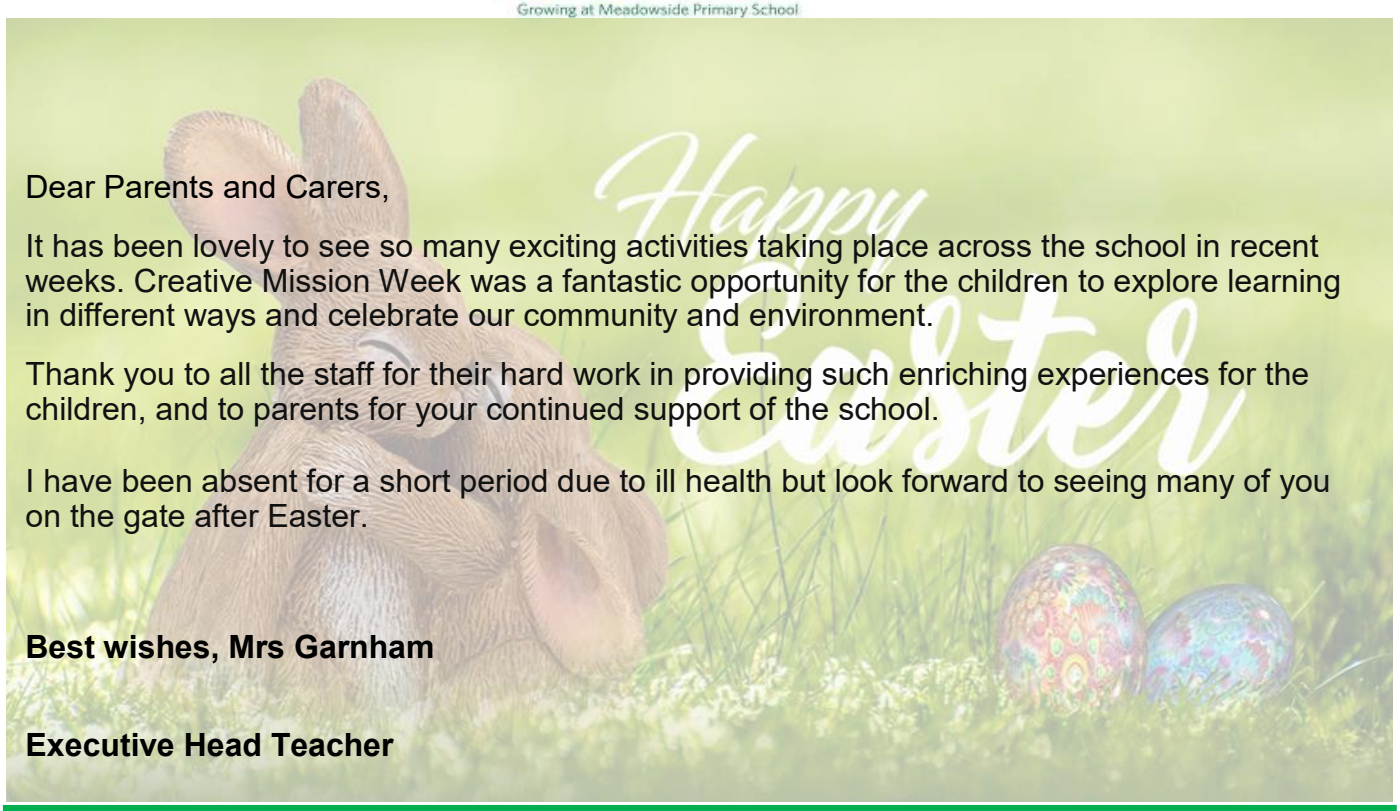
Meadowside Matters

27.03.2026

Meadowside Primary School

Growing at Meadowside Primary School



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to see so many exciting activities taking place across the school in recent weeks. Creative Mission Week was a fantastic opportunity for the children to explore learning in different ways and celebrate our community and environment.

Thank you to all the staff for their hard work in providing such enriching experiences for the children, and to parents for your continued support of the school.

I have been absent for a short period due to ill health but look forward to seeing many of you on the gate after Easter.

Best wishes, Mrs Garnham

Executive Head Teacher

SATS Week w/c 11th May 2026

SATS will commence for our Year 6 children on the above date. A separate email will be sent after the Easter break, inviting your Year 6 child to attend for their breakfast during this week, to provide them with a happy & relaxed start to the day. Please email **year6@meadowsideprimary.org** with any questions.

Year Group Assemblies

- Reception — Wednesday 8th July (Time TBC)
- Year 1— Wednesday 6th May at 9:15 am
- Year 2 — Wednesday 15th July at 9:15 am
- Year 3 — Friday 5th June at 9:15 am
- Year 4 — Wednesday 24th June at 9:15 am
- Year 5 — Tuesday 19th May at 9:15 am
- Year 6 — *Leavers* - Friday 17th July at 2:00 pm

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* School reopens on Monday 13th April**

Year Group Round Up



Buttercups

The Buttercups have been very busy this term. The arrival of better weather has allowed us to spend much more time in our garden. We have been looking for signs of spring. The frogs have visited our pond and left us some frogspawn. We are all excited to see it change into tadpoles. Our hard work over the autumn is now showing, and we have some beautiful spring flowers in our garden. The children are really enjoying smelling them. We have also been planting lots of seeds for our vegetable plot.

The Buttercups had great fun celebrating World Book Day. Their outfits were amazing.

Reception

The Robins and Owls have had a very busy term filled with lots of fun. We have been working hard to use our phonic knowledge to write words independently. In Maths, the children are becoming more confident with their doubles 1-5. In understanding of the world learning, the children have been looking for signs of Spring, listening to the bird's tweet and admiring flowers in the school grounds. Finally, we showcased our DT learning by holding a Mother's Day celebration, where the children had the opportunity to make their grown-ups some friendship bracelets.

Finally, we went on our first school trip to the Royal & Derngate to watch The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We travelled on a bus, the children were FANTASTIC and the show was AMAZING!

Thank you for your support.

We wish you all a restful Easter break.

Year 1

This term has been short but very busy, and the children have achieved so much. We enjoyed a fantastic trip to Sacrewell Farm in Peterborough, where we made our own scones, went on a tractor ride, saw a variety of farm animals, and had fun in the park. In English, we focused on writing instructions, using time conjunctions and bossy verbs, linked to making bread rolls and chocolate nests. In History, we explored toys from the past, thinking about what they were made from and what they tell us about life long ago. Our Art Day centred on colour mixing inspired by Wassily Kandinsky's concentric circles. In Science, we have been learning about plants and planted our own beans to observe their growth. In Religion and World Views, we explored the Easter story and why Jesus is important to Christians. During Creative Mission Week, inspired by the book *Dear Greenpeace*, we made natural mobiles, created seed bombs, learned about our class birds, and wrote and sent letters about our experiences.

It has been a wonderful term, and we are excited for the summer term ahead - keep up the good work!

Year 2

Goodbye winter and hello spring! This term, Year 2 have had the big question 'How did we learn to fly?' in History. They have learnt about how the Wright Brothers had the first successful powered aeroplane flight and other historically significant people who flew. In RW, we have been learning about the Easter Story and the importance of it to Christians. In Writing, they have been learning to write information texts and their hot writes are animals of their own creation. In Maths, they have finished multiplication and division, learnt about length and height and started their unit on money. In Art, they have been getting messy and learning to create art in clay. We look forward to welcoming them back for the final stretch of Year 2!

Year 3

At the start of the half term, Year 3 took part in a Creative Mission all about the environment, where the children worked together to explore ways we can help to protect and care for our planet. In History, we explored the fascinating world of the Romans, learning about how they lived and the impact they had on Britain. In Science, we investigated light, discovering how shadows are formed and how light helps us to see. In Maths, we have been working hard on fractions, developing our understanding through practical activities and problem-solving. In English, the children have been writing biographies, learning how to organise information and present facts clearly about inspiring people.

Well done to all of Year 3 for their enthusiasm and fantastic effort this half term!

Year 4

Year 4 have had a lovely half term and have been enjoying the (slightly) better weather. We have been learning about sound and how vibrations reaching our ears make us hear the sounds around us. We used this knowledge when we went bird-watching during our Creative Mission Week. Creative Mission Week also saw us making bird feeders - you may have seen some of these hanging around school; planting seeds and creating a collage of our class birds. In Maths, we have been learning about fractions, including mixed numbers and improper fractions. We have also been adding and subtracting fractions. Our English lessons have turned us into crayons as we have been focusing on the book 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. We have been practising our persuasive techniques - you may have found your children using more rhetorical questions at home! In History, we have been learning about the Anglo-Saxons and how historians have been able to infer more about their lives using evidence found at Sutton Hoo. The children have particularly enjoyed their music lessons using the app 'TouchPad' on the iPads to create digital music.

We hope you have a great Easter break. Don't eat too much chocolate!

Year 5

Year 5 have had a jam-packed, exciting term in the lead up to Easter. We have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Vikings and using this knowledge to write our own quest stories. We learnt that the Vikings weren't just the stereotypical idea of raiders; they were also traders, farmers, designers and much more. In science, we have learnt about how humans develop from babies into toddlers, and will continue this topic next term into adolescence and adulthood. We really enjoyed making bird feeders out of recycled materials during the Creative Mission, and wrote some brilliant letters inspired by "Dear Greenpeace". Alongside this learning, we (finally!) enjoyed our walk to the Pocket Park to look at litter in the local environment, as well as looking at the birds. We are looking forward to more fun learning next term. Wishing you all a lovely Easter break.

Year 6

This term, Year 6 have been fully engaged and enthusiastic in their learning across all subjects. In History, we began exploring World War II, with a particular focus on evacuees, which sparked thoughtful discussions and curiosity about life during that time. In Religion and Worldviews, pupils reflected deeply on how Christianity remains a strong and influential religion over 2000 years after Jesus lived on Earth. Science lessons were both interesting and challenging, as we studied the human circulatory system and learned to describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. Meanwhile, art lessons were filled with creativity as pupils explored macro photography, producing some fantastic and detailed work. Alongside this, we have been revising grammar and arithmetic skills in preparation for the Year 6 assessments, with pupils showing great determination and focus.

Year 6 Football Tournament

The Meadowside year 6 football team did us proud once again at the Pokemon Regional Final. The team of Reuben, Teddy, Charlie, Jaydon, Leon, Dylan, Morgan, Tommy and Noah topped the group unbeaten. In the semi-final they took an early lead, then in the second half hit the post before for the other team made a quick come back, which unfortunately meant we were knocked out of the competition.

The boys should be incredibly proud of themselves for what they have achieved and will forever hold the title of County School Champions 2026 - an amazing achievement!

Thank you Sainsbury's!

A big thank you to Sainsbury's, who very kindly dropped off a large number of beautiful bouquets after Mother's Day. It was such a thoughtful gesture, and the flowers were shared with our staff as a small thank you for all they do. They certainly brought lots of smiles and brightened up the school!



North Northamptonshire April 2026 Stay Connected

This newsletter focuses on all the amazing events, clubs and groups that families, children and young people can access across the county that are free or affordable to attend.

Please click on the following link to find out more:

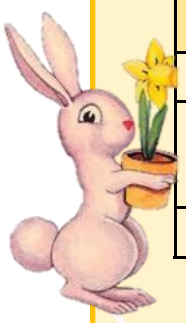
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Save the Date



Summer Term 1	
Monday 13th April	Welcome back to all Pupils
Wednesday 22nd April	Buttercup Nursery West Lodge Farm Trip
Monday 4th May	May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)
Wednesday 6th May	Year 1 Assembly 9.15am
w/c 11th May	Year 6 SATs
Tuesday 19th May	Year 5 Assembly 9.15am
Wednesday 20th May	Year 6 Duxford Trip
Friday 22nd May	Last day of school before half term
Monday 25th May	Spring Bank Holiday (school closed)
Half Term Break **Tuesday 26th — Friday 29th May**	
Summer Term 2	
Monday 1st June	Training Day—school closed to pupils
Tuesday 2nd June	Welcome back to all Pupils
Friday 5th June	Year 3 Assembly 9.15am
w/c 15th June	Creative Mission Sports Week
Wednesday 24th June	Year 4 Assembly 9.15am
Wednesday 1st July	Buttercup Nursery Graduation 9.15am
Thursday 2nd July	Year 5 Holdenby House Trip
Monday 6th July	Move Up Day
w/c 6th July	Open Classrooms
Wednesday 8th July	Reception Year Assembly (Time TBC)
Thursday 9th July	Year 2 Woburn Trip
w/c 13th July	Year 5 Bikeability
Wednesday 15th July	Year 2 Assembly 9.15am
Friday 17th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 2pm
Friday 17th July	Last day of school
Summer Holidays **21st July — 3rd September**	
Autumn Term 1	
Monday 31st Aug	Summer Bank Holiday (school closed)
Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd Sept	Training Days
Thursday 3rd Sept	Welcome back to all Pupils





PTA Annual General Meeting



We would like to invite all parents and members of the Meadowside Primary School community to attend the upcoming PTFA Annual General Meeting.

Date: Thursday 23rd April

Time: 2pm

Venue: Meadowside Primary School

This is an important meeting for our school community. Abi has made the tough decision to step down from her role as Chair due to personal reasons. As such, we are now looking for an enthusiastic individual to take on this vital position.

As a Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA), the role is open to any Parent, Teacher or Friend of Meadowside, this could be a parent, auntie, uncle, grandparent or family friend of a child at the school. We are looking for someone who is able to organise and run events, with the support of the PTA team, such as discos, mufti days, movie nights, and Christmas and Summer fairs.

Unfortunately, the PTA cannot continue without a Chair, and at present there is no one to step into the role, which means these much-loved events would no longer be able to take place.

If you are interested in the position but cannot attend the meeting in person, please send a short email to PTA@meadowsideprimary.org introducing yourself and explaining why you would like to be considered.

Additionally, we are always keen to welcome new committee members who can offer support in organising and running events, any help, big or small, is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

PTA Team

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

"Inappropriate" means different things to different people. What's acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various ways – from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they're exposed to age-inappropriate content.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Age-inappropriate content is easily accessible through many social media platforms. TikTok, for instance, is hugely popular with young people but is arguably best known for clips featuring sexualised dancing or profanity. Some social media users also express hate speech or promote eating disorders and self-harm, which could cause lasting damage to a child's emotional and mental health.

STREAMING

The range of video streaming services available online means that users can find almost anything they want to watch on demand. Children are therefore at risk of viewing TV shows and movies which contain nudity, drug and alcohol abuse, explicit language and extreme violence. Unfortunately, these streaming platforms can't always determine that it's not an adult who's watching.

GAMING

Gaming is an enjoyable source of entertainment, but many popular titles can expose children to inappropriate material such as violence, horror, gambling or sexually explicit content. Playing games unsuitable for their age risks normalising to children what they are seeing. Some games also include in-game chat, where other (usually older) online players often use language that you probably wouldn't want your child to hear or repeat.

ADVERTS

Online adverts frequently include age-inappropriate content: usually gambling and nudity or partial nudity, although adverts for alcohol or e-cigarettes are also common. Some search engines also feature adverts that are responsive to your search history: so if you've recently looked up a new horror movie, shopped for lingerie or ordered alcohol online, then the ads appearing on screen could reflect this the next time your child borrows your device.

18 Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT THROUGH

Embarrassment or fear of getting into trouble can make it difficult for children to talk openly about age-inappropriate content they've watched. Remind your child they can always come to you if they're troubled by something they've seen online, without worrying about consequences. Before offering advice, discuss what they saw, how they felt and how they came to find the content in question.

CONNECT, DON'T CORRECT

If your child's been particularly distressed by exposure to content that wasn't suitable for their age, it's important to offer guidance to prevent them from repeating the same mistake – but it's equally vital to help them deal with the emotions that the situation has raised. You could tell them about any similar experiences you might have had at their age, and how you dealt with it.

BLOCK, REPORT, CONTROL

After discussing the problem, you and your child can take action together. This could include blocking any inappropriate sites and reporting any content which violates a platform's rules. To further safeguard your child online, set up parental controls on internet-enabled devices that they use. This will significantly reduce the chances of your child being exposed to age-inappropriate content in future.

GET SPECIALIST HELP

Age-inappropriate content can potentially have a negative impact on a child's mental health, which is sometimes displayed through changes in their behaviour. If the problem becomes more severe, you might consider reaching out to a mental health professional or an expert in this field who can provide you and your child with the proper support.

STAY CALM

Even though it is obviously difficult to stay rational in a situation where your child has been put at risk, it's essential to think before you react. Your child may well have hesitated to open up to you about watching inappropriate content for fear of the consequences, so being calm and supportive will reinforce the notion that it would be easy to talk to you about similar issues in the future.

Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is a Registered Counsellor with The Health Professions Council of South Africa, and she runs a private practice offering counselling to children, teenagers and families. Her main focus is creating awareness and educating the community on the mental health pressures of today's world, as well as resources and techniques to understand and cope better.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/bullystoppers/sminappropriate.pdf | https://www.esafety.gov.au/educators/training-professionals/professional-learning-program-teachers/inappropriate-content-factsheet | https://www.revealingreality.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/childrens-media-lives-year-7.pdf

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