



Meadowhead Community Infant School & Nursery

Shorrock Lane, Blackburn, Lancashire BB2 4TT
Tel: 01254 202600 Fax: 01254 207877
Email: office@meadowheadinfants.blackburn.sch.uk

21st July 2023

Dear Parent and Carers

What a fantastic final few weeks we have enjoyed in school celebrating the end of a hard working year. Despite the less than ideal weather, the children have had fun, smiled lots and shared some fantastic experiences together. From amazing school trips, to a musical extravaganza performed by Travelling by Tuba, a visit from the ice cream van and also a fun festival for our Year 2s... it has certainly been a very memorable final term of the year.

Goodbyes



It is that time of year again where we say goodbye to both pupils and staff. To start, we say goodbye to our amazing Year 2 children. I know they will continue to show everyone what superstars they are and continue working hard in their next chapter; the junior school is lucky to have you! We wish them all the very best and know they will continue to go from strength to strength. Keep showing our school value of ambition and continue to flourish at your new school!

We also say goodbye to Miss Philpott who will be leaving us for an exciting opportunity to teach in Abu Dhabi from August. Miss Philpott has done a tremendous job of covering Mrs Aspinall's maternity cover in Oak Class. I thank her for all her hard work and for building such great relationships with all the children so quickly. It feels like she has been part of the Meadowhead Family for a lot longer!

Congratulations



Miss Morris will begin her maternity leave from September as she and her partner eagerly await the arrival of their new baby. This is such an exciting time for Miss Morris and we wish her the very best of luck as she starts her own little family. Miss Morris will be hugely missed in school and we are already looking forward to her return later next year. We hope she enjoys a restful summer and gets plenty of sleep before baby arrives!

And, another huge congratulations goes to Miss Worcester who is getting married in August!!! Miss Worcester has been with her partner for many years and we are all delighted that they have decided to get married. We hope Miss Worcester and her family have a fantastic day when they tie the knot and we wish them lots of happiness. In September, Miss Worcester will change her name to Mrs Baker!

Phonics Screen Check and Inclusion Quality Mark



I feel so proud of our Year 1 Phonics Screening Check results I want to keep shouting about them! This year we achieved 86% pass rate which is above national average... but we want show our school value of ambition and improve again next year. This is down to the hard work and dedication of everyone in school and parents for reading at home with your children – thank you.

Earlier this month we were reassessed for the Inclusion Quality Mark (IQM) 'Centre of Excellence' status. Following a busy day in school the assessor was very complimentary of the hard work and dedication from staff in ensuring we give ALL children the very best start in life. I look forward to sharing the official report with you in September but it has been recommended that we retain our 'Centre of Excellence!' status. Look out for the purple plaque that is displayed proudly at the front of our school! Once again, a massive thank you to everyone who works in school.



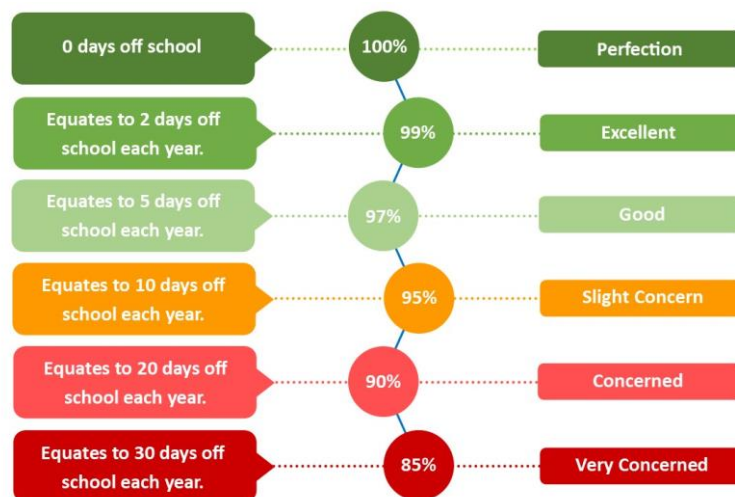
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Attendance and Punctuality

As a school we aim for all children to achieve 96%. Every lesson really does count for your child as children can quickly fall behind even if one day is missed. Catching up even a little lost time from school can be really difficult. Good attendance is linked to achievement, better relationships with other children and better overall behaviour in school. It is often the case that children with poor attendance are often academically behind, compared with their peers.

Poor attendance seriously hampers the life chances of your children.



Sadly, all classes did not achieve our target of 96% which is our whole school target.

Class	Attendance
Beech	93.9%
Maple	90.2%
Hazel	92.4%
Oak	94.6%
Sycamore	91.3%

Our whole school attendance this year is 92.6% which is below the national average of 94%. Let's try to show our school value of teamwork and improve our attendance next year. We can do it!

Nursery Places

If your child (or you know of a child) who is currently 3 years old or has their 3rd birthday before the end of August, then please point them in the direction of our amazing Nursery as we currently have places available for a September start.

We are also able to offer places to children as soon as they turn 3 years old if they are in receipt of 2–3 year old funding. In this case, the nursery place can start immediately and the child does not have to wait until the term after their birthday. We have an excellent qualified teacher, Miss Worcester planning some amazing experiences for our nursery children, giving the children the very best start in life. Please see our Facebook Page for a snapshot into life in Nursery!

We also find that children who have been to our Nursery are more likely to be 'school ready' than those who do not. If you are thinking of taking up a nursery place please contact school for a tour.

We continue to offer 30-hours free childcare if you meet the criteria set by the government. If you are not eligible for 30 hours, your child can still join our nursery on a paid, full time basis. Cost are £15 for an afternoon session with lunch provided or £13.50 if you would prefer to provide your child with a packed lunch. You are also able to 'pay as you go' and choose the days of the week that you would like your child to attend. Please speak to the office or call 01254 202600 for more information.



I wish all our families a very happy and safe summer holidays – Let's hope we see lots of sunshine!

James Waddington
Headteacher