



## Principal's Message

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you're as excited as we are for all the wonderful things that have happened at our school this term and through the academic year. To name but a few...

### CELEBRATING A SUCCESSFUL SPRING TERM TWO

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a busy and exciting Spring Term 2, I want to take a moment to thank you all for your continued support and to share some of the wonderful learning that has taken place across the school.

In EYFS, the children have been exploring the theme of New Life, sparked by classic stories like *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. This much-loved tale has helped our youngest learners understand life cycles. The children have especially enjoyed scanning and using QR codes in the reading area to access and sing along to their favourite nursery rhymes, adding an extra layer of fun to their imaginative play and bringing lots of smiles and laughter to the classroom.

In the Infant classes, English lessons have been a true treat—quite literally! *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* has captured imaginations, inspiring creative writing and storytelling. The children have also travelled the globe in their geography lessons, learning about hot and cold countries, and even delving into the vibrant world of Aztec sun artwork, bringing culture and colour into the classroom.

Year Three has been buzzing with curiosity as they journeyed across North America. From using maps to locate countries and major cities, to understanding both human and physical geography, they've taken a deep dive into the continent's diverse environments. Their art lessons have been equally exciting, with a focus on drawing and painting Walt Disney characters—a brilliant blend of geography and creativity!

Year Four have been diving into the fascinating world of the Vikings. They've explored Viking life, traditions, and impact on Britain through engaging history lessons and creative classwork. Their curiosity and enthusiasm have really brought this historical era to life!

Year Five have turned their attention to space, guided by the exciting book *Cosmic*. Their learning reached new heights with a memorable visit to the National Space Centre, where they took part in a hands-on workshop programming a Rover Robot. It was an inspiring experience that deepened their understanding of our universe and sparked plenty of wonder!

Finally, Year Six have been reflecting on the powerful theme of Freedom and survival, studying history that has shaped the world we live in. They've also deepened their historical knowledge with a study focusing on key aspects of British history beyond 1066, encouraging thoughtful discussion and critical thinking.

As always, it's a joy to see the enthusiasm, creativity and progress of our pupils. We are incredibly proud of all they've achieved this term and look forward to an exciting Summer Term ahead.

Wishing you a restful and joyful break.

Best wishes,  
Mrs M Southern

Happy Hardworking Caring

# MEIR HEATH ACADEMY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2025



## CELEBRATING EID

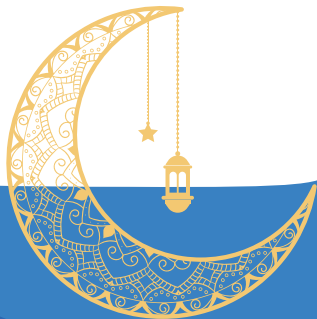
During this term we have experienced our fourth RE Day of the academic year, and this time it was focused on Eid al-Fitr.

Each class took part in activities to learn about the significance of this joyful festival.

We were delighted to welcome a visitor into school to share her Muslim faith—particularly the importance of Ramadan and the celebration of Eid al-Fitr. The children listened with great interest and asked thoughtful questions throughout.

A special themed lunch was served to mark the occasion, including a delicious traditional dessert—Kheer, a sweet rice pudding enjoyed during Eid. It was a big hit with the children!

Thank you for helping us learn and grow together as a school community. ✨



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR AMAZING TIN FOREST CREATIONS!

We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all of our parents and carers for the incredible effort and creativity put into the home art projects over the half-term holiday. Inspired by our chosen World Book Day text, The Tin Forest, the children returned with a stunning variety of imaginative pieces that truly brought the story to life.

It was wonderful to see how families worked together to create such thoughtful and beautiful interpretations of the story's themes of hope, nature, and transformation. A special thank you also goes to our dedicated team of teaching assistants, who worked together to create a fantastic display of all the projects in our main entrance. It has brought colour, creativity, and inspiration to everyone who walks through our doors.

Thank you for helping us celebrate a love of reading and the power of imagination—The Tin Forest certainly blossomed in our school thanks to you!



## SPECIAL PERSONS LUNCH

We were delighted to welcome so many mums, dads, grandparents, and special grown-ups to join our EYFS children for a heart-warming Special Person's Lunch. It was a lovely opportunity to share a meal together and celebrate the important people in our children's lives.

Everyone enjoyed a delicious roast dinner, followed by the ultimate comfort treat—cake and custard! The smiles, laughter, and full tummies said it all. A huge thank you to Kim and the catering team for preparing such a wonderful meal, and to Mrs Reed for organising this lovely event. It was a real highlight of the term!



# MEIR HEATH ACADEMY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2025



## SUSTAINABILITY IN SCHOOL

We've been making great strides this term in becoming a more eco-friendly school, and our pupils have been leading the way!

Our Eco Council proudly led this year's World Water Day, with a special assembly and class activities focused on how we can all save water at school and at home. A big thank you to Julie Rowlandson from the Trust's central team for joining us and helping inspire our children to think globally and act locally.

You may have noticed our new recycling bins around school—part of our ongoing efforts to reduce waste and make it easier for everyone to recycle the right way.

We were also excited to have solar panels installed, and with the sunny weather this week, they've already been soaking up the rays and helping to power our school more sustainably!

Meanwhile, our enthusiastic Junior Duke participants have been hard at work clearing the raised beds in preparation for planting fruit and vegetables next term.

We can't wait to see what grows!

And finally, don't forget about our pre-loved uniform available in school. Not only is it a great way to save money if your child has had a growth spurt, but it's also a brilliant step toward reducing waste and supporting sustainability.

Together, we're making a real difference—one small step at a time. 🌍💚

Save  
WATER!



## MONEY HEROES, ART AND MORE!



We had an exciting and action-packed Maths Day, filled with number fun, creativity, and lots of brilliant learning!

The day began with everyone arriving in fantastic number-themed outfits—from number patterns to times tables capes, the creativity on show was incredible. Thank you to all the families who helped make the day so colourful and fun!

All classes took part in the Money Heroes programme, learning about everyday money skills like saving, spending, and budgeting in fun and practical ways.

To link maths with creativity, each class explored an artist whose work connects with mathematical ideas. The children created stunning pieces of artwork inspired by:

- EYFS – Kandinsky: colourful circles and shapes
- Class AG – Piet Mondrian: bold lines and primary colours
- Class JD and KS – Carmen Herrera: minimalist balance and shape
- Year 3 – Kazimir Malevich: abstract geometry and symmetry
- Year 4 – Alma Thomas: colourful pattern using dots and rhythm
- Year 5 – M.C. Escher: incredible mathematical illusions
- Year 6 – Bridget Riley: optical art and visual movement

We also had some exciting competitions: 🎉 Guess the Sweet Jar – Congratulations to Millie Y6, our lucky winner!

🎸 TT Rockstars Trust Competition – Our pupils proudly took part and showed off their amazing times tables skills against other schools in the trust.

A huge well done to all the children and staff for making the day such a celebration of how fun and creative maths can be!



# MEIR HEATH ACADEMY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2025

JUNIOR  
DUKE™

## JUNIOR DUKE

As we come to the end of the term, we are incredibly proud of all the children who have taken part in the Junior Duke programme. It's been fantastic to watch their confidence grow as they've taken on a wide range of challenges—from practical life skills to creative and personal achievements.

Many pupils have now completed their Junior Duke awards, and we've loved celebrating their success and hearing about the different journeys they've taken. From learning how to cook a meal or sew a button, to public speaking and volunteering, the dedication and independence shown has been inspiring.

A huge well done to everyone involved—you've truly earned your certificates, badges, and all the pride that comes with them! 🌟

We look forward to continuing this wonderful programme next term and seeing even more children take on the challenge!

## LAZER QUEST



Our school field was the perfect setting for an action-packed Lazer Quest adventure, organised by Mr Cooper with the support of Bee Active. Under beautiful blue skies and crisp sunshine, the children made the most of our lovely school grounds—even if it was a little chilly at first, no one stayed cold after all that running around!

The OPAL play equipment and inflatables became exciting bases and hiding spots as teams dashed, aimed, and strategised their way through the game. It was fantastic to see so much energy, teamwork, and laughter throughout the day.

A big thank you to Mr Cooper and Bee Active for bringing this brilliant experience to life—it was a huge hit with everyone!

## SPRING PERFORMANCES

What a joyful way to celebrate the season! Each of our three infant classes took to the stage to perform their very own spring-themed showcases—and they were absolutely fantastic!

The children sang lively songs including Spring Chicken, Spring Fever, and Spring in My Toes, complete with cheerful actions and big smiles. Our young narrators confidently spoke about the signs of spring, describing blooming flowers, new life on the farms, and the changing seasons with enthusiasm and clarity.

There were plenty of proud moments as families watched their children shine. It was a wonderful celebration of new beginnings and the energy that spring brings.

Well done to all the children and staff for such delightful performances—you brought a little extra sunshine to all our hearts! 🌞



## EASTER RAFFLE & FUNDRAISING FOR THE BUDDY BENCH

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Easter Raffle! The School Council organised the collection of chocolate donations, which were made into hampers. All funds raised will go towards a Buddy Bench to promote friendship and inclusion.

During our Easter Assembly, winners were drawn using a digital wheel set up by Mrs Reed—it was a fun way to end the term!

Thanks again to Mrs Cameron and the School Council for organising this event.

We look forward to seeing the Buddy Bench in place soon!

## PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Thank you to all the parents who attended our Parent Consultation Evenings. It was great to discuss your child's progress and how we can work together to support their learning.

Please take a moment to complete the parent survey to provide feedback and help us continue to improve.  
We appreciate your support!

**SURVEY – [CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE](#)**

## READING – THE KEY TO ALL LEARNING



At our school, we truly believe that reading is the key to all learning. It's been wonderful to see our Reading Leaders complete their training and then go on to independently support their designated children in the infant classes. The relationships between the older and younger students have blossomed beautifully, and it's clear that reading skills, confidence, and enthusiasm have grown on both sides. We can't wait for the next round of sessions in the summer term!

Our Secret Reader programme continues to be a highlight, with children eagerly guessing which parent is reading to them. Their reactions are priceless, full of joy and surprise, and it's a great way to keep reading exciting and engaging.

We're also incredibly thankful for the reading volunteers—parents and grandparents—who come in to listen to our children read. The positive impact of this support is immense, and we're always happy to welcome more volunteers (subject to DBS checks).

We are thrilled to celebrate the success of our Recommended Class Book programme, which has become a wonderful part of our school's reading culture. Each week, a student takes the recommended book home, engages with the story, and then brings it back to school to share their thoughts and reflections with their teacher and classmates. It has been heartening to see how excited the children are to discuss the book, share their opinions, and engage in thoughtful conversations.

A huge thank you to our parents for supporting this initiative in such a creative and inspiring way. Your encouragement and enthusiasm at home have made a real difference, and it's clear that the programme is fostering a deeper love for reading and improving comprehension skills. The connections between home and school are so important, and your involvement has truly brought this programme to life.

We look forward to continuing to celebrate the joy of reading together and can't wait to see the wonderful discussions that will continue throughout the year.

Thank you to everyone who supports reading at school—whether through volunteering, sharing books at home, or simply encouraging the love of reading. Your support helps our children unlock a world of learning, creativity, and imagination!

# MEIR HEATH ACADEMY SPORTING NEWS

## Sports and OPAL News

### Blythe Bridge Cluster School Sports 🏆

It's been a busy and exciting time for sport at Meir Heath Academy!

Our Year 3 and 4 boys football team took part in the Blythe Bridge Cluster event, showing great skill and teamwork to finish 3rd out of 6 schools—a fantastic achievement!

We also had the pleasure of hosting the Year 5 and 6 girls football event here at school. The team played four matches, securing one win and three draws, earning a well-deserved 3rd place overall. The girls showed real determination and teamwork throughout.

A big thank you to all the parents and families who came along to support both events—your encouragement means so much. And a special thank you to Mr Wilkinson for organising and running the girls' tournament so successfully.

Well done to all our players—we're very proud of you!



### OPAL Play – Growing Stronger Every Term! 🌟

This term, we were delighted to host an Infant Parent OPAL session, where families had the chance to meet Beth, our OPAL Play advisor. It was a fantastic opportunity to learn more about the programme and how it's enhancing lunchtime play across our school. Our OPAL team has been busy developing new zones, including a creative area, a chill-out zone, and a litter station—all designed to offer children even more choice, imagination, and fun during playtime.

A huge thank you to everyone who has donated items! The children have absolutely loved using the wheeled toys like scooters and pushchairs, as well as the small world toys—dolls, dinosaurs, and tracks have sparked so much imaginative play. The wallpaper rolls have been perfect for the creative area too—thank you for those!

Our next project is water play, so if you have any suitable items at home that could be donated, they would be very gratefully received!

Thank you for helping us make play even more magical! 🌈