

Meadowside Matters

13.02.2026

Meadowside Primary School
Growing at Meadowside Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the halfway point of the year, I would like to thank our pupils, staff and parents for their continued support and commitment. It has been a busy and successful term.

We are currently organising our next exciting Creative Mission which will link in with Recycling and The Natural World,

Finally, a big thank you to our staff for their hard work, Their dedication ensures our pupils continue to do well and thrive.

Best wishes, Mrs Garnham

Executive Head Teacher

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 half term our attendance was **94%**

*****REMINDER*****

To order your school dinners on the Love Food website

Love Food

*****REMINDER*****

School reopens on

Monday

23rd February 2026

at 8:45am

Parking & Our Neighbours



Can we ask that we are mindful of our Meadowside neighbours when collecting and dropping off children at the beginning and the end of the day. Please be respectful of property and access at all times. We appreciate drop off and collection can be hectic, but if we can take a few extra seconds to consider the impact of our parking and especially the safety of our children. Parking on zig-zags, in the bus stop or on double yellow lines is prohibited.

Year Group Round Up



Buttercups

This half term, the Buttercups have had lots of fun despite the rainy weather (they especially loved using the weather app to track the rainfall!). We have been exploring fairy tales, and the children have thoroughly enjoyed recreating familiar stories using the puppet theatre. The Buttercups were also lucky enough to enjoy Tea with a Tiger, sample some delicious Gruffalo crumble, and taste Goldilocks and the Three Bears' porridge. We have begun learning Set 1 phonics, and the children have loved meeting and learning alongside Fred.

In addition, the Buttercups have been learning about Valentine's Day and Shrove Tuesday, which have inspired lots of creativity. Through drawing and painting, the children have been busy creating their own beautiful masterpieces.

Reception

WOW, we have completed some AMAZING learning this half term. As designers, we have investigated how to thread using different materials. This was a lot of fun, and we showed a lot of resilience while learning this new skill. In Religion and Worldwide Views, we celebrated Chinese New Year by learning about dragon dancing and role-playing the story of Chinese New Year. Twelve animals raced to have a year named after them. Can you remember the order of the animals? As writers, the Owls and Robins have learnt how to retell the story *'The Three Little Pigs'* using actions. We are using this story in our English lessons to describe characters and practise sentence writing. In History, we have 'Peeked into the Past' and looked at ourselves at different stages of our lives.

The children have worked very hard. We wish you a restful half term.

Year 1

It has been a very busy and productive term, and the children have worked incredibly hard across all areas of the curriculum, showing growing confidence and independence in their learning.

In **English**, the children have been writing their own *"defeat the monster"* stories inspired by *Jack and the Beanstalk*. They have enjoyed creating brave heroes, dangerous monsters and exciting endings. In **Mathematics**, we have been developing our understanding of numbers to 20. The children have been using a range of practical resources, including ten frames, rekenreks, number lines and base ten equipment, to help them build strong number sense. In **Science**, we have been learning about ways to stay healthy. The children designed their own fitness tests and created posters to promote healthy lifestyles. In **Geography**, we explored the seasons and different types of weather, learned how to use a compass, and began finding out about the United Kingdom, its countries and capital cities. In **PE** with Mr Tranmer, the children have been learning gymnastics, focusing on making different body shapes and using the equipment safely for jumping and rolling.

Overall, the children have worked extremely hard and should be very proud of how much they are learning and how they are becoming increasingly independent thinkers.

Year 2

Year 2 have had a fab start to 2026! In **Writing**, they have impressed us with their repetitive stories inspired by *'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'*. We went on a treasure hunt around the school and found the treasure at Jay's World. In **Maths**, we finished our shape unit and started learning about multiplication and division. In **Geography**, our big question was, *'Why is our world wonderful?'* We learnt the five oceans of the world, recapped the four countries of the United Kingdom and their capital cities, and discovered some of the wonders of our world, such as the Great Barrier Reef and Mount Erebus. In **RW**, we recapped who Allah is to Muslims and learnt about ceremonies from different religions. We learnt about Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, Hindu weddings and Dasta Bandi. We have ended the term with some sewing in **D&T**. We are learning to use a running stitch to make pouches. We hope everyone has a restful half-term break!

Year 3

This half term the children have been busy writing their own adventure stories in **English**, learning about multiplication and fractions in **Maths**, and all about skeletons in **Science**. A highlight has been learning how to code the Micro:Bits in **Computing** and using the skills learnt to code their own wearable, light-up technology in their **Design and Technology** lessons. Their **Geography** learning has transported them to the south of the globe, learning about Antarctica and Shackleton's expedition. This unit has taught them about lines of longitude and latitude, developed their map reading skills and revisited their knowledge of compass directions.

Year 4

Year 4 have had a busy half term. In **English**, we have been thinking about how we can make our story writing more interesting by using more description and including speech. We have developed our written methods for **multiplication and division**, using times table facts that we already know. Our **Geography** lessons have taken us on a journey through the Amazon Rainforest, learning what makes it special, the people who live there, and how it is at risk from deforestation and mining. As part of this, we considered what could be done to try to protect this unique ecosystem. **Osprey Class** have enjoyed the opportunity to go swimming at Montsaye Academy. They have shown excellent resilience and exemplary behaviour during these sessions. **Heron Class** will have the opportunity to develop this important life skill after half term.

Please may we take this opportunity to remind parents of the importance of Year 4 children practising their times tables in preparation for the MTC in the summer; TTRS is still accessible during the holidays.

Have a restful break, and we will see you on our return to school.

Year 5

Year 5 has had another busy term, packed with practical learning. Our topic for **Geography** this term has been 'Why do Oceans Matter?'. We have learnt all about the ways we use our oceans, as well as about the Great Barrier Reef. We finished the unit with some fieldwork, where we walked to the Pocket Park to examine our marine environment. In **English**, we enjoyed writing a balanced discussion linked to the Great Barrier Reef. We showed off our resilience in **Maths**, learning to use written methods for short division and long multiplication. Resilience also played a part in learning about how to use spreadsheets in **Computing**. We also had a fun **Science** unit learning about different forces. We undertook several investigations, including making parachutes to show air resistance. In **DT,** we have been learning about gears and pulleys, and got to make some of our own to test different materials. Finally, in **Spanish**, we have been learning how to tell each other what pets we have.

Year 6

This term, Year 6 pupils have been busy across the curriculum. In **Geography**, they explored where energy comes from, learning to identify and compare non-renewable and renewable energy sources and why these matter for our future. In **RE**, pupils engaged thoughtfully with the key enquiry, discussing whether anything is eternal and exploring the importance of forgiveness through reflective conversations and examples. **Science** lessons were full of enthusiasm, as pupils eagerly learnt about the human heart and the circulatory system, developing their understanding of how blood is pumped around the body and why this system is vital for keeping us healthy.



Cross Country Achievement!

Following on from his recent success at the Northamptonshire County Cross Country Championships, Reuben represented Northamptonshire at the Anglian Schools Cross Country Championships, competing in the Under 13's (Years 6 and 7) category. He finished 51st out of 86 runners, performing extremely well against strong competition from five different counties. Well done Reuben!

County Champions!

The Y6 football team of Teddy, Dylan, Reuben, Charlie, Tommy, Morgan, Jayden and Leon were crowned County Champions at the Pokémon Primary Schools' Cup County Championships 2026. They went through the whole tournament unbeaten and topped their group, meaning they qualified for the semi-finals. It was 0–0 after 10 minutes and the semi-final went to penalties, which Meadowside won, meaning they reached the final.

It was a close final, with both teams filled with high quality players. The boys won the final 2–1, an incredible achievement!

We're incredibly proud of the boys, and they represented the school exceptionally well. The boys now progress on to the regional finals.

Well done boys!



Young Voices Choir Performance!

Our fantastic choir attended Young Voices and had an amazing time performing as part of the largest children's choir concerts in the world, alongside primary schools from across the UK.

It was a truly electrifying experience, and the children sang their hearts out, showing confidence, enthusiasm and a real love of music.

A huge thank you to Mrs Noureddine and Mrs Letts for all their hard work preparing the choir, and to Mrs Prince for accompanying and supporting the children on what was a magical (and very late!) evening.

The pupils behaved beautifully and were fantastic ambassadors for our school.

Such a brilliant experience for everyone involved!



Save the Date!

Spring Term	
Mon 23rd February	Welcome back to all pupils
w/c 2nd March	Creative Mission: Recycling and the Natural World
Thurs 5th March	World Book Day
Wed 11th March	Year 6 E-Safety Talk
Fri 20th March	Red Nose Day (information to follow)
Tues 24th March	Year 1 Trip to Sacrewell Farm
Wed 25th March	Reception Trip to The Royal & Derngate Theatre
Thurs 26th March	Rocksteady Concert
Fri 27th March	School closes at 3.15pm for Easter break
End of Term **HALF TERM BREAK: 30th March — 10th April 2026**	
Summer Term	
Mon 13th April	Welcome back to all pupils
Mon 4th May	May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)

Young Carers Support

Northamptonshire Young Carers Service supports children and young people between the ages of 5 and 17 who are providing necessary care to a family member who has a long-term illness or disability.

If you feel a young person is, or may be, in a caring role, they are entitled to a needs assessment. Support is very much based on assessment and need, which can change over a period of time so reviews can be carried out.
Please click on the link for more information: https://www.northamptonshire-carers.org/making-a-





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World Book Day

Thursday 5th March 2026

- On Thursday 5th March come to school dressed as a book character if you want to.
- Bring your favourite book into school to share with your friends, remember to label the book with your name.
- As a school, we will also be celebrating all week with a special "Creative Mission".
- Our learning will focus on nature, our local environment and recycling with an emphasis on the book "Dear Greenpeace".
- Look out for the special book vouchers which will be given out to pupils soon. The World Book Day books are available at larger supermarkets and book shops.



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