



MEADOWS FIRST SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



A Message from Mrs Hewitt

Welcome back. I hope that you all managed to have a lovely half term break with your friends and families. As you are aware, new National measures have been introduced to slow down the rates of infection across the country. Thankfully, schools are staying open, and we are continuing to do our best in trying to keep Meadows safe for all our pupils and staff. Our risk assessments within school have been reviewed again in light of the new guidance, but very little has needed to be changed. We need your support in order to keep everyone safe. The main points in our safety plan are:

- reminding the children of 'hands, face, space' motto, alongside the catch it, bin it, kill it slogan.
- hand cleaning resources readily available in corridors (electronic hand sanitiser stations) and in classrooms. Regular hand washing/sanitising between activities.
- Children are in class bubbles for most of the time. There are timetables for such activities as outdoor play and the use of toilets which are being cleaned between year groups. Staff are also not moving around classes and are staying within a year group bubble.
- one-way system around school (indoors and outdoors)
- staggered start and finish times- this helps to keep adults at a 2-metre distance from school staff and each other, and supports children to only mix with their own bubble. I understand how frustrating this is for some of you who have children starting at different times, and I see many of you increasing your daily steps by walking around the one-way system several times. **Thank you for your support in this area.**
- Thank you also to parents for waiting outside the playground areas until their allotted time slot. Please can parents not use the car park unless necessary as children and parents now wait in this area in order to maintain social distance.
- resources are being kept within class bubbles (very little sharing of resources- 72 hours between resources being swapped between groups)
- minimising risk of transmission between home and school- eg book bags only being brought in on Mondays and Fridays/ correspondence by email rather than paper copies etc. Show and tell items, birthday sweets etc should not be sent in at present. Teachers are available at the end of the school day if you need to speak to them (please wear a mask). School class emails are only for **important** messages. The teachers are in class all day and have meetings etc after school, so they may not check their emails every day.
- no whole school activities (eg assemblies are by Teams or within class bubbles).
- The staff in school are now also wearing masks in communal areas such as corridors, and when working in close contact with the pupils. **Thank you for wearing masks on the school grounds;** this will help to protect children and adults who are more vulnerable whilst also minimising the transmission of COVID within our school community.
- All classrooms are being well- ventilated (windows and doors open). Children may need extra layers during these winter months.
- We have purchased non-contact, infra-red forehead thermometers which we will use if a child/adult is suspected to have a high temperature during the day. We will contact the relevant parent/carer for consent prior to taking the child's temperature.

We hope that, with your support, we can continue to keep Meadows open and provide the very best educational opportunities for the pupils in our care. Once again, the many positive comments we have received are highly appreciated and have helped us during this challenging time.

Children In Need Day is on Friday 13th November. We are asking the children to come dressed in any clothes/accessories related to Pudsey Bear, or in their own clothes for a donation of £1. We are also aware that many families are struggling financially during these challenging times. Therefore, on Children In Need Day we will also be collecting donations of food (tins/packets etc); this is a voluntary contribution but we would appreciate any donations of food that you can spare. The food collected will be given to local foodbanks to support families in need in our area.



Friends of Meadows

Friends of Meadows are aiming to raise £1000 from this year's virtual Christmas raffle (children and adult), and we need prizes, please - no matter how big or small. Please liaise with the school office regarding how to bring them safely into school. We all appreciate your support.

Meadows Mouse Awards

these were given out today in a 'Zoom' assembly across school. Well done to the children listed below:

Goslings	-	Jake F – joining in more with class activities. Lily-Jane E – settling back into school so well after half term and making new friends.
Cygnets	-	Zach C – beautiful handwriting. Ava T – being a kind, helpful, sensible, friendly member of the class.
Caterpillars	-	Harry S – being organised in maths. Rosie K – being determined to succeed in maths.
Dragonflies	-	Alice & Noah – hard work and focus in all areas.
Owls	-	Evie C – determination in Maths work. Leo C – being focused with his handwriting,
Hedgehogs	-	Harvey A – amazing work subtracting numbers using a number-line. Lauren M – wonderful poppy artwork
Dolphins	-	Georgia H – always presenting her work beautifully. Flynn P – working so much harder on his spellings.
Sharks	-	Darko R – working hard with his mental calculation in maths. Indie S – always being organised & enthusiastic with her learning.
Jaguars	-	Sonny B & Dexter Y -always being organised and focused in lessons.
Tigers	-	Marin A – wonderful research on Alexander Calder in Art. Frankie T – determined & focused in all subjects.