

Newsletter



MEADOW PARK
SCHOOL

Message from the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers

Last night our Winter Snowcase was presented by Meadow Park Theatre Company. Staff and parents and carers enjoyed a lovely evening with wonderful performances from our students and the staff band! As well as a selection of songs, instrumentals, solo performances and drama student performances were amazing and we have some real talent evident in solo performances. The school choir performed brilliantly. True skills are evident in our student community and demonstrating confidence and resilience which are characteristics that will prepare students well for later in life. Thank you to all who attended as performances like this certainly helps to get you into the Christmas spirit.

On Tuesday evening we had a bedtime story event with younger children from our feeder primary schools. The student volunteers read beautifully and this was a thoroughly enjoyable event for all who attended, thank you. Thank you to Amy Symon for organising this wonderful event which also promoted the positive spirit of Christmas through the variety of Christmas books read by our students to their younger peers.

In MFL, our students have undertaken mock speaking and listening exams. In addition to French and Spanish, students at Meadow Park

School have the opportunity to study Mandarin. I had the honour of travelling to London last week for a celebration event at the Chinese Embassy for Headteachers of the Mandarin Excellence Programme. The Chinese Minister was very complimentary about the work we are doing in schools.

Next week is our final week of the Autumn Term. On Wednesday we have our Christmas lunch which is usually very popular with staff and students alike. I will be serving lunch on Wednesday for our students and staff to enjoy and spread some festive cheer!

Students will have the opportunity to wear a Christmas accessory next Friday on top of their normal school uniform.

As a reminder, students will be dismissed at 12.35pm on Friday 20 December 2024, with the opportunity to get a "grab and go" lunch from the dining room for those who normally eat at school or who are entitled to a free school meal.

I wish you a lovely weekend.

With best wishes

Mrs Pettman
Headteacher

Nurturing Excellence, Growing Aspiration, Thriving Together



FINHAM PARK
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Issue: 13 December 2024



Class of 2025

Year 11 After School Intervention

Following the results from the mock exams, some students have been targeted for after-school intervention to improve their recent mock exam grade(s). Your child's teachers will be in touch to let you, and them, know that they should attend after-school intervention. Please help us to get the best grades for them by encouraging them to attend. During these sessions, which run until 4-4.15, your child will be supported to prepare for the second mock exams which begin on Monday 24th February 2025. Intervention will continue for the rest of this term and will continue in the new year. It is extremely important that your child takes this opportunity in order to build their knowledge, understanding and confidence ahead of the exams.

Week 1

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English	Science		Option A	Maths

Week 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English	Option B		Option C	Maths

Option Block A	Option Block B	Option Block C
Business	Geography	Art
Food	History	Drama
History	Spanish	Design & Technology
Health & Social Care	Travel & Tourism	French
		History
		Sociology
		Travel & Tourism

Revision Guides for Key Stage 4

Revision guides are available for all Year 10 and 11 exam subjects on Parent Pay. A letter with the full list and further information is also attached with this newsletter. Please speak to your child about which revision guides they need because for some subjects there are higher and foundation tiers. We cannot accept responsibility if the wrong guides are ordered.

Mrs Secker
Assistant Headteacher

£250 raised so far! Thank you.

Thank you to everyone who is supporting us through easyfundraising. Your continued support means the world to us & collectively we have raised over £250 so far!

Please remember to use easyfundraising when you do your online shopping. Over 8,000 retailers including eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos and M&S will donate to Finham Park Multi Academy Trust for FREE when you use easyfundraising to shop with them. This means you can raise donations for the children across our schools when you buy anything from decorations and festive food shopping to gifts like toys, jewellery, tech, experiences and more! These donations really help us and all you have to do is use easyfundraising when you're ordering the things you'll be buying anyway.

If you've not signed up yet, please join today: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/finham-park-multi-academy-trust> #Momentsthatmakeitcount

Kind regards,

Rebecca Diaz
Safeguarding & Inclusion Lead



Enrichment Clubs - Autumn Term

	Break	Lunch	After School
Monday	Basketball Sports Hall	Chillout Monday Library Book Club Library	Year 7 Football Field Girls Rugby (all years) Field KS3 Basketball Sports Hall Student Dungeons and Dragons LRC STEM Club S04 Fashion and Textiles T04 (10 spaces!) Cooking Club F22 (Year groups, 15 spaces!) Harry Potter Club S05 MPTC Rehearsals G18
Tuesday	Basketball Sports Hall	Rowdy Tuesday Library Chess Club F05 Y11 Girls Netball Sports Hall	Year 10+11 Football Field Netball Sports Hall KS3 Rugby Field MPTC Rehearsals G16 Pokemon Masterclass LRC
Wednesday	Basketball Sports Hall	Geeky Wednesday Library	(STAFF TRAINING)
Thursday	Basketball Sports Hall	Sporty Thursday Library Year 8/9 Girls Basketball Sports Hall	Year 8+9 Football Field Badminton + Table Tennis Sports Hall Robotics Club F18 (10 spaces!) Board Games Club LRC Music Practice G16 Craft Club F23
Friday	Basketball Sports Hall	Creative Friday Library Crochet Club Wk1 G04 wk2 G08	KS4 Basketball Sports Hall

Miss Johnson
Enrichment Co-ordinator

News from the Art Department!

Once again we bring you the new Meadow Park school Art calendar, produced in house displaying Art work by current students at Meadow Park School. A great way to make note of upcoming school events and keep track of school holidays. A useful tool to help your son/daughter organise their schedule or makes a great gift for family members. Calendars can be purchased though parent pay for the price of £5.00

A4 size ring bound with hook, 350gsm card with blank calendar to input own dates.

We ask that if you order a calendar, they are collected within a week of order from the main reception after school.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christmas Dinner

Students

Wednesday 18th December

Roast Turkey

With all the trimmings

Lentil roast

Roast Potatoes

Baton carrots

Brussel sprouts

Roast parsnips

Yule Log

Christmas Pudding

Meal Deal

£2.75

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Woodland Eats

Students

From 16th December

Pigs in Blankets with caramelised onion Wraps

£1.60

Halloumi & Cranberry Sauce Wraps

£1.60

Pigs in Blankets with caramelised onion Baguettes

£2.15

Roast Turkey & Cranberry sauce Baguettes

£2.15

Roast Turkey & Stuffing Baguettes

£2.15

Roast Turkey & Stuffing Sandwiches

£2.15

Head of House Awards
The Head of House Awards for last week
were awarded to:



Scarlett

Alie

Ayna

Henry

On behalf of SEND:

If you haven't already seen it, here's a copy of the latest "In Partnership" SEND ebulletin. If you would prefer to view it through your web browser, go to:

[SEND In-Partnership December 2024](#)

This edition contains details of our save the date Dyslexia session. Please be aware this session is not yet open for booking. You can also find details for sessions, groups and activities directly via the [SENDIASS events webpage](#).

If you have any contributions for our next bulletin then please send them to us at sendnews@coventry.gov.uk We would welcome any stories about individuals, groups or service changes.

Kind regards

IASS

Coventry City Council

News from the Library!

Here's what you can look forward to in the Library next week ...

Chillout Monday:

Monday Book Club (F17)

Rowdy Tuesday:

The World Cup of Christmas Songs: your chance to vote for your absolute favourite festive classic

Geeky Wednesday:

Christmas wordplay and word games

Sporty Thursday:

TBC

Happy reading – and we hope you have a wonderful holiday (when it comes....)!

Mr Spencer
Librarian and English Teacher



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.

Benefits related FSM children can access a variety of free, fun sessions with food provided during this Christmas school holiday as part of the Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) Programme.

HAF Winter Fun programme, will run from **Saturday 21st December 2024 to Sunday 5th January 2025**. It includes free sessions to *The Wave*, *Planet Ice*, and day trips to pantomimes, farms, and trampolining! We've also got clubs for multi-sports, coding, cooking, skateboarding, performing arts, photography, and so much more.



They always aim to improve HAF, so following feedback, they are using a new and improved booking system called Eequ. Booking is simple, and we have included a guide with this letter to help you with this. **This system does not need HAF codes.** Follow the QR code on the right to watch a short video on how to make a booking. (You may need to zoom in for the code to work)

HAF Eligibility Criteria

[View our eligibility criteria here.](#)

HAF Customer Contact team can also support with HAF bookings and can be contacted on 08085 834 333.

For more information around the opening times and locations of family hubs and libraries, please call 0800 887 0545 or visit [//www.coventry.gov.uk/familyhubs](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/familyhubs) or [//www.coventry.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/libraries).

For support with this from school, please email me, the Pupil Premium Coordinator hwyk@meadowparkschool.com

Thanks
Miss van Wyk

NEW

FOR MORE INFO PLEASE SEE WEBSITE OR CALL

www.covboysandgirlsclub.co.uk or 02476224975

CBGC YOUTH SESSIONS

STARTING
MONDAY 11TH
NOVEMBER

YOUTH CLUB - AGES 11-14

MON

4:30 - 6:30PM

SPORTS, CRAFTS, BAKING & FOOD



BOXFIT - AGES 13-19

WED

5:00 - 6:00PM

FITNESS & BOXING



MUSIC WORKSHOP - AGES 13-19

WED

6:00 - 8:00PM

INSTRUMENT & STUDIO SESSIONS



YOUTH CLUB - AGES 13-17

THU

6:00 - 8:00PM

SPORTS, CRAFTS, MUSIC & FOOD



JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB - AGES 7-12

FRI

4:30 - 7:30PM

SPORTS, CRAFTS, DANCE & FOOD



CBGC - 50 Whitefriars Street, CV1 2DS



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**
2. 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.

Uniform



Green school blazer



Grey school sweater



Tie



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



Autumn Term 2024

Teacher Inset Days	Monday 2nd September & Tuesday 3rd September
Term Starts (Students Return)	Wednesday 4th September – Years 7 and 12 Thursday 5th September – Years 11 and 13 Friday 6th September – All other year groups
Half Term	Saturday 26th October – Sunday 3rd November
Teacher Inset Day	Friday 29th November
Last Day of Term	Friday 20th December
Christmas Holiday	Saturday 21st December – Sunday 5th January

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

Safeguarding

What Parents and Carers Need to know about SNAPCHAT



As one of the most popular messaging apps available, Snapchat sees an enormous amount of usage across the globe – with a significant number of those utilising the platform being under 18 (approx. 20% which is 160 Million Users!) For that reason, it's important to understand the potential risks to younger users when spending time on this app. It can be difficult to identify every hazard associated with the platform, let alone what can be done to mitigate these concerns - so please read through the attached guide which lays out the key online safety risks of Snapchat, as well as how to safeguard young people while they use the app.

New online safety priorities for Ofcom and launch of study into effects of social media on children

New online safety priorities for Ofcom and launch of study into effects of social media on children



ROBLOX: Updates include greater parental controls allowing parents to monitor their children's activity on the platform; adjustments to built-in limits around how children under 13-years-old can communicate with others; and changes to content warning labels.

Read the news story: Roblox to give parents more control over children's activity after warnings over grooming

For Further advice on Smartphones and keeping children safe, Please visit:
<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/blog/keeping-your-child-safe-their-smartphone>



Stay Safe!

Paul Rule
Child Protection Officer &
Senior Pastoral Support Manager

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97

DAYS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnosis, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 60% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by SnapMap – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Users can upload sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can change this by clicking on the lock which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Secrets' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (encouraging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The features used to group content are determined by the poster, so even on innocent search terms could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images or images – so nothing continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's 'filters' are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beauty' filters on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'plenty' notifications (which will get displayed even if a device is in its not-direct mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Snapchat's 'Family Center' lets you view the details of the child's account – their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week – and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Center for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide Live Location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does contact with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, sexual harassment or sexual abuse.

FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parent's guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any potential risks they take in using it. A link for this can be found in the notes below.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's rules can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail where feeling children sign up. If they're hard into a scene, encourage them to talk you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, snapcasting its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Hutchinson is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: see full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.org/guides/snapchat-2023>

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MEADOW PARK SCHOOL

THRIVING TOGETHER