Meadowside Matters

Issue / 19.12.2025

Holidays are coming, Holidays are coming!

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of a very long term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful celebrations we've shared. Our Christmas performances were a real highlight, with the children shining brilliantly on stage. My sincere thanks go to the staff who worked so hard to organise and support these events. Although I was unable to attend the performances in person for the first time, I thoroughly enjoyed listening to the rehearsals and was proud of the children's efforts and loved hearing from them about how it went.

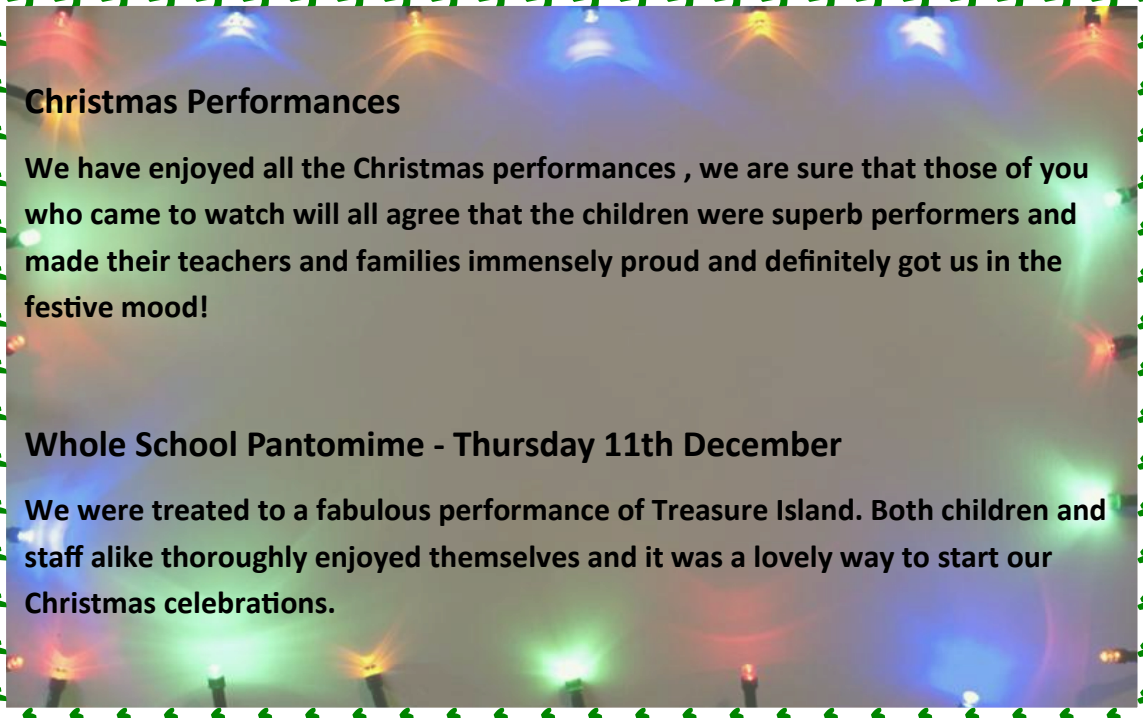
Throughout the term, pupils have also taken part in our *Creative Mission*, engaging in a wide range of exciting activities that enriched their learning and creativity.

We rounded off the term with festive fun: Father Christmas delighted the children with chocolates and sweets during Christmas lunch, Atomic Tom entertained us all, and pupils enjoyed board games together. Staff joined in the celebrations too, sharing Christmas lunch with the children while dressed in their festive jumpers — a joyful way to end the term.

I wish you all a peaceful Christmas break and every happiness for the New Year. Thank you for your continued support; it makes such a difference to our school community.

Kind regards,





Christmas Performances

We have enjoyed all the Christmas performances , we are sure that those of you who came to watch will all agree that the children were superb performers and made their teachers and families immensely proud and definitely got us in the festive mood!

Whole School Pantomime - Thursday 11th December

We were treated to a fabulous performance of Treasure Island. Both children and staff alike thoroughly enjoyed themselves and it was a lovely way to start our Christmas celebrations.

THIS TERM'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Buttercups

We have had a wonderful time this term. We have been busy creating seasonal art, from calendars to Christmas decorations.

The Buttercups were lucky enough to be invited by Santa to have a story read to them at Bosworth Garden Centre. They had the best time and were so well behaved.

And finally, we performed for the first time to our families. We have worked so hard practicing and learning our little performance. The Buttercups absolutely smashed it and everyone was very happy.

All the teachers from Buttercup Nursery would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We can't wait to see you all in 2026.



Reception

The Robins and Owls have worked so hard this term and we are extremely proud of their achievements.

In Maths, the children have worked on numbers 1-5, focusing particularly on subitising and composition. We are getting very good at using our fingers to make these numbers in a range of ways. In English, we are developing our muscles in preparation to write letters, invitations, cards, labels etc. As artists we have explored different media and investigated how to use these in different ways. We have learnt about the three primary colours; red, yellow and blue and how we can mix these to make some lovely secondary colours.

And finally, our Christmas Nativity was a real show stopper, the children were AMAZING acting out the Christmas Story. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Year 1

This term the children have been incredibly busy and are working hard to become more independent in their learning.

In English, we enjoyed reading *Farmer Duck* by Martin Waddell and used the story to write diary entries from the duck's point of view, thinking carefully about all the jobs Farmer Duck would have to do on the farm. For our hot write, the children used the model text to create their own diary entries as an elf, imagining the tasks they might need to complete.

In Maths, we worked hard on addition and subtraction using number lines, part-whole models, and number stories to 10, as well as exploring 2D and 3D shapes.

In History, the children learned about their own personal history, comparing their birthday celebrations with parties in the 1960s using a timeline.

In Art, we explored different types of lines and created shapes and patterns inspired by the work of Paul Klee.

We wish everyone a wonderful winter break and look forward to seeing the children ready to learn in 2026.







Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic Autumn term! This term in English, we focused on persuasive writing and vocabulary; and the children now have a breadth of persuasive phrases. For their hot write, the children brought in their favourite toys and wrote a persuasive advert to encourage others to buy their toy. In Maths, we finished learning about addition and subtraction and are currently learning about 2d and 3d shapes.

In History, our enquiry question was to explore how schools have changed over time. We would like to thank our wonderful visitors who took the time to come in and talk to the children about their school experiences. The children came away from the session with a lot more knowledge about how schools have changed.

Finally, we would like to say a huge well done to all the children for the fantastic Christmas performance. We are very proud of everyone!

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all in January.

Year 3

It's been another busy half term for Year 3 learning about the stone age in History, including a very exciting trip to Flag Fen, creating botanical drawings in Art and writing explanation letters in English.

In Maths, the children have just finished their multiplication and division unit and are busy learning their times tables. Keep practising on TT Rockstars at home! The Enterprise Creative Mission was a particular highlight, where the children got to design and make Christmas treats to sell at the Christmas fair.

Year 3 managed to raise the most money and were treated to a little chocolate surprise from the class elves as a reward. In January we will welcome Mr Draper, who has recently become a father to twins, and will cover Mrs Rodwell's maternity leave! We also want to wish Mr and Mrs Rodwell good luck as they await the arrival of their new baby.

We hope you all have a wonderful winter break and the Year 3 team look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Year 4

Year 4 pupils have worked hard this term on their multiplication skills, both in maths lessons and on TT Rockstars, in preparation for their MTC tests next year.

In English, the children have been writing diary entries as different characters, including being a Victorian child. The end of year '12 Days od Christmas' show was enjoyed by all and the children should be very proud of themselves.

The Year 4 staff wish you all a very restful and happy Christmas and Happy New Year!









Year 5

We have had another exciting term in Year 5; full of practical activities, some tricky fractions that required perseverance, and lots of singing!

In Science, we have been learning about properties of materials, where we have discovered which materials are best for conducting heat and electricity. We also tested the solubility of different materials such as salt, sugar and sand.

In Art, we learnt about installation art and created our own "explosive" art.

In History, we learnt about the Gods and Goddesses that Ancient Greeks believed, as well as how the Greeks gave us democracy.

In Writing, we explained some fantastic machines, which were full of imagination (and parenthesis!)

To finish our term with a festive bang, we thoroughly enjoyed performing carols and enjoying a mince pie with parents and carers.

Year 6

This half term has been especially busy and rewarding for Year 6, with the children taking part in a wide variety of hands-on and reflective learning.

In Design and Technology, the pupils loved creating their own stuffed toys. This project allowed them to develop their sewing skills, problem-solve, and take real pride in producing something unique.

Our History topic focused on the importance of censuses. The children compared Victorian life with modern-day Britain, gaining a deeper understanding of how social attitudes and living conditions have changed over time.

In Religion and Worldviews, we explored the enquiry question: *"Does belief in the Trinity help Christians make better sense of God as a whole?"* The children learned that Christians believe in one God, understood through the relationship between God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit—not as three separate gods, but as one. This helped them build a clearer understanding of an important Christian belief.

It has been a packed and enjoyable half term, and the children have shown excellent engagement and maturity throughout their learning.

Shout out for Mrs Wood!

We received a message from a parent that we wanted to share: "This week Mrs Wood put together a letter .. with pictures to help his reading. He absolutely loves it and it's now up in his room. It's given him a real sense of pride and motivation. I just wanted to say thank you, it's easy to forget how brilliant your staff are when things are tough." A reminder that small things can make a big difference for children.



FESTIVE FUN!





We've had a wonderful time celebrating the festive season in school. The children were thrilled by a fantastic performance from Atomic Tom and enjoyed our Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day, filling the school with colour and cheer.

To make the celebrations even more special, we were excited to welcome a very special visitor - Santa himself!

It was a lovely way to close off our Christmas celebrations and end the term on such a joyful note.





Meadowside Choir performed at **Wellingborough Castle Theatre** and at the **Burton Latimer Christmas Lights** switch on event.









Maintaining Regulation Over the Festivities

As we approach the festive period this can be very overwhelming for our children who are Neurodiverse and / or have Special Educational Needs.

This website, shares some resources, advice and support that may support you:

SEN Resources, Advice & Support - Witherslack Group

Attendance

Meadowside Primary School aims to encourage every pupil to achieve the highest possible levels of attendance in order to take full advantage of the learning experiences available to them. The School adopts the Government definition of good attendance as being 97% or above. This term our attendance was **93.80%**

Special Notice

From January please could we ask that all Reception pupils come into school through the main gate on their own. Registration is 8.55am. Thank you.

Safeguarding Information

If you have a concern about a child in the holidays you can refer to the following agencies

NSPCC Tel: 0808 800 5000 / help@nspcc.org.uk

MASH: 0300 126 0000

Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service https: //www.ndas.co/

Information is available on our website https://www.meadowsideprimary.org/keepsafe/safeguarding

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Please see below key dates for the New Year

05.01.26	**Teacher Training day**
06.01.26	**School re-opens to all pupils**
27.01.26	**Class Photographs – Buttercup Nursery, Reception & Year 6**
16—20.02.26	**Half term**
w/c 02.03.26	**Creative Mission—Religion and Worldviews**
27.03.26	**School Closes at 3:15pm for Easter Break**

MASC HOLIDAY CLUB

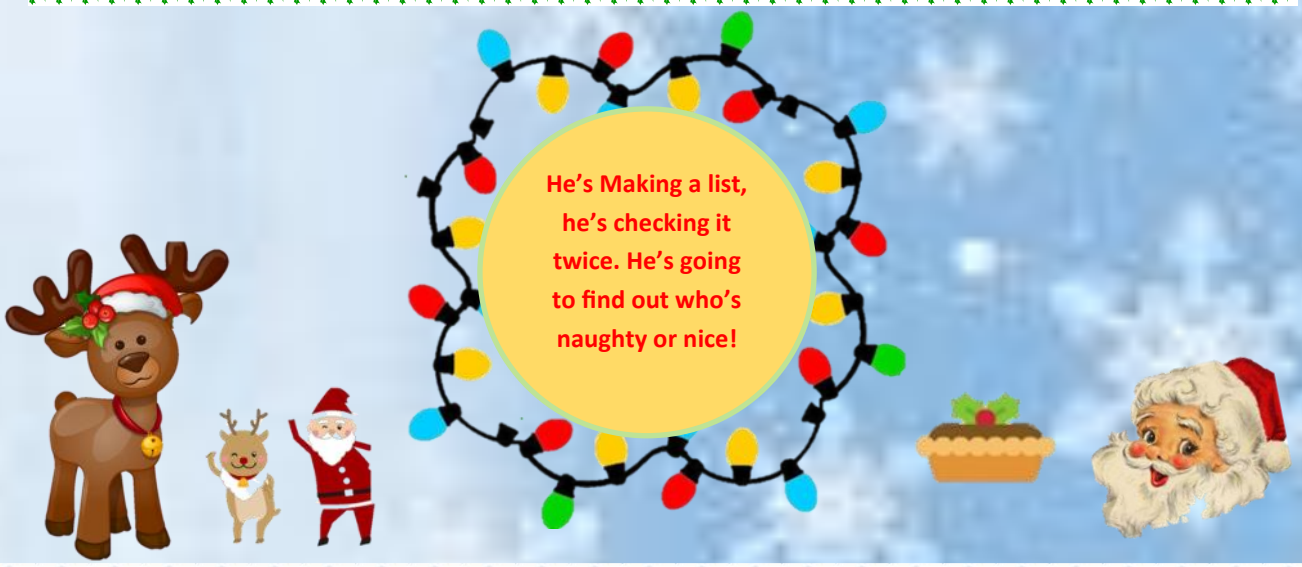
Our MASC holiday club will be running on:

Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd December 2025

Friday 2nd & Monday 5th January 2026

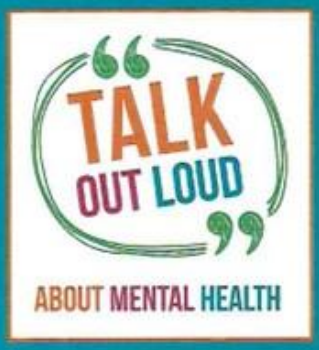
Please call MASC directly if you wish to book a place:

07388 996 115



NEED HELP?

Look after your mental health







Feeling like you can't cope and you are in crisis?
If you need to speak to somebody.

Useful numbers free to contact:

CONFIDENTIAL

SHOUT 24/7
Text SHOUT to 85258

CHILDLINE 24/7
Call: 0800 1111

CAMHS CONNECT 9am - 7pm
Call: 0300 1111 022

SCHOOL NURSE Mon - Fri
Text: 07507 329 600

SAMARITANS 24/7
Call: 116 123
Email: jo@samaritans.org