

MEADOWPARK MATTERS NEWSLETTER 16.10.2020

I am proud to echo the words of Lesley Brown, Head of Education and Sue Cook, Head Teacher at Knox Academy in recognising the huge effort made by young people, families and staff to ensure that Meadowpark pupils are safe, achieving, respectful and active. While there is no denying that everyone is exhausted, staff and pupils manage to garner themselves each day to show that by cooperating, communicating and consolidating collective efforts, we have very good attendance overall and pupils are making progress.

This session reporting has been aligned with Knox Academy and having read the S4 and S5 reports there is certainly cause to celebrate. For some pupils perhaps they can put in a bit more effort in class, to push themselves for sustainable success. Hopefully after this break and having adjusted to all the changes thus far we will see improved attendance which in turn will lead to improvements in performance.

We do embed a nurturing ethos at Meadowpark, but this should not be viewed as a soft option, rather one that is built on routine, structure, care and trust. Staff model resilience through creating an organised classroom, visual and predictable timetables while instilling clear boundaries in pursuit of progression.

I have spent time with Steve Johnson who will be taking up post on 2nd November and it has given me time to reflect on just how far Meadowpark has come in 5 years: from 1 teacher, 1 learning assistant, 3 pupils in 2015 to a school almost bursting at the seams, a full quota of staff, an activity playground, a sensory garden in progress and the promise of a community kitchen garden. There is room for continued growth and achievement in all areas.

Please read Lesley Brown's letter and a Word from Miss Cook here <https://www.ka-net.org.uk/> for an in-depth appreciation of an ambitious community working together to enable staff and pupils to remain in education.

Meadowpark bids farewell to Steph Valentine today and we wish her all the very best at Ross ASN Base where I know staff and pupils will be delighted to have her back with them. Steph has been a real asset here and we will miss her. Becca McHugh has settled in very well, stating that she loves the ethos at Meadowpark, which is all the praise that is needed. We are in the process of recruiting to replace Steph.

Have a very peaceful holiday. Relax. Recharge. Remember: Hands, Face, Space.

Be Well. Stay Safe.

Ms C Prime 16.10.2020