## Newsletter



## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers

This week some of our students spent a day at Warwick University where they took part in a range of workshops and experiences. Students were keen to question the current students and professors about life at university and what they would recommend. We received some lovely feedback from Warwick University about how well our students engaged and how they positively contributed to the day. We do have strong links with Warwick University, one of the Russell Group universities in the country and are delighted that our students are able to benefit from this close working.

With university and careers in mind, we host our annual Careers Fair next week. We have a wide range of employers, colleges and universities attending and students will have a chance to find out more about their chosen career. If they are not sure yet which career path they want to follow, that is ok too. The event will be an excellent opportunity to match interests and skills with a whole host of future careers.

Our sporting successes continue with several final competitions next week - the basketball final is certainly getting a lot of support from both students and staff alike! Good luck boys!

Driving in to school this week I have noticed a sign has appeared to say that The Avenue will

be closed for a number of weeks starting 8<sup>th</sup> April; you may want to take that into consideration when planning the drop off / collection each day. As there are several road works in the local vicinity, please can you remind your child to take extra care when travelling to and from school. As a reminder, we do not permit parents or carers to come onto the school site to drop off or collect and we do ask you to be mindful and considerate of children walking and also of our neighbours.

After Easter we will be running our practice expeditions for Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards. These are nationally acclaimed programmes which provide students with an experience they might not normally get. I am very familiar with the Awards from a parent point of view as my two daughters completed / are completing their Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. As part of the programme, students undertake volunteering, learn a skill of their choice as well as complete a series of walks, navigations and camping expeditions. We are delighted that we are able to significantly reduce the cost of these to families. The programmes are open to children in Year 9 onwards, so please do get in touch if vou would like to find out more.

With best wishes

Mrs Pettman, Headteacher





Issue: 4 April 2025

# Head of House Awards The Head of House Awards were awarded to:











Sinead

Summer

Finley

Henry

Charley

## **Year 8 Trip to Warwick University**

On the 2 April we took 15 year 8 pupils to Warwick University. The subject taster event provided the opportunity for students to see the University and engage in interactive academic sessions covering Maths, Linguistics and DNA. The pupils had a fantastic day and were incredibly engaged with the whole experience. They learnt about the maths behind memory games, made DNA models out of sweets and explored how Donald Trump has changed the way he uses his voice. We were so impressed at the pupils' confidence to speak to the lecturers and students about subjects and life at University and they all fully made the most of exploring all that was on offer. Eyes were opened and the pupils were bowled over by just how many different types of subjects you can learn at University.





## Mr Perris and Mrs Evans

## Careers Fair

A Careers Fair will take place on Wednesday 9th April 2025 starting at 12.30pm.

It is aimed at years 9-13 who will have appointed times to visit the fair with their teacher/tutor. The fair continues for 45 minutes after the end of the school day for drop ins from other year groups and parents/carers.

The fair has representatives from industry (both public and private sectors), colleges, training providers and universities.

We have 19 organisations coming in so far and we are really looking forward to welcoming them.

Mrs Evans Careers Advisor

## **Macbeth Performance at Meadow Park**

The performance of Macbeth by Katch 22 (on 19th March) was a fantastic experience for all Year 11 students! It was exciting to see students engage directly with the play and ask thought-provoking questions about the characters and themes. The opportunity for students to dig deeper into the motives behind the characters like Macbeth and Lady Macbeth, as well as the play's exploration of power, guilt, and fate was enriching and made a difference to their understanding of the play.

Miss Russell Director of English and Literacy



## Mother Tongue Other Tongue poetry competition



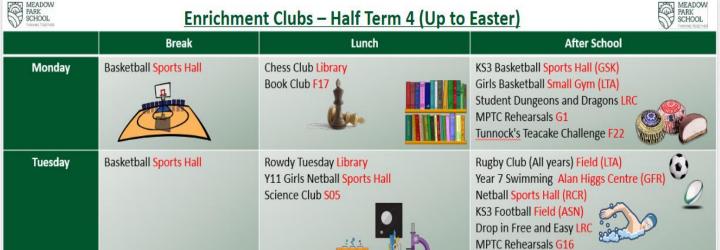
## Two options for entries:

- Mother tongue write in your **first language** either a creative piece, a song or a poem that is either original (by you) or 'remembered' one you can recall or that has been told to you by a relative or friend. You also **must** include an explanation in English of where it comes from and why it is important to you.
- Other tongue a poem written in a **second language** (French, Spanish, German, Italian or Mandarin)

This is a University of Warwick competition, who will be displaying entries in Coventry Cathedral. We will also be choosing winners for each Key Stage at MPS. Please submit entries to Miss Chapman in F11. Deadline: 11<sup>th</sup> April.

All entries must focus on the key themes for 2025: learning to live with difference and celebrating diversity, peace and justice and healing the wounds of the past.

Miss Chapman Curriculum Leader - MFL



Thursday Basketball Sports Hall

Basketball Sports Hall

Geeky Wednesday Library
Sporty Thursday Library
Year 8/9 Girls Basketball Sports Hall

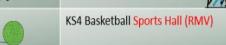
Badminton Sports Hall (GSK)
Trampolining Small Gym (GFR)
Music Practice G16
Craft Club F23
Drop in Free and Easy LRC
Homework / Coursework Club F23

Homework / Coursework Club F23

Friday

Basketball Sports Hall

Creative Friday Library
Crochet Club G08



## Spring term extracurricular clubs

Feb → April

Wednesday



After School from 3:15 - 4:15. PE kit must be worn for all clubs



#### What is HAF?

HAF is a national Department for Education funded programme that enables eligible children and young people to attend free activities and experiences with free nutritional food provided. HAF activities and experiences take place in the Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays.



Who is eligible?

HAF eligibility

Helpful links and resources for schools

Coventry City Council HAF homepage

Coventry City Council Cost of Living support

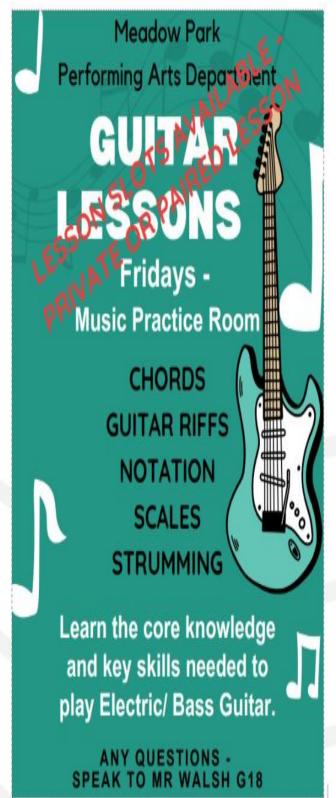
Eegu homepage



## Performing Arts – Extra Curricular







## Year 11 Prom

Payment is due by Friday 9th May to ensure you have a ticket, payable via ParentPay.

Please see Mrs Symon if you need more information.

Meadow Park School Presents

## DROM NIGHT

classof

- FRIDAY 20 JUNE, 2025 -

- Doors open from 7.00pm - Tickets - £29.50 pp via Parent Pay -

- LIVE DJ -- ENTRY MOCKTAIL & FOOD INCLUDED

## REMINDERS



#### New Parent App and School Communication

Please sign up to our new parent portal MyChildAtSchool (MCAS).



DON'T FORGET to enable push notifications for the MyChildAtSchool app on your phone so you can see all emails and letters the school sends you.

All schools in the Trust are using Bromcom and MCAS so for Meadow Park School, it means MCAS replaces School Synergy.

MCAS is now live, so as soon as you sign up you will be able to see your child's information. As School Synergy is linked to our old MIS it is no longer updating, therefore in order to view your child's timetable, see their attendance and behaviour points you will need to sign up to MCAS.

You have access to all the same information as you had in School Synergy. MCAS allows us to securely share your child's/children's achievement points, attendance, school reports, letters and school diary whenever you wish. The portal also provides general useful information about the school such as flash announcements. This will be our **primary means of communication** with you, from now on. Please make sure you enable notifications for MCAS as this is the way we will send you emails and letters.

To login to the MCAS Parent Portal, we have enabled you to 'self-sign on'. All you will need for this is your email address that the school has on record for you. Enter the school postcode CV34BD (without a space) or use our identifier 15028. Search for Meadow Park School.

#### School Communication

All communication from school is now via Bromcom and if you sign up to the parent portal MCAS then you will receive notifications from the school via the app. You can view all letters and emails, past and present, in MCAS. If you don't have the app then you will receive a normal email. Please add '15028@bromcomcloud.com' to your address book in order to prevent messages being blocked by your spam/junk filters.

#### How to Self-Sign Up for Parents

Parents and carers can access the MCAS Parent Login screen in two ways:

- 1. From within your web browser type www.mychildatschool.com
- Download the free MyChildAtSchool parent app from either the Apple App Store or Google Play.

When you use the parent portal for the first time you will need to Sign-Up. Full instructions have been emailed home or they can be found on our website.

If you require any assistance logging in for the first time, please contact the School Office by emailing admin@meadowparkschool.com or telephone 02476 302580.



## School shoes guidance

Plain black with no logos No high heels, 'sliders', boots, sling back or open-toed shoes Black leather or leather effect

### TRAINERS AND CANVAS SHOES (VANS/CONVERSE) ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE



## Spring Term 2025

Teacher Inset Days	Monday 6th January & Tuesday 7th January
Term Starts	Wednesday 8th January
Half Term	Saturday 15th February – Sunday 23rd February
Last Day of Term	Friday 11th April
Easter Holiday	Saturday 12th April - Sunday 27th April

## Summer Term 2025

Term Starts	Monday 28th April
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 5th May
Half Term	Saturday 24th May - June 1st June
Last Day of Term	Friday 18th July
Summer Holiday Starts	Saturday 19th July

#### Vapes - how dangerous are they really?

We included in our newsletter back in November information about the dangers of Vapes to our students and their health. Unfortunately, these dangers are still present and we wanted to shed some light on a recent study highlighting just that!

## Vaping horror as first ever study reveals deadly side effects

"Smokers tend to go outside and smoke, and once a cigarette is finished they have to light up another to keep going. But with vapes, you just keep going and it's much harder to know how many puffs you've had. It's much easier to vape continuously because you can do it in places where smoking might be less acceptable.

- 5.1million people aged 16 or over in Britain 1/10\_are using vapes, according to figures last year from the Office for National Statistics.
- Vaping rates were highest among those aged 16 to 24, at 15.8%
- 1 Million people in the UK Vape Despite never having been a regular smoker.

https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/vaping-horrorfirst-ever-study-31082646

Unfortunately, the sale of E-Cigarettes and Vapes is BIG BUSINESS – and young people are often the target audience. With shops willing to break the law to continue to make money, it's our children's health at risk!

Some of these vapes can contain THC (Cannabis) as well as other harmful drugs/ chemicals which has led to young people collapsing after inhaling and having to seek emergency medical treatment. This has happened in a school in Coventry!

https://www.ooventrytelegraph.net/news/ooventry-news/pollog-update-coventry-school-yape-29449802

If you become aware of a premise/Business/ Shop selling counterfeit Vapes or these products along with traditional cigarettes and Alcohol to children, please report it to the

Speak to your GP for further advice and support around nicotine dependency if you are concerned that your child is nicotine dependent.

## VAPING and E-Cigarettes – Targeting our children!

E-cigarettes, also known as vapes, are battery powered devices which allow nicotine to be inhaled through a vapour ('vaping') rather than smoke. The disposable Vapes have surged in popularity over the last year, they are brightly coloured, Pocket-sized with sweet flavours and sweet names. They are Widely available for under £5 – no wonder they're attractive to children!



Police via 101 or online.





#### A Recent study found:

- 22% of 11-16-year olds have tried Vapes, with 3% of these vaping regularly.
- An increase x 6 in the use of disposable vapes between 11-16-year olds.
- Shops are the <u>main</u> source of purchase, with 7 in 20 shops being found to sell to underage children.
- 1 in 10 children are buying them from online.
- Vapes are not bound by the same advertising rules as cigarettes, so they are on billboards, points of display in shops and all-over social media!
- Tik Tok has been named as the primary source of children seeing vapes being advertised, closely followed by Instagram and snapchat.

#### FACTS:

- It is illegal to buy vapes for people under 18 years old.
- 2. The long-term health impacts are not yet fully understood.
- 3. Vapes can produce higher doses of nicotine than cigarettes.
- Higher nicotine doses increase risk of nicotine dependency.
- 5. Vaping still can produce negative effects on the heart and lungs.
- Nicotine impacts on brain development in children.
- 7. Advertisers are targeting our children.



Please do not allow your children to vape and we ask that you talk to your children about the dangers of vaping and encourage them to either not start, reduce and STOP!

Stay Safe and have a good weekend!

Paul Rule Child Protection Officer & Senior Pastoral Support Manager



THRIVING TOGETHER