



A Message from Mr Satchwell

As this week comes to an end, I am reflecting on what has been a very busy first half term for myself and the staff team. I have really enjoyed getting to know all the staff and children and seeing how the school works on a daily basis. I am really pleased to be working within a team of dedicated and highly professional staff and look forward to the future.

I hope you have found the parent evening appointments valuable and that the teachers have given you a deeper insight in to your child's current strengths and areas for improvement. Thank you also for all the returned parental questionnaires as this feedback provides us with valuable information as we strive for continuous improvement. After half term I will publish the results of the survey along with the results of a pupil questionnaire that the children have answered all about their well-being and mental health this week.

Safer Internet Day took place on Tuesday and this annual event is an opportunity to focus on online safety with the children. This year's theme was all about change and influence online and the children had a special assembly to highlight some of the issues young people face on the internet and how they can keep themselves safe. The day champions youth voice and helps everyone engage in conversations about how we can all work together to make the internet a great and safe place. We know how important internet safety is for children but it is not only on this day that our pupils learn about online safety, as aspects are taught throughout the year as part of their computing curriculum. Research shows that many parents and carers find supporting their children to stay safe online a challenge and I wanted to highlight some great [resources online](#) that are linked to this year's theme. The UK Safer Internet Centre have created a range of pages to help you talk about these issues and ideas with your child in an age-appropriate way.

Meadows First School joins the UK Committee for UNICEF (UNICEF UK)'s OutRight campaign to speak out to protect children's rights and call for climate action.

Children at Meadows First are taking part in OutRight – a nationwide children's rights campaign organised by UNICEF UK. It's one of hundreds of schools and organisations across the country to call for action from leaders to ensure that children's rights are protected from the impacts of climate change. The children have been developing their understanding of children's rights and speaking out for the rights of other children all over the world. Our Year 4 children have created banners, leaflets, stickers and performed a song at our climate event to show our community what they could do to help with the threat of global warming"



As I mentioned last week, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 7th March. Instead of dressing as a favourite book character, we are inviting the children to decorate an item however they like, as long as it relates to a book they love. The idea is that you select an item such as a paper plate, potato, pebble, wooden spoon, shoe box, lolly stick, pillowcase, t-shirt or poster - the options are endless. We want the children to find whatever they can and have fun imaginatively creating a character from a story. Then on the 7th of March they can bring them into school to share with their teachers and classmates.



Well done to all the children, parents and staff that attended the Meadows Park Run takeover last Sunday. It was great to see so many children up early to go for a run. It was a pleasure to present medals to the children on behalf of the Friends of Meadows. Thank you to all the friends for arranging this event.



Thank you to all the children and staff for their hard work this half term and I wish everyone a safe and restful half term. We look forward to seeing you all back on Monday 19th February.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th February	-	Half term holiday
Wednesday 21 st February	-	Year 3 Birmingham Mosque
Wednesday 28 th February	-	Year 2 Warwick Castle
Monday 4 th March	-	Year 1 Animal Man visit
Tuesday 5 th March	-	Year 4 Harvington Hall
Thursday 14 th – Friday 15 th March	-	Year 4 Residential trip to Blackwell

Smoking

Reminder that we are a non-smoking environment, could we respectfully ask that parents do not smoke/vape on school grounds. Thank you for your co-operation.



Meadows Mouse Awards

Cygnets	Benji S S & Montana L – being an excellent leader in our Chinese Dragon Parade.
Goslings	Jake – showing great perseverance to make a Chinese lantern. Luke – independently requesting an activity with an adult.
Caterpillars	Oliver S – making a great effort in finding number bonds to twenty. Luna E – making creative patterns and sounds in music
Dragonflies	Ella – great independent writing. Jaycee – super focus and hard work in all lessons.
Owls	Bronson – super enthusiasm and writing an amazing information page about keeping healthy. Chloe – continual infectious enthusiasm and super learning.
Hedgehogs	Jake – enthusiasm in all lessons. Muna – amazing work with information writing this week.
Sharks	Franky D – for an excellent effort to improve his focus in lessons and for a super demonstration in P.E. Everly P – working so hard in everything she does.
Dolphins	Ciaran R – great handwriting and presenting his work so beautifully. Kyron – fantastic drawing of an Egyptian sarcophagus.
Jaguars	Harry – always being an inspiration and role model to others. Gina – excellent ideas for poetry writing.
Tigers	Alana A – always working so hard in all lessons and presenting her work beautifully. Sam C F – writing brilliant poems this week in English and creating amazing leaves in art.

Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) Vaccinations

An increasing number of measles cases are continuing to be seen across the country. While Worcestershire has one of the best rates for uptake, some children who haven't had their MMR could be at risk of getting this serious illness.

Two doses of the MMR vaccine are given to make sure we have the best protection from measles. The first dose is given at 12 months of age and the second dose is given at three years and four months, before starting school. For anybody who did not receive the full vaccination course, your own GP will be able to provide a catch-up MMR vaccination.

The MMR vaccine is a safe and effective combined vaccine that protects against three serious illnesses: Measles, Mumps and Rubella. Overall, Worcestershire has an excellent uptake of the MMR vaccine; for 5-year-olds, the county shows as having an uptake of 96.4% (1 dose) and 91.3% (2 doses). The 1 dose figure is joint highest in the West Midlands region and the 2-dose uptake is the outright highest in the region. Having the vaccine protects not only the child but also reduces the spread of the disease. This relies on as many people as possible being vaccinated and is why Public Health experts in the county are keen to continue to encourage all children to be vaccinated.

Measles is a very infectious viral illness that is spread by coughs and sneezes. It usually starts with cold-like symptoms which can include a high temperature, a runny or blocked nose, sneezing, a cough, sore red eyes and a rash. It spreads very quickly to non-immune children and adults who are unvaccinated or have not previously been infected.

NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire and Public Health are holding pop-up MMR vaccination clinics in these areas. If your child hasn't had the MMR vaccination just turn up. You can ask for an MMR vaccine which does not contain pork ingredients if you prefer.

Not sure if you or your child have, had it? Just check your red NHS book or ask at your local GP.

The clinics are being hosted in libraries on the following dates:

Kidderminster Library – 10th Feb, 9.30am until 4pm
Wythall Library – 10th Feb, 9.30am until 4pm
Redditch Library – 10th Feb, 9.30am until 4pm
Evesham Library – 17th Feb, 9.30am until 4pm
Malvern Library – 17th Feb, 9.30 am until 4pm
The Hive – 17th Feb, 9.30 am until 4pm

The pop-up MMR clinic is free, and no appointment is necessary but if you'd prefer an appointment, you can also book ahead by calling 01527 390030.

If anyone has symptoms of measles, please stay at home and phone your GP or NHS 111 for advice. Do not go to GP surgeries or A & E departments so the illness isn't spread to others.

For more information on measles and the MMR vaccine please visit: Measles - [NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)