

Sunflower Federation Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 2

18th July 2019

Welcome

It's been a busy summer term so far, and we hope you enjoy reading all about it in our second issue of the Sunflower Federation Newsletter.

Primary Penathlon

On the 5th of June a group of pupils from both Breakspeare and Meadow Wood schools teamed up at Wodson Park Sports Centre in Ware for this year's Hertfordshire Primary Panathlon.

The Sunflower Federation as a team competed in games like Boccia Blast, New Age Kurling, Table Cricket, Precision Bean-bag, Ten Pin Topple, showing our fantastic throwing and ball skills. Besides enjoying, having loads of fun and making friends, we scored 2nd in the competition! Hooray to the Sunflower Federation and congratulations to everyone who joined in!



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Canine Assisted Learning

We are lucky to have had Claire and Cooper, her dog as weekly visitors to Meadow Wood this academic year. Many of our children have spent time with Cooper- touching and stroking him, taking him for walks around school and asking lots of questions about him. Most of those who were initially unsure about being in close proximity to Cooper are now very comfortable having him around the school. Many thanks to Claire for providing our students with this opportunity.



Donations

We are very fortunate that the local communities are supporting our schools!

Thank you Swagelok for helping us to provide enrichment opportunities; DM Thomas Foundation via Hilton group to refurbish our soft play area; and to Zaza for helping us to buy another people carrier.

Meadow Wood School has received a generous donation from Tangent Members for providing enrichment for our pupils.



Horse Riding

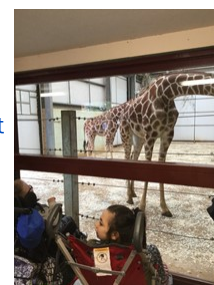


Meadow Wood pupils have continued to access Horse-Riding at Penniwells throughout the summer term. A large number of pupils in the school have now had the opportunity to attend; some for the first time during this term.

This activity provides them with a unique experience that encourages increased confidence and communication as well as a chance to access learning outside the school environment.

Whipsnade Zoo

Meadow Wood students and Squirrels class from Breakspeare School had a great day out at Whipsnade Zoo on Wednesday 12th June. In the end the rain held off and everyone thoroughly enjoyed their day. Our thanks go to the Rotary Club and their team of volunteers who provided transport, admission to the zoo and lunch for everyone who attended. We would also like to thank drivers Les and Terry, and Michelle one of our escorts who volunteered to help with this outing.



New for September...

We are pleased to announce that we have new **Home-School Diaries** ready for use in September. We think that they will be an excellent way of sharing information between home and school. We welcome your feedback in the autumn term!

Site Work

Breakspeare

We were very busy over the May half term installing a new outdoor learning



space in Early Years. The students can now enjoy water tables, tuff spot tables,



a large whiteboard and water wall. Not forgetting the giant wigwam!

We are very fortunate that we can fund this; partly from our fund account, which wouldn't be possible without generous donations and fundraising for the school!

Meadow Wood

My name is John Nelson and I started as the new Site Manager at Meadow wood on the 17th June 2019. It's been a busy start meeting all the staff and children and trying to remember so many names! Everyone has been very friendly which has helped me settle in.

Summer Term Leavers

Breakspeare School will say a sad goodbye to 8 of our students this summer, some of which have been with us since they were two and a half years old! We have been giving our leavers a memorable send-off with fun activities and opportunities to prepare them for life after school. These activities include taking part in various music shows, most recently being an incredible performance at Wembley's Voice in a Million. We had a brilliant residential trip to Kingswood and the grand finale; Prom Night on the 12th July. They have had work experience opportunities such as a 6 week program working in Sainsbury's and weekly work experience at Sunny-side. Breakspeare will not be the same without these students, their individual charismas will be missed, but we wish them every success for the future.



Josh



Kyle



Yousaf



Mark



Harry



Vwede



Lureece



Rian

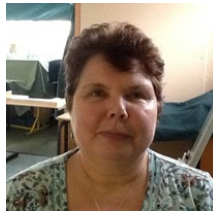
At Meadow Wood we are saying goodbye to three fantastic students. They have been very busy this year in school and with their out of school enrichment activities:- Kofi,

Arts Award

We have been learning about how to paint portraits and focussing on how different artists such as Andy Warhol and Picasso used colour.



Sue Douthwaite



The time has come for me to retire from teaching. I have been fortunate to

work at Breakspeare as Music Teacher since 2006. It has been a privilege to see students blossom as they progress through the school. There are too many highlights to mention all of them. The recent trip to sing at Wembley Arena, the Parmiter's Christmas concerts and outreach by our singing signing choir are but a few. There are also lots of other memories of my time at the school that I will treasure. I have worked with fantastic and dedicated staff, volunteers and parents and I wish everyone connected with the school both now and in the future all the very best.

Forthcoming Dates

Breakspeare

Term begins –
Wednesday 4th September

PSA EGM & Coffee Morning –
Friday 20th September

PSA Coffee Morning –
Friday 18th October

Half Term –
Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November

PSA AGM & Coffee Morning –
Friday 15th November

Occasional Day –
Friday 29th November

Staff Training –
Monday 2nd December

PSA Coffee Morning –
13th December

Meadow Wood

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Olivia and Ariana have increased their independence and made new friends at Funky Pie; Olivia and Ariana have been out swimming weekly at the Aspire Centre; Olivia has enjoyed integrating twice a week at Bournehall school.

Olivia has been with us since she was little, while Ariana and Kofi joined us a little later. Ariana has moved house and will be going to a new school near her home; Kofi is staying within the Federation and moving to Breakspeare School. Olivia is heading off to St Luke's School. We thank them for their great contributions to our school and wish them all the best for their future.



Ariana



Olivia



Kofi