

## Head Teacher's Message

As my first year of headship draws to a close and I reflect on the strangest academic year in my memory, I realise my overriding feeling is one of gratitude. Gratitude to the staff, pupils and families for their flexibility, determination and resilience in the face of the challenges we've had this year and to the fact that we've remained relatively unscathed since returning to school. I would like to reassure everyone that, as it stands, schools will return very much to normal in September. We have already been issued with new guidance (many things are set to change on August 16<sup>th</sup>), so we can adapt to the new mindset of living with corona virus rather than being restricted by it.

The most prevalent change to schools relates to testing and isolating. Bubbles will cease to play a role in our community and, while positive COVID cases will naturally be required to isolate, close contacts in classes will now be required to test daily for a period of ten days rather than isolate for ten days. Whole school events will run again, with parents, carers and significant others able to attend our annual events. We cannot wait to see you back in school!

I am particularly excited for the new families we have welcomed this summer term to get to see the 'real' Meadowbrook and for our new pupils in September to start their academic year as it is meant to be. In Lower Primary, Wendy and I will be welcoming a new Reception class and are

excited to be able to reintroduce a more traditional Montessori 3-year work cycle with the younger children. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will no longer be restricted to working in their year group and instead they will be able to transition between classes with Wendy and myself in a manner that suits their ability and/or their learning style. This is a system more in keeping with our teaching and learning philosophy and is a system we can maintain as our classes grow. We will also be able to encourage children to move across other year groups where appropriate, with Year 2 having more opportunities to work alongside Year 3, and Year 4 alongside Year 5&6. For staff, it will be a welcome return to our free-flow method of pedagogy and, for parents yet to experience this firsthand, we hope you will make the most of our traditional open-invitation to observe us and see for yourself! More about this in September.

Alongside the excitement for September, we have also experienced the bitter-sweet emotions of saying goodbye to valuable members of our Meadowbrook family. Our Year 6 graduates have now flown the nest and are about to embark on the next step in their academic journey. There were some tears during our Graduation ceremony this year but also a great sense of pride in the confidence and uniqueness we saw in each child

as



*Year 6 Graduates*

as they read their testimonials aloud. William, Jack, Isabella, Zach, Owen, Finley, David, Saxby and Louis, we wish you all the best in your new school. Please come back soon and tell us how you have settled in.

We also say goodbye to Ethan, Cassia, Agata and Ezra as they too prepare for new adventures and to Erika Thomas, our Reception Forest School teacher.

Thank you for all your hard work Erika. You've helped the children create some amazing memories! We wish you all the very best of luck and extend an open invitation to come and say hello whenever you can.

Goodbye.  
{for now}

Lastly, we say goodbye to our SENCO, Rosemary. After 16 years together, there are simply too many memories to share in one newsletter but

**THANK YOU ROSEMARY**

for sharing with us your wisdom, kindness, intelligence, helpfulness experience, dedication, love, constant availability, endless cups of tea and long, long, LONG chats (cue lots of laughing from people who know her)!!!

We will miss you and the impact you have on us all terribly and no doubt you will be inundated with visitors to your new Scottish home! Lots of love from us all Rosie, and long may you and John enjoy your exciting new quest!

## Summer Holiday Club 2021

### *TIME TO SIGN UP!*

Holiday Club is running for six weeks from w/b 19<sup>th</sup> July to w/e 27<sup>th</sup> August.

In order to secure your child's place, please contact me directly on email or mobile number below.

If you have already been in touch, I will contact you with details and further information.

Email:  
bosholidayclub@gmail.com  
Mob: 07870279403

Hope to see lots of you soon!

**Barbara**

### Sports Day

We were SO lucky that the rather large puddle on the back field subsided just in time for Sports Day on Thursday and we were able to go ahead as planned. It was an unusual event this year as parents were not present but it was so interesting for staff to see that children seemed much more relaxed than usual. Children naturally modify their behaviour

in all manner of ways when their parents attend school events, yet this year they did not have to do so. Staff and children had LOTS of fun together and even created some new events. It was the first time I ever remember being drafted in to throw a javelin!

On that note, an ENORMOUS well done to **Nathan Elliot** for thrashing everyone in our throwing competition. See you at the Olympics in a few years Nathan!

Many thanks also to **Steve Lee**, our sports teacher, for organising such an amazing morning and for presenting medals to everyone, and to the teachers for being such good sports themselves! There will be plenty of photos for you to view on the school website next week.

This year our Music Festival, usually a face-to-face fund-raising event, has been brought to us digitally by David Tilezhinskii. David has re-branded it slightly to become a Music and Poetry Festival and has worked really hard to bring you this video, so well done David! Thank you also to all the staff and pupils who have contributed to the video, which will also be available on the school website from next week.

### Reports

Joy will be issuing digital copies of your child's report on Monday. There will be form included for you to give us feedback if you wish. These can be returned in September or emailed to me

directly at  
[headteacher@meadowbrook.uk](mailto:headteacher@meadowbrook.uk)

### Safeguarding

Should you have any safeguarding concerns about your child or children, about children in your care or in someone else's care over the holidays, please do feel free to contact me directly. Joy has now joined the safeguarding team at Meadowbrook in the capacity of deputy designated safeguarding lead, so she can be contacted in the event that you cannot get hold of me. You can also contact the NSPCC should you need to.

For parents of older children, please be aware that there is drug called 'Edibles' in the form of a sweet currently circulating. Should you hear your child or any child discuss this matter, please let me or Joy know immediately.

### Welcome Back Evening

We are pleased to welcome you onsite for our welcome back evening this year and hope to see you all on

**Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September, 7-9pm**

This will be a chance for you to hear about school plans for the year, to discuss our new COVID protocols and for you to meet your teacher and discuss class admin in the form of the timetable, the curriculum and events for the year in more detail, so please pop the date in your diary.

Have a wonderful summer and see you back at school on

**Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September.**

**Sarah**

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