



Message from Principal

What a pleasure it has been to welcome back our pupils and families to school and be able to meet with each other, albeit carefully and still adhering to the DfE and Local Authority Guidance, the sound of a full school brings life to the buildings!

As part of our reintegration to 'normal' school life we are planning whole school, department and class activities which we are delighted to be able to invite families back into school to participate in and enjoy events and activities over the school year. The Extended Impacts department has started to plan and invite parents/carers to attend class open afternoons, some of you will already have received invites and more will follow shortly. There is a Presentation evening on 11th November to celebrate the achievements of our pupils, who left us last year, moved to 6th Form or were already in 6th Form and of course those pupils who joined our 19-25 provision, Ascend. More events will be published next term.

We are holding a School Christmas Fair on Saturday 27th November from 10am to 3pm and hope that you will all join us to celebrate the start of the festive season.

As part of our plans to improve parent/carer engagement, we have launched our parent/carer platform Weduc, which has proved very successful, if you have not signed up to Weduc, please contact the school office team, who will happily talk you through the setup process. Weduc is an APP based system and can be set up on any smart phone or computer.

We have already started to roll out our cashless school plan and many of you have successfully paid for school activities via Weduc, which has the benefit of allowing card payments. It is our plan to become a paperless school by the middle of Term 3, we will, of course, still support those without the internet or a smart phone with paper copies of letters.

Persimmon Homes Building Futures fund - Meadowfield School is in the running to win a share of a £1million Persimmon Homes Building Futures fund aimed at supporting under-18s across the UK - but first we need your online vote to win!

From Monday 11th October to midnight 19th November 2021 give us a chance to win and vote here:

<https://bit.ly/3oGLC2Q> or go to

www.persimmonhomes.com/building-futures/ and select Meadowfield School

One vote per day could help us with the £100,000 we need for new electric minibuses.

Enjoy the half term break, see you all back on Tuesday 2nd November – Monday 1st November is a staff development day.

Jill Palmer, Principal

Message from Chair of Governors

It is nearly the end of term 1 and it is great to see our children back in accessing all that the school has to offer. We have had our first full Governing Body meeting remotely and there is lots going on in school to continue to improve outcomes whilst keeping our children safe.

We are looking to recruit a new Parent Governor after half term, if anybody would like more information please contact our clerk via the school office.

We are looking to relaunch our Friends of Meadowfield School and get going with some fundraising and events, if you would like to be involved or have any ideas please get in touch. Please keep voting to increase our chances of winning the Persimmon Homes Building Futures fund.

Lastly have a great half term and we will see you in November.

Roberta Kane, Chair of Governors



Nightingale Class

In Nightingale class as part of our morning routine and nurture time we play games. This is a game, a bit like Jenga that we created ourselves. We took turns in playing and really enjoyed ourselves.



Kestrels Class

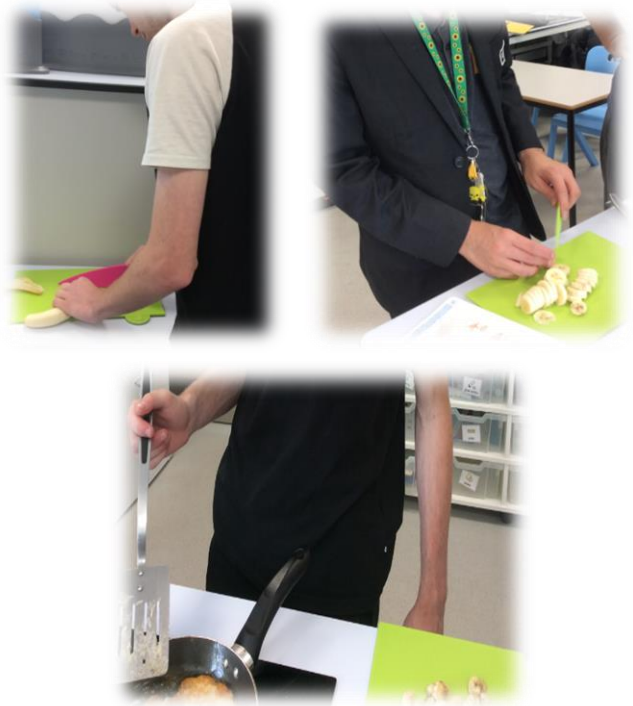
Kestrels class have been learning how to follow instructions and make choices. They learnt how to make a sandwich including choosing the ingredients to make a sandwich. They enjoyed eating them!



Enterprise/Independence

We have been learning about Healthy Living within Enterprise. This term we have been concentrating on healthy eating.

We looked at the different segments of the Eatwell Guide and decided to use one of our fruit and vegetables for the day to make banana pancakes. As we cannot use eggs in school, the banana helped to hold the ingredients together along with the flour and milk. They tasted really scrumptious!



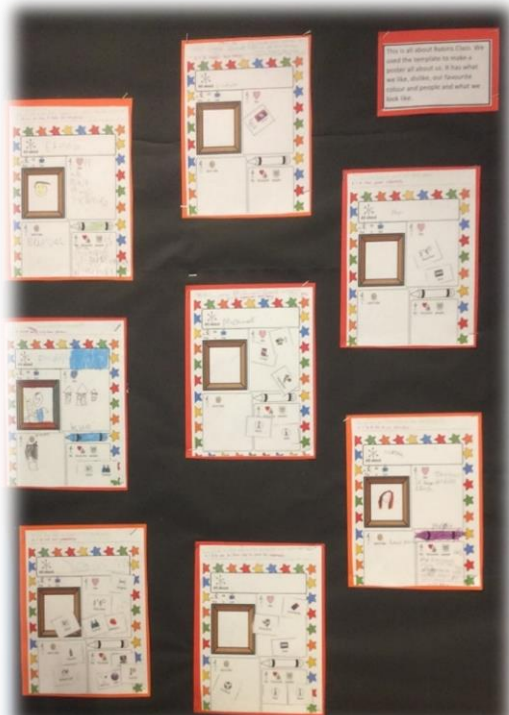
Badgers Class

In our Life Skills lessons Badges class has been looking at healthy eating. Badgers looked at making a healthy packed lunch, focusing on the ingredients to make a nutritionally balanced sandwich. When the pupils had decided on their filling, the pupils followed instructions to make their own sandwich.



Robins Class

This term Robins have been learning all about the world around them, particularly all about them. In our first week we created self-portraits and 'All About Me' fact files to make our new classroom our home. Robins have been exploring their learning through practical activities, from acting out our class story of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen, to forming our numbers in shaving foam. The children have particularly enjoyed reading a poem by Michael Rosen called 'Chocolate Cake', where we looked at our favourite food and what is healthy and unhealthy. Robins have made an excellent start to the school year and the staff team are looking forward to term 2 with our little team.



Jays Class

'In Jays class, we have made a fantastic start to the academic year! We have settled into our new class brilliantly and are already making some great progress. In Maths, we have been consolidating and extending our knowledge of number and addition/subtraction in order to build a strong foundation for the year ahead. We have been working really hard and trying our best which has resulted in some excellent work. We have been focussing a lot on our phonics and reading this term in English, accompanied by a weekly story. We also like to incorporate some life skills activities into our week. We have been doing lots of food-based activities including sandwich making, wrap making and cake decorating. These activities have a really positive impact on our communication skills. We also linked these activities to our topic for the term. An example of this is our pig cakes which we made in conjunction with our science topic for the term which is "animals including humans". I think you'll agree, they look amazing!"



Ladybirds Class

We have been learning about 'food and farming' this term. We have covered where certain food comes from, how it is grown on the farm and what it is made into. The children have also cooked gingerbread men and apple crumble, as well as a focus using food in food art. Stories have been related to farm and food, such as 'Little Red Hen' or 'Pumpkin soup' which the children have been very excited about, especially having the pumpkin in class! The children have learnt some new topic related vocabulary and sometimes the Makaton sign alongside.



Emeralds Class

In Emerald class we have been learning about the Lion King story. Students have been using switches to say some lines and they have also been learning who the characters are by eye pointing to them. We have all enjoyed singing and signing along to the songs from the story. All the students loved Simba!



Sapphires Class

In Sapphires class we have been loving being able to go to our hydrotherapy or movement in water sessions after almost two years of not being able to. We love turning off the main lights, turning on the coloured lights and having music to listen to! Some of the pupils really enjoy splashing and getting the adults soaked! Whereas others like laying back and relaxing whilst being moved through the water. It's a lovely time for adults and children to continue evolving their relationships as there's only one child and two adults in the water at a time.

Snowdrops Class

The Snowdrops have had a super term learning all about Animal Families. In maths, we have been working hard on ordering and comparing numbers, as well as creating tally charts and pictograms with animal toys. In English, we have all demonstrated fantastic reading skills to create animal fact files and have also enjoyed reading *Monkey Puzzle* and *The Ugly Five* by Julia Donaldson.

The Snowdrops have been very lucky to attend Forest School on Mondays this term. We have had an amazing time with Simon and Clare learning new skills such as how to light a fire, how to use a saw and how to toast marshmallows! We can't wait to go back again next term.



Diamond Class

Diamond Class are developing their communication skills through a Total Communication Approach. Pupils use switches, symbols, photos and objects supported by signing and verbal cues to make requests and to share greetings. Diamond Class use different smells to support routine and time of day. Peppermint for the Good Morning, orange for Good Afternoon and lavender for Goodbye.



Wrens Class

This term, Wrens Class have been learning about, 'Me, My Family and My Community'. From friendship trees, to community creations and helpers represented in all forms. Wrens Class have worked hard to build their class community and a sense of 'Who?'



Kingfishers Class

In Kingfishers class we have been following instructions to make potions. The children have written their own instructions and followed them to make fantastic magical potions using all sorts of materials and objects including food colouring, glitter and plastic bugs. This activity has been lots of fun and has also supported the children's fine motor skills. They have used tweezers, pippets and tongs to transfer items into their cauldrons and they have poured from one container into another. They have shared materials and worked together to create wonderful, colourful potions.



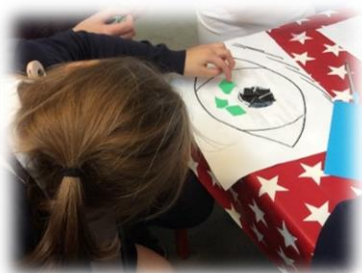
Daisies Class

This term in Daisies we enjoyed accessing sensory circuit activities every morning and whenever we need to meet our sensory needs. This has really helped us to be ready for learning.



Butterflies Class

In Butterflies we have been learning about 'All About Me'. In Art, we have been going to see George in the Art room. We have been using paint, crayons, collage and pastels to create different faces. This week the children looked at the eyes and used ripping and cutting to create a collage.



Ducklings Class

In Ducklings class, we have been working on our communication. We have been using PECS and photographs to make requests and choices at snack time and for our favourite toys! We have been working really hard at this, and we are all showing amazing progress already! We are also working on our turn taking skills and allowing our friends to join in with the toys we have chosen to play with.



Tadpoles Class

In Tadpoles class this term we have encouraged the children to make marks using different textures, like rice, sand and foam. We have also been working on turn taking activities when interacting with the toys in the bucket. They are all curious of what it's in the bucket. We are very proud of Tadpoles class and how well they have adapted to reception year.



Discovery Class

In Discovery our topic this term, has been 'All about me'. We have taken turns to look at our self in the infinity mirror and we have looked at photographs of our self. We have worked on identifying our photographs from a choice of two. Some of us use symbols or a symbol grid and some use Grid Player on their school iPad to identify what they look like. We have looked at our hair and eye colour, if we walk or use a wheelchair, if we are tall or short, a boy or a girl and if we are young or old.



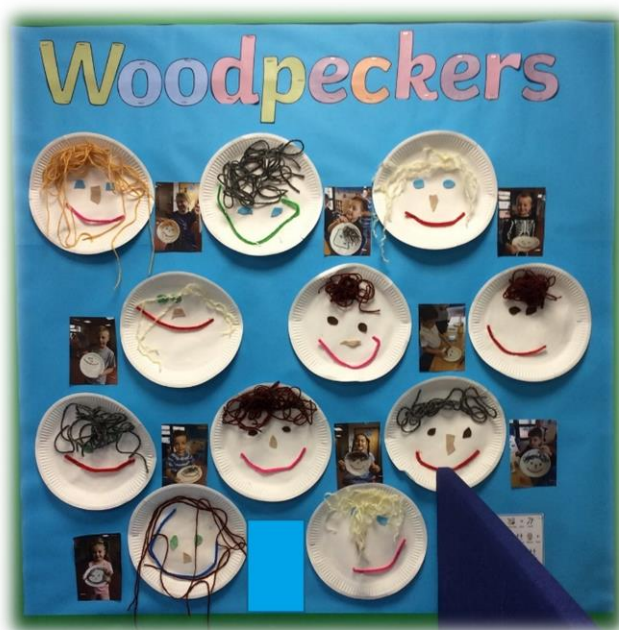
Sunflowers Class

Morrisons have been kindly donating food for us to use in food art and use in early writing. We have been reading Dear Zoo and the ladies from Morrisons came to visit us to see how we use the food that they have given us to make art. Today we made a giraffe. We spread lemon curd for the yellow and blobbed on Bovril for the patches. Popcorn and pasta twists made excellent ears and raisins for eyes. To make our Giraffes even more yellow and textured we sprinkled Yellow chick peas all over. We used lots of different fine motor skills and tools to make our giraffe and this helps us to learn how to control a pencil and mark make and form letter shapes. It was great fun tasting the new foods.



Woodpeckers Class

In Woodpeckers this term we have been covering the 'All About Me' topic. We have made fact files about ourselves and listened to stories about families who are different to our own. We have been learning about the human body in Science and all the amazing things it can do, especially our senses! In Art we have explored a variety of mediums and materials to make different pieces of artwork. We are especially proud of our self-portraits.



Bluebells Class

In Bluebells Class our topic this term began with 'All About Me'. We have learnt to recognise our names in class which helps us to complete our own timetables, features of our faces and bodies, and how we move our bodies to the beat of music. We have created our own portrait gallery in class, creating a self-portrait and painting our hands and feet. We are very proud of our work and visitors to Bluebells enjoy looking at the gallery.



Parks Class

In Parks class, Term 1 has been all about getting to know each other. For some of us it has been a move from the Primary to the Secondary department; for some of us it has been getting used to a new school altogether. For all of us it has meant meeting new classmates and adults, and getting used to the idea of transitioning around the department for our different subject lessons. We have been enjoying getting to know the teachers who teach us our different lessons and we are enjoying all the activities we get to do in Enrichment time on Friday afternoons.



Peacocks Class

In Peacock Class we had a fun PE lesson with Ian. First we watched a video and talked about safety, and saw someone doing a trick called the Bunny Hop. Then we went outside with our helmets on and played on the scooters in the sunshine! Some of us went really fast, and some could stand on one leg as we went along.



Hedgehogs Class

This term Hedgehogs have enjoyed learning outside the classroom in Maths. We have collected the required number of objects within the Sensory Garden and used these to complete addition and subtraction. We have also looked at shape this term when we went on a shape hunt identifying what 2D shape everyday objects were. We also made repeating patterns from nature such as leaves and sticks and different shapes.



Glennie Class

In science, Glennie have been investigating what colours different salts burn. Everyone had a go and the vote for the most favourite salt was Lithium Chloride as it burnt a bright red.



Pankhurst Class

It's been a fantastic start to the school year for pupils in Pankhurst Class, who have settled well back into school life and are already making progress in many areas, including as far as accreditation is concerned. Options subjects have now been selected and it will be full-steam-ahead in the run-up to Christmas with work in these lessons. For Pupil Voice Week, we had a real focus on Friendship, producing poems, taking part in activities, and even producing a class music video, for the song, Stand by Me. A particular highlight to mention though from this term has been the growing, hatching and releasing of our very own class butterflies. It was fascinating, watching them go through the various stages of metamorphosis, before we had a releasing celebration in the Sensory Garden a few weeks before half term. Roll on the rest of the school year!



Kahlo Class

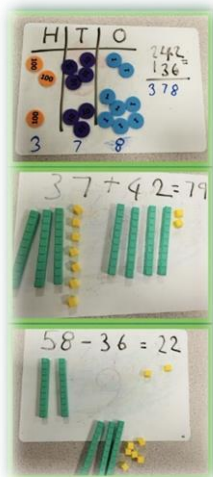
We have had a great first term in Kahlo class. One of our focuses has been friendship which has really helped us bond together. We created this display which includes everything we think is important about friendship and all of our handprints. We shared our work at an assembly and Louise explained it to everyone - very impressive! Attendance has been excellent, and the class team are all very pleased with the progress the pupils are making on their targets, reading regularly and most of all being kind to one another. Go Kahlo!



Maths Lessons and Hawking Class Teacher

This term, pupils in the secondary age, Subject Led classes have settled into their maths lessons brilliantly! Throughout the term, we have been focussing on developing the foundations of their number skills through the exploration of place value. We have used a range of manipulatives and concrete items to support pupil understanding of number and to solve larger addition and subtraction sums.

We have also covered formal written methods of addition and subtraction, using the manipulatives to deepen understanding of regrouping and exchanging. In the final lessons of the term, we have also enjoyed exploring fractions and solidifying our understanding of the written notation and how many equal parts of a whole we have. Next term, we will be exploring multiplication and division, the relationship between the four operations and time and money.



Swallows Class

This term, Swallows class have been exploring the topic 'All About Me'. We have been busy investigating our senses in Science. We used our sense of sight to complete a scavenger hunt in the Sensory Garden, our sense of smell to find the nicest smelling material in an experiment and our sense of touch to describe objects in the mystery box. We also explored the book "It's okay to be different" where we learnt all about each other and what makes each of us special.



Challenger Troop

This year's cohort have been learning how to patrol, field craft, bush craft and the phonetic alphabet. They have completed the military obstacle course and commando rope. They are now looking forward to their winter residential in November.



Fawns Class

The children in Fawns class have had a fantastic first term and are really settling in well to school life and are getting used to the routines. They are learning how to work and play together and are working hard at turn taking.

We have been learning how to transition around the school. We are trying lots of new food in the dining hall and snack time and are making requests using PECS. We are enjoying taking part in PE lessons and using the large apparatus to practise our climbing, jumping and crawling.

This term our topic is "All About Me". We have been thinking about the parts of the body and creating our own artwork including self-portraits, hand and foot printing and shape people as part of our maths learning. We have been mark making both on paper and in a variety of different ways in sand, rice, oats, shaving foam glitter and soil! We have had so much fun this term and cannot wait to do it all over again next term!



Forest School

Simon, Clare and Reggie the raven have welcomed the children back to Forest School this term. We have our new site at Bredgar where the children have been fire-lighting, wood splitting, sawing and crafting natural materials. They have learned about different trees and monitored local wildlife, enjoying den building, sitting in hammocks and of course having hot chocolate around our campfire.



Caterpillars Class

We have had a lovely start to our school year in Caterpillars class! We have been spending time settling in, getting used to class routines and learning to work and play alongside one another. We have enjoyed sharing the stories 'The Colour Monster' and 'Room on the Broom'. We have thought about the characters, what the story looks like and our emotions.

We have been learning to transition around the school safely, and have been to the Sensory Garden to collect natural materials that we have then used to make pictures. We have enjoyed using instruments in music and have been learning how to be safe in PE.



Tuck Shop - Endeavour

The Careers and Enterprise zone is pleased to re-open the 6th Form tuck shop. The tuck shop is loved by pupils in 6th Form and is a fantastic opportunity for them to use and exchange money, estimate cost and check change. In addition, students enjoy the opportunity to run the shop and take great pride in this responsibility.

Our shop will be open to 6th Form students every Monday to Wednesday at break time after half term and prices range from 5p to 50p. Our 6th form shopkeepers are looking forward to seeing their customers again in November!

Poppies Class

Poppies class have done a fantastic job with settling into their new class after the summer holidays and it has been great learning about the children's likes, dislikes and getting to know them all.

In Poppies class this term, we have been reading the story 'Jake's First Day'. We have linked it to feelings and emotions and how Jake might have felt on his first day in his new class. We then thought about how we felt when starting our first day in Poppies. We made some fantastic sentences using the SCERTS symbols and wrote some amazing sentences to describe what was happening in the pictures and even wrote a list of things we would need to take on a pirate ship.



Curly's Farm

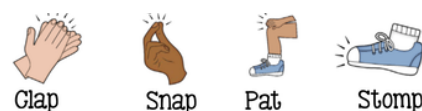
The children have been working tirelessly to help a number of animals on the farm; ranging from Alpaca's, Chickens, Cows, Goats, Sheep, and many more. They have also been assisting in the welfare of each animal by cleaning out their pens, ensuring they have plenty of food and water and are enjoying life on the farm



Music Secondary age Blue and Purple corridor students have been developing their keyboard skills by learning to play the 12 Bar Blues on the keyboard this term. They have learnt about chords and to play triads in their right hand, and how to play a walking bassline in their left hand. Some students have even been able to put the two together, this has made me very proud!



Peacock and Nightingale have spent the term looking at ways we can make sound with our bodies, and have explored body percussion, vocal sounds and singing. They worked on a performance of a Congolese folk song called Banaha, and were able to sing this in a round and include some body percussion.



Red and Green corridor students have done a lot of singing this half term! They have sung a number of nursery rhymes and linked these to tempo and dynamics, performing each one fast and slow, loud and quiet. We have also practiced moving to the beat by marching or playing along on un-pitched percussion whilst singing.

Parent Workshops

We are pleased to be able to resume workshops in the MIDAS Centre and look forward to welcoming parents, carers and families throughout the coming year. Please see our website for further details or pick up a brochure from Meadowfield reception:

<https://www.meadowfield.kent.sch.uk/midas-and-stls/parent-courses-and-bookings-2/>

You can also sign up to our Facebook page for updates about our workshops plus occasional pictures of Percy our Wellbeing Support dog @ STLS Swale.



Parents, Carers & Families Workshops
2021-2022

