



MEADOWS FIRST SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Home Learning Awards

Ducklings

Olivia M & Lydia K ongoing commitment to all of the home learning challenges that have been set.

Goslings

Ted B for great writing about The Very Hungry Caterpillar.
Tulashee K making a fantastic minibeast hotel.

Cygnets

Billy F and Zac L have been working really hard at home, making super progress in phonics and maths looking like they have been having a great time too!

Caterpillars

Harry H has been very busy taking part in the virtual Worcestershire Games and loving home science lessons making many huge models.
Lauren M became a video presenter taking Mrs Webb on a most interesting tour of her garden during which I found out a lot about the names of lots of different plants and how to look after them. Thank you Lauren.

Dragonflies

Jesse HH and Vlad S for great use of Purple Mash

Owls

Imogen G for an amazing piece of writing about Tabby's Adventure. I'm so glad the kitten was reunited with her owners!
Harry B for working so hard on his handwriting this week. It's true what they say 'practise makes perfect!' Well done Harry!

Hedgehogs

Noah L & Ella P for showing amazing enthusiasm with their home learning.

Sharks

Ethan H & Seth P for always giving 100% with their home learning.

Dolphins

Sebby S for working so hard at home and practising his French.
Oscar D for fantastic work on Purple Mash.

Jaguars

Nathan K for such an amazing log of his tadpoles turning into frogs.
Jessica E for such a detailed report about animals and their babies.

Tigers

Daisy M for wonderful silhouette art and fantastic home learning.
Isabella O B for working hard at home and brilliant maths work.

A Message from Mrs Hewitt

Meadows First School is proud to be affiliated to the Bromsgrove Learning Network of schools. Our affiliation enables us to work as supportive colleagues with school staff across the district, sharing insight and expertise in pursuit of the best possible outcomes for pupils attending our schools. Working together supports us in working towards an equitable experience for our pupils whilst maintaining the unique character of each of our schools. Despite the pandemic, school leaders across the network continue to work together. As the national and local context shifts, some differences between school plans have emerged which serves only to reflect the individual context of each setting. The number and proportion of children on roll, key worker families, vulnerable children and available staff varies in each setting along with the amount of space available to name but a few of the innumerable factors that shape our response to the pandemic. Whilst these unique factors are addressed appropriately to the individual school, we are united in our commitment to our communities whilst following the guidelines set out by the government.

We, at Meadows, always strive hard to support our families in the safest way possible. We have increased the number of pupils in school whilst trying to maintain consistent 'groups' over a sustained period to minimise risk; the groups starting on Monday 22nd will remain constant and unchanged as far as possible until the end of term in order to keep the children safe. This is more challenging in key worker groups as children are in on varying days due to people's hospital shift patterns etc; we are still trying to maintain these to be as consistent as possible. The minimising of risk also applies to staff; they are restricted to teaching one group as consistently as possible, because without the staff being healthy we cannot function as a school. Our governors have been into school again this week to monitor that we are adhering to our strict risk assessments. Can I thank them for their support at this time.

The teachers will also ensure that they continue with home learning for those pupils not in school, and over the next week they will be contacting all pupils personally to check how they are. We still can't quite believe that in March, when we said goodbye to our pupils, that it would be for such a long length of time; we all miss the children very much indeed.

We all hope that we can return to our usual school life as soon as possible. As a headteacher, it has been extremely challenging at times to ensure the health and safety of both staff and pupils; staff support has been exceptional throughout this period, but I also cannot stress enough that the support that I have received off parents has made this very difficult time easier to cope with. Thank you; I really appreciate the kind words and messages that I have received throughout the pandemic. On behalf of the staff at Meadows, I hope that you all stay safe and well; we really look forward to seeing you soon.

Severn Arts have informed us that their music teachers will be available to teach online during the summer holidays. They are offering a four-week block of lessons for children already receiving instrumental or vocal tuition and a four-week block of taster lessons for children keen to start learning the ukulele or recorder. Both blocks of lessons will start on 20 July 2020.

For children **already playing an instrument or having vocal tuition** they are offering a choice of either a 20 minute or 30-minute lesson. **Lesson costs:** 4 x 20-minute lessons = £50 or 4 x 30-minute lessons = £75

They are also offering 25 free places; these will be available to children from families who meet one or more of the following criteria: Children and young people eligible for Free School Meals (year 3 or above); Universal Credit which has replaced the following benefits, Child Tax Credit, Housing Benefit, Income Support, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA), Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), Working Tax Credit, Incapacity Benefit, Looked After Children and Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)

For children **new to learning an instrument** they are offering a four-week block of taster lessons either in the ukulele or recorder. Instruments can be provided free of charge if required. The cost of the block of four lessons is £50 unless you qualify for a fully funded Severn Arts place.

<https://www.severnarts.org.uk/Pages/Category/online-summer-lessons>

Click the link below for a parents guide to COVID
https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0139/8708/6394/files/Parent_Guides_Covid-19.pdf?v=1588690091