, the teachers, all the teaching assistants and the parents who came along to help. The children have been an absolute delight to teach. All of them took an interest in what we were working on, they listened attentively and their behaviour has been exemplary. As you know we took the children off site teaching them how to cross the road at various points around the village and I'm sure that anyone who saw them would have been impressed with their demeanour. I very much look forward to seeing you all again and working with your Year 6 students during the summer term.*

I would like to thank all the parents who did come along and support the children in their walks. We really couldn't have done it without you.

## Class Dojo

At the end of each half term, we do take the opportunity to analyse behaviour trends across the classes. This half term alone, 1579 dojos have been awarded across the classes! Today in our assembly I had the pleasure of awarding certificates to those children who have earned the most dojos across each of the nine secrets of success. There is a winner from each class. Additionally there is a runner up and an overall winner for earning the most dojo points in each class. The figures are reset to zero after Easter so each and every child will have the same starting point next term. If you would like to know more about our Secrets of Success or our behaviour policy, please follow these links:



[Behaviour policy](#)

[Secrets of Success](#)

*Well done to all of our children for their outstanding learning behaviours and making our school such an enjoyable and safe environment to learn and work in.*

## Class Photographs

Unfortunately we are still awaiting delivery of the photographs. We will hand them out as soon as they are delivered to school.

## **Holiday Club Update**



As you will be aware this is something which we have been keen to facilitate for a while. We have been having discussions with the high school regarding the lease of their facilities over holiday periods. I am delighted to say that the agreement has now been confirmed. ASM, who have been our specialist coaching provider for many years and are highly regarded by the staff and our parental community, will be running the provision. They will run a club over the May half term break and also for two weeks in the summer holidays. In response to your feedback, the middle two weeks have been selected as they were by far the most popular choice. These will all be held at the Sports Hall and will be open to children at The Meadows only. Prices will be as follows:

Early Rise (8am-9am)	Half Day	Full Day
£3:00	£8:00	£10:00

ASM will be providing further details and booking details shortly.

## **Academy Council News**

This week, we welcomed a number of our Academy Councillors to school. I do feel that it is important that they are a visible presence in our school community and experience our school during the day so they can see our children learning and how things are organised. They of course do spend a great deal of time reading various reports from both myself and other members of staff, but gaining first-hand experience is always the best information source. On Monday they spent a number of hours in school observing lessons and talking to the children. Please do take a look at an informative blog from our vice-chair Carol Commins by following this [link](#).

## **Quiz Night**

Congratulations to the Taylor-Hinton team who were the winners. It was a wonderful opportunity for parents and children to socialise and have lots of fun working together as a team. During the course of the evening, Mrs Cooper tested the teams on their knowledge of things including: Science, Maths, Movies, Sports and even chocolate bars! There was a real sense of healthy competition in the air during the course of the evening and it was lots of fun. Altogether we raised £101, which has been used to purchase some additional science resources for the children. A huge thank you to all members of staff who helped on the night, particularly Mrs Cooper who arranged the evening.

## **Class 3 Trip to the Potteries Museum**

As part of our local history study of the Staffordshire Hoard, the children in Class 3 visited The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery. Prior to the visit, the children had explored the website and the information about the hoard. They were very excited to get a more hands on approach, especially when they found out they would get the chance to do some metal detecting! As ever, the children were very well behaved and many members of staff commented on their polite manner.

## **Reading Workshop**



Last week we once again welcomed Bernie Pearce who is the English Director from The Shaw Education Trust. She has been working alongside Mrs Edwards implementing our “Reading for Pleasure” initiative. Together they led a workshop for parents of children in Y2 and above, on questioning. We know from your feedback and also from our observations in school that this is something which really does enhance shared reading at home. The questions that form your book discussions at home really do strengthen your child’s comprehension skills and make it so much more enjoyable. So often we find that lots of our children like to race through their books, focusing on decoding rather than their understanding. The curriculum expectations now require children to develop their enquiring minds so they learn at depth. You can find all the resources used on our website following this [link](#).



## **Science Competition**

We have been delighted with the children’s creativity. There were so many entries and so many great ideas. We had such a range: plant pots, pencil cases, windmills, jugs and animals to name just a few. All the children who entered have been awarded 5 imagine dojo points. The judging was most difficult as you can imagine. There were 4 winners who are pictured with their prizes. We raised £45.00 which will be used to purchase science resources.

Of course the most important message which the children have well and truly understood is that we all need to reflect upon our use of plastic as it is causing so much damage to our world.



## Attendance and Punctuality

	Attendance	Lateness
<b>Class 1</b>	98.39%	0.12%
<b>Class 2</b>	96.79%	0.40%
<b>Class 3</b>	97.60%	0.52%
<b>Class 4</b>	97.05%	0.68%
<b>Whole School</b>	97.29%	0.40 %



**Well done to the fifteen pupils who were awarded a certificate today for their 100% attendance since the start of academic year.**

*A reminder that you should notify the school each day that your child is absent and update us on their improving condition and likely date of return.*

It is the time of year when I receive an increased number of requests for leave during term time. The DfE guidance very clearly states that I am unable to authorise holidays during term time. Please do not be offended by this refusal, I am complying with my legal obligations. You will be aware that the Local Authority is now far more proactive in issuing penalty notices. You can remind yourself of this information issued earlier in the year [here](#).

## Church Visit

As part of our RE curriculum and understanding of the Easter traditions, we enjoyed a visit to All Saints' church this afternoon. Rev Peter is a very popular visitor to our school and always leads very interactive assemblies for the children. The children enjoyed singing songs which we have been learning in school and being reminded of the Easter story.



Finally I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Easter and an enjoyable break from school. Thank you for all your support over the past term and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for the final term of the year, on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April.

## Personal Possessions

I would like to remind all our school community of the following:

*The storage of any personal property or possessions or, where pupils bring in personal property or possessions onto the school premises it is at the pupil's and parent's own risk and the school will not be liable for any loss or damage to personal property or possessions.*

*Mrs Procter*



**We believe, you achieve**

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