



MEADOWS FIRST SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



A Message from Mrs Hewitt

It is hard to believe that it has been a year since COVID started and we had our first lockdown. I can't quite believe what a roller coaster of a year it has been. We have been through lockdowns, supported Clap for Carers, endured no household mixing, no hugging, maintained social distancing, and many people have suffered loss. It has been particularly difficult to not see our friends and loved ones. My thoughts go out to everyone as well as heartfelt thanks for your support during this difficult year. I hope that we can soon return to fewer restrictions, but I urge everyone to still be cautious so that we can soon enjoy the freedoms that we once took for granted.

One day



We are very pleased with the way that everyone has coped with our now 'normal' COVID routines, since our full return to school. I must remind our families that they should do all that they can to observe social distancing when entering our school, and to move on quickly once dropping off or collecting your child. Our routines have been established to ensure that we do all that we can to keep our children, their families, and our staff as safe as is practicably possible. The steps are significant in supporting us to keep our bubbles in school open for as long as possible. I am aware that a number of local schools have had to close bubbles already since the full reopening, enforcing 10-day periods of self-isolation for children, staff and their associated families and a return to Home Learning! If anyone in your household is displaying any of the COVID19 symptoms, no matter how mild, please be cautious and isolate immediately, arrange for a test to be taken and inform school as soon as possible.

Empty Classroom Day (Outdoor learning Day) is 29th March; children can come to school in clothing suitable for outdoors and in sensible outdoor shoes. Next week the children will all be watching an **Easter pantomime** (virtually) as a special treat to say well done for being so amazing throughout this term.

Wishing you a very happy weekend.

Reminder that we break up for the Easter holidays on Thursday 1st April.

The Starting Well Partnership has been created to support parents, families, and children across Worcestershire. Families can be supported by professionals such as Health Visitors, Parenting Support Workers, Community Nursery Nurses, School Health Nurses, Health Care Assistants, Volunteer Coordinators, and Business Support Officers. You can ask for support <https://www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk/families> or register your interest for courses <https://www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk/parenting-groups> on their website.

Supporting you with Special Needs & Disabilities:

Signalong Foundation Course for Parents
<https://rebrand.ly/SignalongFoundationA>

SEND – Understanding Autism
<https://rebrand.ly/SEND-UnderstandingAutism>

SEND – Strategies for Positive Behaviour
<https://rebrand.ly/SEND-PositiveBehaviour>

SEND – Managing Mindfulness for Parents
<https://rebrand.ly/ManagingMindfulnessSEND>

SEND at Meadows

Here are some courses available to help you to support your child's needs.

Next week is **Autism Awareness Week**. Children can wear odd socks on Wednesday to support this event

Meadows Mouse Awards



- Goslings** Franky D - offering super ideas at carpet time. Jake F - always sitting so beautifully on the carpet.
- Cygnets** Jaxon D - working so hard in Phonics. Harlow K - trying hard to be a good friend.
- Caterpillars** Louie - working so hard with his spelling & handwriting. Finnley - being determined to finish his work and trying his best.
- Dragonflies** Corey - great phonics work. Layla - super Maths, so focused & determined.
- Owls** Alfred C - amazing Maths, always being super determined. Torben S - focused & organised writing.
- Hedgehogs** Mario W - enthusiasm with addition in Maths. Elodie H - focus in her writing lessons.
- Sharks** Skye D - being so enthusiastic with her fractions. Lenny A - writing a terrific scary character description.
- Dolphins** Finlay H & Ava E - trying so hard with their cursive handwriting.
- Jaguars** Jessica R - super focus & enthusiasm in all lessons. Keelan T - super skills & enthusiasm in Science.
- Tigers** Jake L & Oliver T - writing wonderful instruction on how to train your dragon.

Financial support if you have to take time off work to care for your child while they are self-isolating

If you are on a low income and you need to take time off work to care for your child while they are self-isolating, you may be eligible for financial support from your local authority through the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme.

The Test and Trace Support Payment scheme is open to people who live in England and who meet the following criteria:

- They are the parent or guardian of a child or young person in the same household and need to take time off work to care for them while they self-isolate; this is limited to one parent or guardian per household for the child or young person's self-isolation period
- Are employed or self-employed
- Are unable to work from home while undertaking caring responsibilities and will lose income as a result
 - They are currently receiving or are the partner of someone in the same household who is receiving at least one of the following benefits: Universal Credit, Working Tax Credit, income-based Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Support, Housing Benefit
- Their child or young person:
 - is aged 15 or under (or 25 or under with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC) and normally attends an education or childcare setting
 - has been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or by their education or childcare setting because they have been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19

If you are eligible, you will receive a £500 payment from your local authority in addition to any benefits and Statutory Sick Pay you receive currently. **Your local authority will contact your child's school to verify the information you provide about your child as part of the process of confirming whether you are eligible for a payment.**

You can see the full eligibility criteria for the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme and find out how to apply at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/test-and-trace-support-payment-scheme-claiming-financial-support/claiming-financial-support-under-the-test-and-trace-support-payment-scheme>.

If you think you meet the eligibility criteria listed above and would like to apply to your local authority for a payment from the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme, you should provide this page of the newsletter to your local authority to support your application. **You will not be able to make an application for a payment from the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme without this section of the newsletter.**

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>



As we prepare to return
to face to face Scouting,
Our Young People need more
Adult Role Models.

Are you up for a new challenge?
Do you want to learn new skills?
Do you want to join a world wide family
that is youth shaped?
You dont need any Scouting experience

Answered yes?
We want to hear from you
contact
vivien.ware@scoutsbromsgrove.org.uk
Its time to begin your Scouting Journey



**FIRE
HIKES
ADVENTURE
FAMILY
FRIENDS**
All thats missing is
YOU

To Volunteer email
vivien.ware@scoutsbromsgrove.org.uk