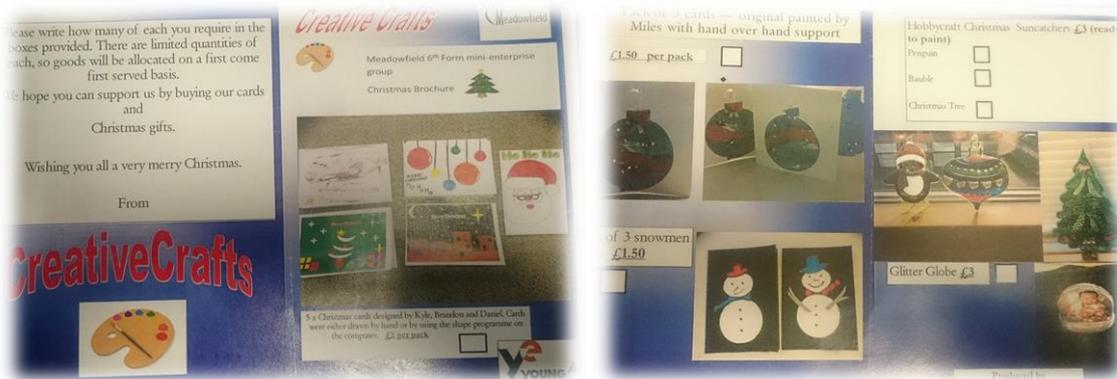


After the excitement of Christmas and the New Year the pupils settled quickly into producing some wonderful work and Term 3 has again been a time to celebrate the achievements of our pupils.

Our 6th Form Mini-Enterprise Group won the 2018 Team Programme Best Advertisement competition with the judges commenting "a vibrant brochure telling the customer what the product is, detail provided including cost and lots of lovely images. Good idea to be able to use the brochure as an order form as well". Well done 6th Form and Helen Newman, teacher.



6th Form students, Tiffany, Daniel, Carolina, Robert, Mandy and Connor all achieved their Bronze Arts award, working in conjunction with Ideas Test in Sittingbourne High Street. Well done to all of you.

We are continuing to work with Challenger Group and Forest Schools to support outdoor learning, which is proving to be very popular with our pupils.

Julie Battershill, one of our nurses has decided the time has come to retire and we will therefore be saying goodbye to Julie at the end of March. I am sure you will join me in wishing Julie every happiness in her retirement. Julie has asked me to pass on her best wishes to all the pupils and families of Meadowfield School and to express her enjoyment over the years at seeing the children grow and mature.

Enjoy the half term break and I look forward to seeing everyone on Monday 19th February for the start of Term 4.

Regards,
Jill Palmer, Principal

Message from Chair of Governors Parent Forum

We had our parent forum meeting on Friday 2nd February 2018. After this discussion, the parental survey and a meeting with KCC transport, there has been agreement that, moving forward, the school will arrange some training for operators, drivers and personal assistants, and there will be expectations from all sides on acceptable behaviour and how situations will be dealt with. (A letter to parents/carers will follow)

KSENT

We are part of a cooperative Trust of Special Schools in Kent which includes all the Special Needs schools in Kent (KSENT). This trust helps us to have strong partnerships, share values and support all children in Kent who have additional needs. The KSENT Trust allows us to build on the existing working relationships between Kent Special schools.

Trust schools are still part of the local authority system. It is important to be aware that our own governing body will continue to run the school, handle the school budget and be responsible for the performance of our school. The Trust will support us when we need to work on shared priorities and will help to provide additional resources and expertise. We are committed to continue raising expectations and standards in our schools and working to improve the future prospects for all of our learners.

A governor forum has been created to follow this collaboration between schools, to implement the KSENT vision, to develop good governance through review of structure of governing bodies, to raise awareness of best practise and develop a training program to inspire governance and target governor recruitment and retention.

Peter Pan Pantomime 11th January – Picasso Class

Picasso Class write up:

We looked at some images and short videos leading up to the trip. This helped us to become familiar with what to expect and also have an idea of what the Theatre looked like inside.

We had our lunch on the bus because we had to leave a bit earlier due to there being an accident on the A2. Staff had brought some sweets for us to have on the bus.

When we got to The Marlowe Theatre there were lots of other schools and people there.

Ms Farrington handed out the tickets to the classes and we waited in a queue to go into the auditorium. It was so exciting!

We showed our tickets to the usher and she pointed out where our seats were.

When the Pantomime was ready to begin the lights started to dim, Jean and Carla bought us all popcorn and shared out sweets during the performance. The main characters came onto stage to introduce themselves and say if they were a goodie or baddie. We cheered the goodies and booed the baddies.

During the interval Nathan went and collected our ice-cream order.

Everyone joined in with the singing, cheering, booing, clapping, some of us stood up and had a little dance too.

We loved The Ghost Gag Bench sketch. We had to shout out when we saw the ghost and where it went.

Here are some photos Picasso took.



Music

Pascal class have been learning about the sections of an orchestra. Mrs Bridger-Smart visited them to demonstrate some instruments in the woodwind family and the pupils got to hold and feel some of the instruments. Mrs Bridger-Smart played some popular theme tunes from films and the pupils had to guess which film they were from, which everyone really enjoyed.



Fund Raising – Graham Richards

To raise funds for Meadowfield School and Demelaz House, Graham is taking part in the 'Chase the sun' ride on 23rd June 2018. Information regarding the ride and how you can donate are shown on the attached flyer. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Diary Dates 2018

19 th February	Start of Term 4
27 th February	Cook Class Open Morning
1 st March	Butterflies Class Open Afternoon
8 th March	Caterpillar Class Open Afternoon
15 th March	Dragonflies Class Open Afternoon
20 th March	Swallows Class Open Afternoon
22 nd March	6 th Form Tea & Cakes with Parents
29 th March	End of Term 4
16 th April	Start of Term 5

The Wellbeing Award for Schools (WAS)

This year Meadowfield is working towards achieving the Wellbeing Award for Schools. This is a national accreditation for the wellbeing support we offer to our pupils, parents and staff.

In order to make sure that we improve the support we offer, we want to understand how well we are currently supporting the emotional wellbeing of our pupils. For this reason, we are inviting you to complete an anonymous survey and return to the school.

The information from the survey will help our school to improve its work in providing better provision for emotional wellbeing and mental health. All information collected is anonymous and will be kept confidential.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Meadowfield School have a small group of students who are doing the Gold Award for Duke of Edinburgh. This is very rare and we have been told it is the first in Kent for a Special Needs School. Everything is going to be well publicised for this reason.

The students need to do a Residential trip and will also be completing two periods on an adapted narrow boat. This obviously costs money. We are trying to raise £500 per student as sponsorship. This will include logoed shirts and boards displayed at the school plus newspaper and website coverage. This is very exciting. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Friends of Meadowfield (FOMs = PTFA)

Thank you to the parents that took the time to complete the questionnaire. FOMs have held their first meeting and are planning their first event. If you would like to join FOMs or help at events, please contact the school office.

Look out for FOMs Newsletter!!