



Meadows First School 17th May 2024



A message from Mr Satchwell

The theme in school this week has been perseverance and the children have really picked up on the importance of this in all they do. As you will see, the teachers have really been encouraging this important life skill in lessons and all the Meadows Mouse Awards have been awarded to children who have really lived this value this week.

The department for education continue to focus on attendance in schools after the pandemic which has had a very significant and negative impact on schools nationally. As part of this focus, all schools now have to report attendance registers daily to the department for education alongside new fines for unauthorised absence being brought under a new national framework. The changes to fines will not come into effect until September 2024 but I wanted to inform you of these changes in plenty of time so that you are fully aware of the statutory changes taking place. The fines will primarily relate to 5 days or more of unauthorised absence over a set period of time. Below is a summary of the changes so that

you can read a full breakdown of how penalties might be applied. It is really important to keep us informed if you begin to face any issues or barriers to maintaining your child's attendance in school. We have many methods of supporting good attendance so please get in touch if you need to.

[Fines for parents for taking children out of school: What you need to know – The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](#)

With the introduction of the new national framework for penalty notices, the following changes will come into force for penalty notice fines issued after 19th August 2024.

National Threshold

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.

These sessions DO NOT have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence.

The 10- school week period can span different terms or school years.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent for each child that was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

First Offence

The first time a penalty notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Second Offence
(within 3 years)

The second time a penalty notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child within 28 days.

Third offence and any further offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates Court. Prosecution can result in criminal records and fines of up to £2500.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' court can show on the parents future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

Latest News 17th May 2024

Journey day

On Tuesday, all of Year 4 spent the day exploring the Droitwich canal on bellboats. The weather held and they had an amazing day working together. Many of the children also spent time collecting litter that was floating by as way of improving things for wildlife and the environment. We were really proud of their attitude and behaviour throughout. Well done Year 4.







Botanical Gardens

Year 3 children and staff visited Birmingham's Botanical Gardens on Wednesday. The visit was to support this term's curriculum aims and the children had a great time learning about a range of topics. Staff at the gardens were very impressed with the children's knowledge during the workshops. The children were extremely well behaved and even got time to enjoy the adventure playground after lunch! Thanks to all the staff for there preparation and support in making the day such a success.







Walk to School Week

*It's that time of year again.... Yes it's 'Walk to School Week' next week. Although, our eco team have renamed it, '**Pedal, Roll or Stroll to school week**' The activities for next week have been shared with the children in assemblies and there will be class competition to see who cycles, walks or scoots the most. Stickers made by our eco team will be given out to the children who take part. We hope you will support the children as they try to come to school in a more sustainable way. A big thanks to the ECO team for planning the week.*



Year 1 Social Action

*On Wednesday, Year one has had a visit from Newstarts to discuss poverty and how we can support people in need. The year one children have decided that they want to collect food items to give to Newstarts food bank. On **Friday 24th May 2024**, all children can come dressed in their **own clothes**, if they bring in **one item of food** (eg tin of beans, packaged foods or toiletries, no fresh food thank you) for the charity. Please only send in plastic/paper bags as they cannot be returned.*

Meadows Mouse Awards



Cygnets

Paul K - showing great perseverance with his writing.

Danny F - showing great perseverance with his letter formation.

Goslings

Gracie - always trying her very best in everything she does and not giving up.

Leo F - having great perseverance with challenging number problems.

Caterpillars

Grace G for persevering in maths to solve problems.

William M - persevering to quietly concentrate in lessons.

Dragonflies

Jack R - perseverance all year with English and writing. So neat and great ideas (linked to our school motto).

Conan - perseverance when writing using -ed (taking advice from a friend too).

Owls

Bjorn - super perseverance in all of his learning, especially in his reading.

Esme - super perseverance and for learning and inspiring her team in PE.

Hedgehogs

Henry - determination with handwriting this week.

Jack - positive attitude and always trying his hardest.

Sharks

Nate S V - persevering with his writing in English.

Ella - consistent perseverance with her times tables.

Dolphins

Abbi E & Ciaran R - showing great perseverance and 'stickability' to tasks that need lots of focus.

Jaguars

Summer - incredible energy, enthusiasm and perseverance at Bell Boating on the canal.

Harlow - great detail and description in story writing.

Tigers

Anna T - persevering with Bell Boating this week.

Georgie - persevering to learn her times tables.

Diary Dates



Friday 24th May	Break up
Tuesday 4th June	Return
10th & 11th June	Year 4 Bikeability
Wednesday 12th June	Year 1 visit to Smite Farm
Wednesday 10th July	Year 4 Bell Boating Regatta
Thursday 11th July	School Fete 4.30 - 6.00
Friday 12th July, 1.30 pm	Year 4 Leavers' performance to parents (details to follow)
Tuesday 16th July, 4.30 - 6.00 pm	Year 4 Leavers' disco (details to follow)
Thursday 18th July	Year 4 - Magic Russ show (details to follow)

Festivals and Celebrations



Headteacher awards this week

Caterpillars - Seren

Hedgehogs - Devon

Dolphins - Abbi, Oliver D

Tigers - Megan



1 - *We are determined*