



### *A Message from Mrs Hewitt*

This week we have all watched the Leavers' Production- the first one that we have been able to stage since COVID began. It was amazing! I was proud of all of the children! A huge 'thank you' goes to the staff in year 4 who worked hard to produce this wonderful play. Thank you also to all of the parents and carers who joined us to celebrate with the children.

The children in Year 2 have been learning about homelessness. Children learnt about why people might become homeless and how more people might classify as homeless than we thought. The children wanted to help, so they decided to raise money by experiencing what it's like being homeless in their own small way. The children were kindly sponsored by relatives and raised money for homeless charities across Bromsgrove.

Friends of Meadows- thank you for organising the year 4 disco and the second-hand uniform sale this week. Your hard work and dedication to support the school is very much appreciated.

We sadly also have 2 members of staff retiring this year. Mrs Date has been an integral member of staff over the many years she has been at Meadows. As well as being a fantastic teacher, she has driven the eco and sustainability agenda across the school.

Mrs Claydon is also retiring; once again we are losing a fantastic member of staff who will be greatly missed. As well as being a superb Teaching Assistant, she has supported the delivery of PE across the schools over many years.

Mrs Barry, the leader of the Mainstream Autism Base, is also moving on to pastures new; she has secured a job working for Worcestershire County advising other schools and parents in supporting pupils with ASD. They are lucky to have her joining their team, and we will miss her expertise and her dedication to supporting pupils with ASD.

We will be sad to see them leave the 'Meadows family'. We will miss them, but we wish them all a lot of luck!

The children met their new teachers on Monday morning; the changeover went well. Any children who are more anxious with change will have several visits to their new rooms in order to ensure their transition is as smooth as possible. We are holding a 'Meet the teacher' session for parents at 3.15 on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September. This is an opportunity for you to come into your child's new classroom with your child to meet their teacher (it is not a parents' evening, but a chance for you to see where your child's classroom is and to see who their teacher is).

The children will not be bringing home their workbooks in July. The teachers will pass your child's books onto their next teacher so that they can see the standards they have produced this year. The books will be returned to each child in the Autumn term when the teachers know the children in their new class well.

From September, we are starting school at 8.45 (instead of the 8.45-8.55 staggered start that we introduced during COVID to limit crowds).

We will continue with children coming to school in their PE kits on PE days (each year group will send out a newsletter to let you know their PE days for September).

We break up for the summer holidays on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July.



### Heatwave

Next week's weather forecast predicts a heat wave on Monday and Tuesday. Children can come to school in their PE kit or light clothing (school dresses/ shorts etc). Can they bring water bottles, a hat and wear sun cream please? If it is too hot, we will limit time outdoors on playgrounds as they have very little shade. Instead we will use areas that are shaded such as forest school. The halls are cool and the IT suite has air conditioning, so a rota has been created to utilise these areas throughout the day in order to keep the children (and staff) cool. There are also fans in the upstairs classrooms (which tend to be the hottest rooms).

### I saw this and thought of our Year 4 Parents

Walk your child to Meadows one last time next week. Even if they don't want you to! Laugh about the sticks they used to collect or the paintings they so carefully carried. Reminisce about their sports days and how funny they were in their Nativity. Tell them how proud you are of them and how excited you are to see them grow. Remember how their little hand was when you held it on their first day of reception. Hold that hand again as you walk with them one last time to their first school. You've done a GREAT job!



## Meadows Mouse Awards

Cygnets	Isla - reading a story to the whole class, beautiful. Wilfie - brilliant listening.
Goslings	Skye - amazing reading. Layton - incredible flair and ideas in the creative area.
Caterpillars	Khalifa W - working hard and listening so well Lily-Jane - exemplary behaviour, always outstanding.
Dragonflies	Ava - excellent 'time' work in Maths. Ollie C - excellent work in History (Columbus and Armstrong)
Owls	Alana - super focus & creativity in Art. Megan - always being such an enthusiastic learner in all of her lessons.
Hedgehogs	Harry S - wonderful ideas in writing. Harlow G - focus in all lessons.
Sharks	Shahraan Q & Oscar M - excellent digital artwork
Dolphins	Reuben O & Eleanor A - hard work and achievement this year.
Jaguars	Millie & Reuben - amazing performances in our Leaver's production.
Tigers	Oliver O B - making an amazing kite & always being a polite and kind Young man. Maisie S - trying her hardest in all lessons & being a wonderful celebrity in our school play.



We are very proud of Noah, a year 4 pupil, who ran in the Race For Life last weekend in order to raise money for Cancer in support of his Nan and Grandad. Along with his family, he raised £2245. Well done Noah!



## Castle Kids Club Meadows and Parkside

- The staff are first aid trained and are qualified playworkers.
- The team leaders are Vix Edwards and Ami O'Donnell
- Playworkers are Amanda Scicluna and Cheryl Wilson
- We offer a Breakfast club from 7.30-9.00, we provide a range of cereals and toast, this is charged at £6.90
- We offer two afternoon sessions
  - 3.15-4.30, we provide a snack and fruit, this is charged at £8.85
  - 3.15-6.00, we provide a hi-tea, this is charged at £12.90
- The club has keyworkers for the reception children.
- We have so much fun and have lots of activities on offer such as
  - Outside play
  - Crafts
  - Board games
  - Cooking
  - Colouring

Please send admission forms and booking forms to  
[keith@thecastlenursery.co.uk](mailto:keith@thecastlenursery.co.uk)  
[emma@thecastlenursery.co.uk](mailto:emma@thecastlenursery.co.uk)

If you need to contact the club or the office, please find numbers below.  
 Castle Kids Club Office – 01527 831150  
 Meadows Club- 07801865245

We hope you enjoy your time with us.

## Help with summer holiday childcare costs

HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) is reminding parents and families not to miss out on financial support that can help pay for childcare during the summer holidays. Through Tax-Free Childcare, families can receive up to £2,000 a year per child – or £4,000 if their child is disabled – to put towards the cost of childcare. It is available for children aged up to 11 (or 17 if the child has a disability). The money can help towards the cost of holiday clubs, before and after-school clubs, childminders and nurseries, and other approved childcare schemes. The government will pay 20% of childcare costs by topping up the money paid into a Tax-Free Childcare account. This means for every £8 paid into the online account, families will automatically receive an additional £2 in government top-up.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/get-help-with-summer-holiday-childcare-costs>