



MEADOW BRIDGE

PRIMARY SCHOOL

OPENING DOORS OF OPPORTUNITY TOGETHER

Friday 6 November 2020

No. 641



What's been happening this week?

We are delighted that school is open again and that our children have eased back so naturally into their usual routines!

Drop-off: this week some children have been dropped off before 8.40am. Under current guidance they must go straight to their classrooms; however, teachers are not available and doors do not open until 8.40am. Teachers' preparation time has already been reduced in the morning. Please wait in the car park until 8.40am before sending your child into school.



- **Remembrance Day**

Thank you for your amazing support to The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. We have been able to donate £120 on your behalf.

- **Christmas Card Project**

The Christmas card templates will be posted off this weekend. We look forward to seeing your designs in print!

What's happening next week?

- **Flu Vaccinations:** the vaccination will take place on **Monday 9 November**.

The vaccine is in very short supply so, if you haven't returned your form(s), please read the information below from the school nursing team:

Any child whose form has not been returned to school prior to the vaccination date cannot be offered the vaccine in school, and parents will not be contacted. However, they may still arrange to have the vaccine administered by their child's GP.

- 1. Parents who wish to withdraw their consent for vaccination should contact the school nursing team directly on 028 9250 1359.***
- 2. Children who receive the flu vaccine will be given a copy of the Patient Information Leaflet, to be taken home for their parents.***

- **Primary 7 Consultations:** these will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week by telephone or Zoom. Days and times have already been arranged.

P1-P6 Parent/Teacher Consultations: these cannot take place as normal, due to Covid-19 restrictions. However, a 'Progress Report' will be sent home later this month, giving you an overview of how your child has been getting on in school over the past 3 months.

Meadow Bridge Primary School

3 Lany Road, Hillsborough, BT26 6JR. Tel: 028 9262 2509

Website: www.meadowbridge.org.uk

Designated Teacher for Child Protection – Ms Ruth Stirling

Deputy Designated Teacher – Mr Paul Good

Josh Fletcher

Our amazing past-pupil, Josh Fletcher, tragically died in a road accident in the early hours of 18 October. Many of you will remember Josh as the incredibly brave, determined and positive boy he was whilst at MBPS, in spite of his rare anaemia. This paired with the love and dedication of a family who wanted only the best for him, and who spent months at a time in England when Josh was undergoing transplants & treatment, most certainly enhanced his quality of life, and life expectancy for that matter. By all accounts he had done extremely well and achieved highly. As I think back to Josh, and his amazing friend Brian, and the joy and positivity they both brought to all of us, I am shedding more than a tear.

Our love and support goes to Josh's dad, Joe (who served on Board of Governors and PTA), his mum, Julie (who also gave many hours to the work of PTA), brother, Adam & sister, Jodie, and Josh's grandparents, Stanley & Hazel Swann (Stanley is a former Governor of Maze PS), and the wider family circle of grandparents, cousins, aunts & uncles all with connections to school. And not forgetting Josh's close friends, many of them past pupils of Meadow Bridge.

We have a Rowan Tree in our grounds, planted by Josh and Brian, and acknowledging the strength of character of both boys. I was commenting recently at how strong this little tree had become. Our prayer is that the Fletcher family find some strength and peace in the knowledge that so many of their dear friends are thinking and praying for them at this time.

Belfast Homeless Services

This year we have decided to support the Belfast Homeless Services through their Shoe Box Appeal. This is their 7th year collecting and they distribute the filled boxes to many vulnerable groups in our local community throughout December. Below is a list of the items required. You can still leave any of the items below in the box in the foyer should you wish to contribute. Items can be for men or women. Let's see how many shoe boxes we can fill. Please send all donations to school by next Friday, 13 November. Thank you for all your donations so far.



Toothpaste	Toothbrushes	Scarves
Gloves	Hats	Socks
Sweets	Chocolate	Shampoo
Conditioner	Body Wash	Deodorant

PTA, Christmas & Christmas Cards

With the situation regarding coronavirus changing all the time, our ideas for Christmas activities are having to change also! We will be unable to run our normal Christmas Fayre; neither can we have a Christmas Post-Box in school this year. I know this is sad, but the wonderful members of our PTA are working on alternative ideas which they hope to share with you over the next couple of weeks. We can only apologise but know you will understand how our hands are tied in the current circumstances. So, watch this space!

Children's Resource Fund

With the past year being a very 'different' year from the norm in Meadow Bridge, we were unable to run our voluntary contribution scheme which brings in much needed funds to use directly in the classroom. Alongside this, our PTA missed out on literally thousands of pounds due to the cancellation of a number of key fundraising events. Before lockdown in March, a sub-committee consisting of members of our Senior Leadership Team along with two parents, met to discuss a way forward. Little did we know at that stage that school would be closed for such a lengthy period! We shared ideas and came up with a plan.

Our new plan has 'refreshed' and 'revamped' our voluntary contribution fund.

An information letter explaining our thoughts and ideas was forwarded to you via SeeSaw/Google Classroom before half-term.

Please read this information carefully and, if you can, give generously to what is a very depleted fund in school. The recommended amount is £50 per child, or £75 if you have more than one child. More information can be found in the letter.

You can donate easily via 'School Money' by going to 'Children's Resource Fund'.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Parents/Carers – collection time



(a) It is recommended that you wear a face mask/covering when waiting for your child in the school grounds. This is good practice, helps keep you and others safe, and is recommended in the guidance from the Education Authority.



(b) Please avoid causing a 'bottleneck' between the gates and the football pitch pick-up point in the playground by coming right into the playground and waiting in the appropriate section of the pitch for your child's class to come out.



(c) Please avoid abandoning your car in the middle of the turning circle at the top end of the school, even for a few seconds. School buses and other traffic has been severely disrupted due to thoughtless car drivers!

School Meals W/C Monday 9 November 2020 - please book using 'School Money'

Does your child have any allergies that our kitchen staff are not aware of?

Contact the office as soon as possible

Please book by 11.59pm on the evening before you wish your child to have a dinner;

this will be a Sunday evening for a Monday dinner

1 day £2.60; 2 days £5.20; 3 days £7.80; 4 days £10.40 and 5 days £13.00

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Oven Baked Sausages, Mashed Potato, Baked Beans	Beef Burger in a Bap, Homemade Diced Potatoes, Sweetcorn	Roast Turkey, Mashed & Roast Potatoes, Broccoli & Gravy	Spaghetti Bolognese with Crusty Bread	Fish in a Crumb Coating, Chips, Peas, Bread & Butter
Frozen Yoghurt, Fruit	Plain Cupcake, Fruit & Water	Ginger Biscuit, Milkshake & Fruit	Jelly Tub & Fresh Fruit	Ice Cream, Fruit Salad & Water

Congratulations to our Stars



We had a winner in the Mayor's Halloween Challenge – Best Art category. Congratulations to Isabella in Miss Campbell's P5.



Noah attends the Boys' Brigade in in Maghaberry. He won the shield for BEST ANCHOR BOY 2020. He would have received this at his display in March, but lockdown put paid to that, so the leader delivered it to him at home last week. Well done Noah!



Midge's Bonfire Special

went down a treat this week with over half of our children taking a dinner on Thursday!

A big 'thank you' to Debbie and the team who go out of their way to make our meals homemade, nutritious and absolutely delicious!

Exercise and fresh air
is really important to our children.

Please remember coats, hats and gloves
as the weather becomes colder.

