



Meadowside Community Primary and Nursery School
Clough Avenue, Longford
Warrington. WA2 9PH

Headteacher: Mr S Wright, BA(Hons), PGCE, NPQH
Chair of Governors: Mr G Harris

Tel: 01925 632705 Email: meadowside_primary@warrington.gov.uk <http://www.meadowsidecpschool.co.uk/>

Wednesday 18th September 2019

Dear Parents & Carers

It has been a fantastic start to the school year with each class busily getting started with their work and beginning some very exciting projects. I have been so impressed with the attitude of the children and the standard of their work since we returned – an opinion that was shared by the Local Authority visitors we had touring the school last week. They were ‘blown away’ by the children’s work and how much school has transformed over the last few years.

Chair of Governors

We have also had a visit from our new Chair of Governors, Mr Gareth Harris, who was equally impressed by what he saw – particularly our focus on Reading and Writing. Mr Harris is the Principal of Beamont Collegiate Academy and I know he is very excited to get to know the children, staff and whole school community over the coming year. He will be writing to you all to introduce himself very soon.

Meadowside on Twitter! Follow Your Child's Class and See What's Happening...

Last year we became a more ‘paperless’ school to help the environment, whilst still keeping parents and the community fully informed on the latest school news and events. Instead of a regular newsletter, we have significantly increased our social media presence. Our **school Twitter and Facebook accounts** as well as our website share daily highlights of what’s happening across school and any important news. We have also introduced **a Twitter account for every class** so you can see specifically **what is happening in your child’s classroom** and any news for a specific class. You can also see every class Twitter account on the school website class pages.

Please follow your class Twitter page and the whole school page! See the list below for details...

Meadowside CP School	@MeadowsideCPSch
Reception Elm Class	@MeadowsideElm
Year 1 Beech	@MeadowBeech1
Year 2 Fir	@MeadowsideFir1
Year 3 Poplar	@MeadowsidePopl
Year 4 Cedar	@MeadowsideCedar

Year 5 Willow	@MeadowsideWill2
Year 6 Elder	@MeadowsideEld
Giant Redwoods	@MeadowsideDP2
Buttercups	@MeadowsideDC1
Welfare Team	@WelfareTeam
STEM Club	@MeadowsideSTEM





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Meadowside's Big Plan!

Before the summer I wrote to parents with some incredibly important information. Here is a reminder...

- **75%** of children in areas of deprivation across the country arrive at school **BELOW AVERAGE** in language development.
- Meadowside is in the **10%** most deprived areas in the country.
- Children in these areas have a '**vocabulary gap**' – they know less words than other children (**A LOT LESS WORDS**) – even by the age of 2!



This means that most of our children are already a long way behind in language and vocabulary by the time they start school. **Basically they know a lot fewer words than other children** and this gap gets bigger as they get older. Too often we see our children struggle to do their best in Reading tests because there are too many words they don't understand. Too often our children can't say what they really think because they don't know the words. **WORDS ARE THE KEY!** We know how to fix this but we need your help...

The **research** shows there is a very simple but effective solution – **teach our children more WORDS!** We will be doing that in every single lesson we teach by increasing how much we read with children, how much we talk with children and increasing the difficulty of the words we introduce them to. Every day and every lesson will be dedicated to teaching our children words and discussing what they mean.



The only way we can be successful in this plan is to **work in partnership with parents** to give our children the best start in life. **WE NEED YOU to read every day with your child and chat about what you've read.** The more you read to or with your child, the more words they see and hear. **Just 20 minutes every day will make a huge difference. EVERY DAY. If you can't manage 20 minutes then do 10 minutes – anything is better than 0 minutes!** Many of our children do read at home every day with an adult and we can see the incredible difference it makes in school. We can make a difference for every child at Meadowside if we do this together.



Thank you

Mr S Wright
Headteacher

