Meadowside Matters Issue 2 / 24.10.25

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a good half term with lots of learning.

A big well done to Year 6 for their fantastic behaviour on the residential at the Frontier Centre. Thank you to Mr Reilly, Mrs Noureddine, Mrs Mills, and Mrs Andrews, who stayed and supported the children.

I had a lovely time with guests as part of my HT Morning Celebration, on Wednesday. We enjoyed crisps, cake, fruit and milkshakes and chatted about their learning, successes and pets.

We are currently running new parent tours for September 2026 and there has been lots of positive feedback. If you know anyone with a child starting school, please encourage them to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Garnham

Road Safety

As the dark mornings and evenings approach we ask that you be mindful and consider everyone's Road Safety around the school, we have a number of pupils who cycle or walk to school and their safety is of the utmost importance. Whilst we appreciate that the school run can be a hectic time, we encourage you to 'Think!' take your time and consider the impact of driving a few miles too fast, parking on a blind bend or corner. Small things like this can save a child's life. If your child does cycle to school please ensure that their bicycle is road worthy and they have all the necessary equipment: hi-vis jacket, lights etc. We have also had some complaints from local residents regarding parking at the start and end of the day; please park courteously with consideration for our neighbours. Parking on corners, on yellow lines, over drive ways and in bus stops can create a number of hazards to everyone.

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 **95.27%**

Reminder— school re-opens on Monday 3rd November 2025

Lateness

AM registration takes place at the start of Lesson 1 at 8.55am. **Registers close at 9.00am.**

Pupils are expected to be on site by 8.45am to avoid them being late for registration.

Pupils who arrive after 8.55am must sign in at the school office and will be asked about their reason for their late arrival.

This Term's Achievements

Buttercups

What a wonderful beginning to the school year we have had ! All the new Buttercups have settled in well to our little routine and we have had the most fantastic weather which has meant we have been able to explore outside so much. The Buttercups have grown more vegetables from seeds and now the whole patch is thriving with plants. They are really enjoying looking after them. We have been learning about autumn and what insects and mammals do when the weather turns colder. We have really enjoyed learning about hedgehogs and have made them a hibernation house in our garden so they can stay safe and warm. We have also put our new found love for hedgehogs into our art work and have made clay hedgehogs .

From the pumpkins we planted with last years Buttercups we cooked pumpkin soup, just like the book we are reading called 'Pumpkin Soup'. All the Buttercups really enjoyed this experience and all tried their soup with home made bread too.

We are really looking forward to seeing you all after the half term break .

Reception

We want to say a huge well done to all of our Robin and Owl children. They have settled in very well to Reception and are working really hard learning all of our new routines. We have learnt all of our single phonic sounds and in Maths we have been learning about numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4.

The children have shown their amazing knowledge of body parts and facial features. We have loved learning nursery rhymes and singing in class. As an end of term treat we have been making 'Disgusting Sandwiches' linked to The Disgusting Sandwich by Gareth Edwards, the children have enjoyed discussing, voting, making and eating their sandwiches. Look out for the sandwich challenge over half term too.

Have a restful half term everyone. To all our Reception families "Welcome to Meadowside", from Mrs Dainty, Mrs Cooper, Mrs Chambers and Mrs Faram.

This Term's Achievements

Year 1

The children have settled well into the new routines and expectations of Year 1. They have shown great enthusiasm for learning and have adapted confidently to the more structured environment. This term, we have explored a range of exciting topics across different subjects. In English, we focused on the story *Whatever Next!* We began by aurally rehearsing the story to help us remember the key events, then mapped it out to understand the structure. After that, we innovated the story by changing parts to make it our own and finally wrote our own versions. In Geography, we learned about aerial maps and how they show places from a bird's-eye view. We drew our own map of the playground and thought about ways to improve our school environment. In Science, we explored the human body by naming body parts, learning about the skeleton, and discovering how our five senses help us understand the world around us. It has been a fun and engaging term, and the children should be very proud of all they have achieved.

Year 2

We have had a lovely first term in Year 2. The children have settled in delightfully. In Geography, we have had the big question, 'Would you rather live in a hot or cold place?'. The children have been exploring the seven continents, the North and South Pole and are able to explain the equator. We then took some time to compare the UK and Kenya and looked at the similarities and differences. We finished off the unit by deciding if we would prefer to live in a hot or cold climate. In Religion and Worldviews, we have had the big question, 'Is it possible to be kind to everyone all of the time?' We learnt about three stories from the bible: The Good Samaritan, Zachaeus the Tax Collector and the promise between Peter and Jesus. In writing, we have learnt to write a traditional tale and finished the unit by writing about a Unicorn and its magical horn. In Maths, we have finished our place value unit and have now moved onto addition and subtraction. The children have shown an excellent understanding of their number bonds to 10. We look forward to a Christmassy term!

This Term's Achievements

Year 3

What a busy first half term in Year 3! In English, the children have been learning all about traditional tales and have written their own fictional stories with alternative endings. A highlight has been using egg boxes and craft resources to make their own toys that use a pneumatic system. In Science, the children have been learning about rocks; how they are formed, the different types and then carrying out different investigations. The children have demonstrated excellent resilience during our assessment week and learning some tricky new concepts in Maths and Computing. We hope you all have a lovely half term break and we look forward to seeing the children on Monday 3rd November, where we will be starting our first Creative Mission of the year!

Year 4

What a great start to Year 4 we have had. This term, the children have been writing stories that have an element of suspense in them and have enjoyed thinking up their spooky settings. We have explored electrical circuits and the children now know what is needed to make an electrical circuit. They particularly liked the practical side of this and we have seen some excellent scientific working. In Geography, we have been learning about were our food comes from and the benefits of Fairtrade, we even talked to the lunch ladies to find out where our school dinners come from. We are very proud of how the children have settled into their classes and how hard and enthusiastically they are all working.

Have a lovely break and we look forward to seeing you all after half term.



This Term's Achievements

Year 5

Year 5 have settled into their new year group brilliantly. We have had a busy term! One of our favourite activities this term was making our wobble bots, it was great to see the children being creative with their designs, we could tell the children were impressed with their inventions. Another favourite from this term was in English, where Year 5 have produced fantastic writing this term, writing their own classic stories. They've also enjoyed creating their own maze games in computing. We look forward to more exciting learning next term. Have a wonderful half term break!

Year 6

Well, what a start to our first half term. We have been bursting with enthusiasm in Year 6. We have taken part in the school's football cup and made it through to the county finals in January. We have two champion runners also competing in the next round of the county cross country finals. We have built up our knowledge on Maths and worked on Classification in Science. We took a field trip around the local area for a Geography lesson and wrote some spooky short stories for English. The best of all was our Residential Trip. Mud was thrown, heights were climbed and fears were conquered - and that was just the staff! - It was a great trip with a great bunch of pupils who showed the best of our Meadowside pupils.







Pupil Emotional Health & Wellbeing

Youth Works Counselling Service - Youth Works is a counselling service for young people and covers the Corby and Kettering areas.

They provide wellbeing drop-in sessions at:

Corby Mind building - Tuesday from 4:00pm - 8:00pm
Keystone Centre - Thursday from 4:00pm - 8:00pm

Please see website for further information https://www.youthworksnorthamptonshire.org.uk/

HARVEST ASSEMBLY





A huge thank you for your harvest donations! The children had a fantastic time during the assembly, and it was a joy to see their smiles and enthusiasm. Your generosity will have a lasting impact and we appreciate your support.

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility

We all have a statutory duty to report any incidents where we have any cause to suspect that a child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm.



Mrs Hales -Richardson
Interim Head of School
**DSL



Mrs Garnham
Executive Head Teacher
**DDSL



Mrs Mills
Executive SENDCo
**DDSL



Miss Glide
Miss Glide Behaviour and Inclusion Coordinator
**DDSL



Miss Kynoch-Owen
Teaching Assistant
**DDSL



Mrs Woods
Inclusion Assistant
**DDSL



Mrs Jawo
Executive Business Manager
**DDSL



Mr Mount
Safeguarding Governor
**DDSL

*DSL - Designated Safeguaurding Lead *DDSL - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Report any concerns *immediately* to the designated officers named above.

Report any incidents or signs immediately in writing using the Cause for Concern form (available on the Safeguarding Board in the Staff Room) or online using 'My Concern'.

- It is NOT the responsibility of school staff, volunteers or visitors to form judgments or to make enquires of parents or others involved.
- The investigations are the statutory duty of others to perform.
- Tactfully and sympathetically listen to the concerns of the child. Do not ask leading questions (These allegations may lead to criminal proceedings and your actions could jeopardise police investigations).

In the event of the Head Teacher being suspected, report your concerns to the governing body. The Designated Officer from the Local Authority may be informed.

DO NOT go to the member of staff, volunteer or visitor involved (if applicable).

Concerns can also be raised through the Northamptonshire Children's Trust on 0300 126 3000

Northamptonshire Children's Trust



Save the Date

In order to help you plan and be aware of upcoming events in the school calendar here is a handy rundown of this half term's events and activities.

Subject to change!



Date	Event
W/C 27.10.25	Half Term
W/C 03.11.25	Creative Mission
Wed 5th Nov	Tea and Talk with Inclusion Team at 2:30pm
W/C 10.11.25	Parent Consultation Evenings
Tues 11th Nov	Year 3 Trip to Flag Fen
Mon 17th Nov	PTA Mufti Day (TBC)
Wed 19th Nov	New Intake Open Evening Presentation at 6:00pm
Fri 28th Nov	Mufti Day for Skylark Ward
Tues 9th Dec	Reception Nativity—KS1 Hall at 10:30am
Wed 10th Dec	Y1 Christmas Extravaganza at 10:00am Y4 Christmas Production (time TBC)
Mon 15th Dec	Y2 Christmas Production (time TBC) Y5 Christmas Production (time TBC)
Wed 17th Dec	Buttercup Boogie Christmas Dinner
Fri 19th Dec	Y3 Christmas Production—KS2 Hall at 10:00am
	Christmas Post (TBC)
19.12.25 **End of Autumn Term**	





School Notices

Parents of Children in Year 6

If your child is currently in Year 6 you should apply for a Secondary School place before **midnight** on the **31st October 2025.**

Please refer to the letter sent on the **15th Sept 2025** via email for more details.

Moved House? Changed email or phone number?

If you have changed your contact details recently, please contact the school office to let us know on

admin@meadowsideprimary.org







School Tours & Open Evening

School tours are continuing after half term until end November. Children are welcome to attend a school tour, the open evening will be for parents/carers only.

School Tours — Throughout November

Open Evening — 19th November

Please call the school office for more information.

Medicines In School

If your child requires a medicine during the school day please contact the School Office in the first instance so that the correct advice can be given to you. If the medicine is allowed to be administered the school office will text you a medical form that will need to be completed and will then be given to your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Poppy Appeal

We are proud to support the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal this year. Poppies will be available for purchase at school starting from **Monday 3rd November** in the lead-up to **Remembrance Day**.

JEANS FOR GENES DAY

Thank you to everyone who supported Jeans for Genes Day

www.jeansforgenesday.org/

We raised £83 which has been donated to a fantastic cause.