

## MEADOWPARK – NEWSLETTER – WEEK 13 – 17.11.17

Today many Meadowpark pupils and staff have turned up in school with spots on in aid of Children in Need. National events like Children in Need are an excellent opportunity for Meadowpark pupils to be fully included in activities and events. Class 2 have been focusing on Friendship as part of Respect Me Anti-Bullying week <https://respectme.org.uk/> and all classes have introduced elements of being a good friend, showing unconditional positive respect for others, overcoming the inevitable peer relationship niggles and supporting and caring for each other in times of difficulty.

Unfortunately some staff at Meadowpark have been afflicted with the seasonal bugs and viruses that are inevitable at this time of year but I am delighted to report that everyone has pulled together as a team and we hope to have a full complement on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November.

Pupils are all keen to continue with kayaking and warm and waterproof clothing can make a huge difference to enjoyment of this activity. If you know of anyone with spare waterproof clothing that could be donated we would be hugely grateful.

I met with Stacey bridges from Barratt/David Wilson Homes this week and we have been offered an opportunity to collaborate with them to build bird boxes in the early Spring. These will become a permanent feature of Meadowpark and an exciting talking point for many areas of the curriculum – HWB in outdoor learning; Technology to build the boxes; Science – the life cycle of birds and trees, for starters. I am sure the ever resourceful and creative Meadowpark staff can think of many more links to the curriculum for this.

Stacey also offered us the opportunity to create Christmas cards for a competition that will see pupils being given the opportunity to win either a bicycle or scooter for Meadowpark and a voucher for themselves.

We welcomed Liz Angus HMIe to Meadowpark on Thursday and our conversation was enlightening, focused and extremely helpful in terms of planning efficiently and effectively to ensure we are fully meeting all the needs of our pupils. All pupils excelled themselves and a few had the opportunity to speak with Liz and Karen Haspolat, QIO (ELC Quality Improvement Officer). Again it was re-confirmed that Meadowpark staff have pupils have excellent relationships and that there is an air of happiness and collegiality.

I attended a training session this morning by Dr Adam Burley to glean a greater understanding of ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences) which I hope will assist with planning for those pupils who may have experienced trauma at some point in their lives, for example, those who have been bullied in the past and struggle to move on. All pupils will have a positive handling plan, based on Emotion Works and sound practice from ELC guidance. Furthermore will be asking pupils to contribute to this, in order to increase their confidence and become successful individuals in the wider world.

C Prime 17.11.17