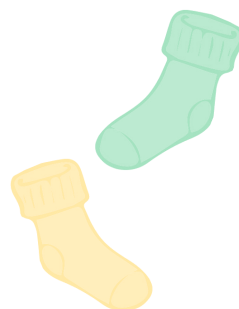


Soar to Success—Self-Sufficient, Original, Attitude, Resilient



Manor Park
Primary
School



Newsletter
20th November
2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Monday the whole school community participated in Diwali activities, to recognise this important festival which is celebrated by many of our children and families. Please check out our school blog, which showcases some of the activities we enjoyed in classes. This week has been national anti-bullying week. Children came to school wearing odd socks today to help us think about how we are all different and special. Children have revisited our STOP anti bullying policy, discussing what bullying is and what they should do if they should encounter bullying. Incidents of bullying are extremely low in our school, but it is essential that children and parents know what to do if they have any concerns. Please reinforce these messages with your children at home.

Several parents are asking older siblings to collect children from school in the afternoons. Can I remind parents that if you would like a child under the age of 16 to collect a child from school, a disclaimer taking full responsibility for the safety of the child, must be completed and held on file with us so that staff are aware that you have given permission for this to take place. If you have not completed a disclaimer and would like to do so, please contact the office.

Vacancy for a Parent Governor on Manor Park Governing Body

We have currently got a vacancy on our governing body for a new parent governor. This is an exciting opportunity for any parents who are interested in shaping the future of Manor Park, by joining our board of extremely committed and talented governors. Further information about the governing body can be found on our website. To help you decide if this is a role you are interested in doing, some information is provided below on the role of the governing body.

Everyone on Board

The core functions of a Governing Body

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school.
2. Holding leaders to account for the educational performance of the school, its pupils, and the performance management of staff.
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure money is well spent.

To fulfill its duties effectively, a governing body needs a balance and diversity of skills, experiences, characters, backgrounds, perspectives, attributes and abilities. Volunteers can bring many competencies that are useful, as a governing body brings together and utilises the skills and experiences of people from many sectors and industries. A school's governing body should reflect the diversity of the school community and wider society. In particular, data shows that younger people (aged under 40) and those from ethnic minorities are under-represented in school governance. Evidence from other sectors shows that a diverse governing body improves performance and decision-making; by having a greater range of perspectives and lived experience involved in discussions, with all pupils benefitting from better, more robust decision-making. It is important to remember that any volunteer is not there to champion or represent a particular cause or group, as all issues are the responsibility of the entire governing body. Governors do need to use their own judgement, understanding and insights to act in the best interests of all pupils at the school.

"Boards should welcome and thrive on having a sufficiently diverse range of viewpoints – since open debate leads to good decisions in the interests of the whole school community."

Department for Education Governance Handbook March 2019

If you would like to find out more about what being a governor at Manor Park would entail, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of our governing body for an informal chat or email communication. We will be delighted to hear from you. Further information on how to apply for this position including a nomination form is attached, with hard copies of the form available from the school office if required. Nominations will close on Monday 30th December. We look forward to hearing from you.

Have a lovely weekend. My very best wishes to everyone.

Jill O'Connor - Headteacher

Spotlight on learning in school this week...

Nursery

This week in Nursery, we have had so much fun exploring Diwali, the 'festival of light'. We made rangoli patterns and designed henna designs and did Bollywood dancing.



EYEP

We have had lots of fun celebrating Diwali in EYEP this week. We have made rangoli patterns using loose parts and arts and crafts.



Year R



We have enjoyed celebrating Diwali this week and thinking about the different traditions. We looked at different rangoli patterns and discussed the different colours and patterns we could see, we then created our own rangoli patterns.

Year 1

In Year 1, we have been learning all about Diwali. We listened to the story of Rama and Sita and learnt about why Diwali is celebrated.



Year 2



Year 2 enjoyed making our own beautiful Diwali decorations!

Year 3



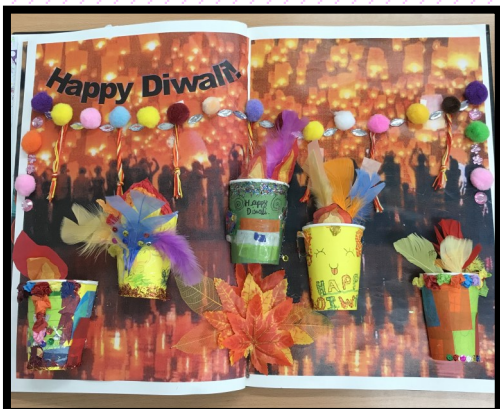
As part of our Diwali celebrations, the pupils in Year 3 learnt about the story of Rama and Sita. After learning about it, the children made puppets and acted out their own version of the story.

Year 5



To celebrate Diwali this week, the children made Diwali lanterns.

Year 4



Year 4 created colourful Diwali cups and Diwali bunting.

Year 6

To celebrate Diwali, Year 6 created some beautiful Mendhi patterns. These are usually drawn on the hands and feet of those who take part in this festival.





Spotlight on: THE GOVERNORS

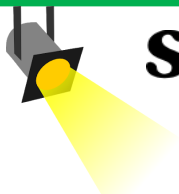
Parent Governors



I was elected as a parent governor in October 2020 and have 2 children currently attending the school. I have worked at the Department for Education for over 10 years and currently work in the Apprenticeships Directorate within the Education and Skills Funding Agency. As a governor, I am involved in the quality of education group, focusing on English and maths. I also link in with the school's apprenticeship programme. It is a privilege to use my experience to support Manor Park.



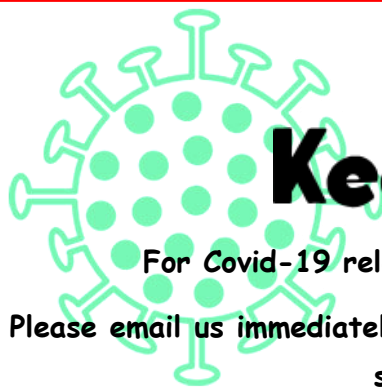
I have been a parent governor since 2017, sitting on the Standards in Teaching and Learning Committee. I am involved with the school council, a group of students who are elected to represent the views of all pupils and to improve their school. I am the named governor for the health and safety standards in school. I attended Coventry University where I graduated with an Honours degree in Youth Work. I have worked as a youth worker for Warwickshire City Council for over 20 years, supporting young people to explore their identity.



Spotlight on: Our Environment

YEAR 3 CORRIDOR





COVID-19 Keeping You Safe



For Covid-19 related matters contact: covid@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk

Please email us immediately if your child or any member of your household is displaying any symptoms or has received a positive test

In your email, please provide the following information which we require to enable us to follow up any cases:

Who has symptoms in your household?

Who has had a test & what is the result

Exact date & timings of symptoms & testing

Reminders

All parents are required to wear a face covering/ mask when on the school site & must adhere to the school one-way system.

All children must attend school everyday unless they are clinically extremely vulnerable, ill or they or a member of their household are displaying symptoms or have had a positive test. They must not attend school until a negative test is received.

School must be informed of their absence through the covid email, including evenings, weekends and holidays.

All staff will wear face coverings when outside of their classrooms.



Christmas Holiday Club



My Activities' are excited to announce that we will be running a 2-day Activity Camp during the Christmas Holidays at Allesley Hall Primary School.

We will be running an Outdoor Adventure Day on Monday 21st December and a Christmas Themed Day on Tuesday 22nd December 2020.

Outdoor Adventure Day

9am-3.30pm

Monday 21st December 2020

Cost: Only £15

Activities Include: Orienteering, Treasure Hunts, Beginner Archery, Den Building, Team Challenge, Capture the Flag, Hide and Seek, Outdoor Arts and Crafts and Tug of War.

Christmas Themed Day

9am-3.30pm

Tuesday 22nd December 2020

Cost: Only £15

Activities Include: Inflatable Fun, Arts and Crafts, Disco, Party Games and Christmas Themed Sports.