



# Meadows Newsletter

Issue 1

September 6th 2017

The Meadows  
Primary School

## Forthcoming dates

**Please do check the website regularly**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September** Individual and Siblings Photographs

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September** Academy Conversion Parents' Meeting 5pm

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September** NSPCC Parent workshop 2-3pm

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

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September** Swimming lessons for Class 3 commence

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October** Maths Parent Workshop Reception and Y1 9:00-10:30

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

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October** Return to School

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November** Pupil Progress Meetings

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November** Pupil Progress Meetings

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December** Santa train ride Classes 1 and 2

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December** Christmas Disco Leycett CC

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December** Classes 3 and 4 Pantomime at Crewe Lyceum Theatre PM

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December** End of term

## A New School Year

I hope you enjoyed the summer break and your quality family time. Typically the hot sunshine did disappear in August, however the children have been eager to tell us all about their activities and travels. It was wonderful to welcome everyone this morning. A very special welcome to our new Reception class and their families, who have joined us today. The beaming smiles were clear to see and although it's lovely to have the summer break, in many ways the children are eager to return to school in September. The children all do look so smart in their uniforms and polished shoes. I do hope the children's clothes are named as unfortunately lots of children do not appreciate the expense of these items and will take off jumpers and cardigans without a second thought for them all day. Over the summer, Mrs Cooper has collected a great deal of items and where they are named, we have returned them to the children today.

A reminder that school shoes, rather than trainers are mandatory. Obviously we do understand that there are laundry mishaps at home. If for any reason your child is unable to comply with our uniform expectations, please do contact the school, so we can understand the circumstances.

## A Change in The School Day Structure

We have made the decision to no longer have an afternoon play for the children in key stage 2. A playtime for the older children is not statutory and is indeed exceptionally rare. In the summer term we reviewed the structure of our lessons and came to the conclusion that assemblies were happening at the start of the day, when the children are the most alert and when we have the highest pupil to staff ratio. For this reason we have moved the majority of our assemblies to the afternoons. These will take place mid-afternoon and will provide some downtime time for the children and a break in the lesson schedule. The younger children will continue to have their afternoon break as usual. The teachers will of course monitor the children and help them to adjust to the routines. Children are encouraged to drink water continually throughout the day from their own water bottle.

The additional learning time in the mornings will be used to focus upon number fluency and rapid recall, which we have identified as an area across the school which requires greater emphasis. Mrs Kuffour will be writing to you shortly providing more information about our Maths focus this year.

## Staffing News

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Panagi to our staff team. She has been volunteering at the school for over a year now and has already been a great asset to our team.

## Swimming

Class 3 will be having swimming lessons this term and then after Christmas, Class 2 will be going. We are however going to Chesterton School this year rather than Jubilee 2. We have managed to secure longer swimming sessions, so the children will be in the water for 45 minutes. The learning environment will be far more suited, as it will be only used by schools. It will not be open to public users. The lessons start on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September.



## Extra-Curricular Clubs

A letter will be coming home this week detailing the choice on offer this term.

## Contact Details

Please do let us know if your email or mobile details have changed. We do ask for a minimum of two contact numbers, both of which must accept calls during school hours.

Remember that the school is committed to being paper light, which means most of our letters will be sent home electronically. In order to be informed you will need to engage in ParentMail. The app is very easy to download on all phones. Our reception families will be added to the system this week.



### **Academy Conversion**

A reminder that you are invited to attend a meeting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 5pm. Mrs Jo Morgan CEO of the Shaw Education Trust will be here, together with myself and Miss Ann Spilsbury (Chair of governors) to discuss our plans with you and answer any questions.

### **Holiday Dates**

Term dates for this academic year and the 2018-2019 year are available both on our website and in the school office. Please do look at these before making future holiday bookings. Term time holidays will not be authorised. This in accordance with the Department for Education's legislation.

### **Passports**

Many of you will know that in the past I have been only too happy to countersign passport applications. However I have been informed that teachers and headteachers are now only eligible if they know the child/family personally, rather than just through professional circumstances.



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

