

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



Manor Park  
Primary  
School

Newsletter  
11th December  
2020

## Government Change to Isolation Period

From Monday 14th December, the isolation period will change from 14 days to 10. Schools can alter isolation periods that are currently running, so pupils and staff can return to school after 10 days isolation. If pupils who are currently isolating will have completed their 10 days in time for Monday, they will be able to return on this day – but please can you remember that they must remain in isolation over the weekend as this change will not come into effect until the 14th. If this applies to your child can you inform us of your intention to send your child back to school on Monday on the school Covid e mail address.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-chief-medical-officers-statement-on-the-self-isolation-period-11-december-2020>

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are really looking forward to our last four days in school next week before we break up for the Christmas holiday. I would like to remind you of the activities that all children will be enjoying and details of what they need to bring to school.

Monday is our whole school science Let's Investigate Day which will involve practical science on a Christmas theme. Children love dressing up as scientists on these days and they can do so on Monday if they would like to. Tuesday is RE day as we block the teaching of RE to ensure high quality coverage of the RE curriculum across the year.

Wednesday and Thursday will be fun Christmas days. We are having a non-uniform day on Wednesday so children and staff can wear Christmas jumpers or clothes. We are asking them to bring an item of food or small gift for a child if they would like to do so, to support our Christmas charity which has a clear focus on helping vulnerable families in Coventry. On Wednesday afternoon we are all looking forward to watching the Belgrade pantomime which has been kindly funded by the PTA. If children would like to receive a bag of popcorn, sweets and a drink to enjoy while watching the pantomime, please could parents pay £1 online before Wednesday for this.

We have decided to send home the money boxes which were designed by children and purchased by the PTA to commemorate the school's 70th birthday in March. These will be for children from Reception to Year 6 as current nursery were not in school when this event took place. I hope the children enjoy receiving these and will treasure them for many years to come. One of our school priorities for the new year is to start a school bank to enable children to learn about money and managing a budget. Hopefully the money boxes will support children in this important area of their lives.

Jessie Austin, one of our learning support assistants will be leaving school on Thursday to take up an exciting opportunity to train to be a teacher. Our best wishes are extended to Jessie as she embarks on this training.

Finally, several parents have asked if they can send gifts in with children for staff at Christmas. We have made the decision that they may do so if you wish to do this, however staff appreciate the enormous additional financial pressures that families are facing and there is no expectation at all that this will happen.

School will close on Thursday 17th as Friday 18th is one of our pre-planned staff training days.

## Reporting COVID cases over the Christmas holiday

I would like to outline the government guidance for parents and schools relating to reporting cases of Covid during the holiday.

Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus, having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching. As our last teaching day is Thursday 17th December there should be no pupil contact tracing beyond Wednesday 23rd December.

We are therefore asking parents not to report any cases on the school COVID e mail from December 23rd until the beginning of term on January 4th 2021. Where pupils are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after the first 6 days following the end of term, we do not need to be informed about their absence until the first day of the new term.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 4th January 2021 which is the first day of the spring term. On this day we are asking parents to begin using the school covid e mail again to inform us of any cases and to stringently follow government guidelines that are in place as children return to school. A reminder that we have a vacancy for a parent governor, with applications closing at the end of the holiday. Please contact us if you are interested in this role and would like to find out more about it.

I would like to wish all our families and children a wonderful and restful holiday. Although it may be very different to Christmas celebrations that we usually enjoy, I am sure that everyone will thoroughly enjoy spending time at home with their children and immediate family. I sincerely hope Santa comes.

My very best wishes to everyone. Take care and stay safe.

Kind regards

Jill O'Connor—Headteacher

# Spotlight on learning in school this week...

## Nursery

This week in Nursery, we have had so much fun singing nursery rhymes and exploring musical instruments. We have enjoyed painting trees and branches and decorating them too.



## EYEP

This week, the children have explored sound by creating music with their own water xylophone!



## Year R



In Reception, this week we have been talking about winter and the changes that happen during this season. Children have enjoyed creating their own winter scene using different media.

## Year 1

It has been D&T week in Year 1, we have designed and made woodland boxes and made moving characters to go inside them!



## Year 2



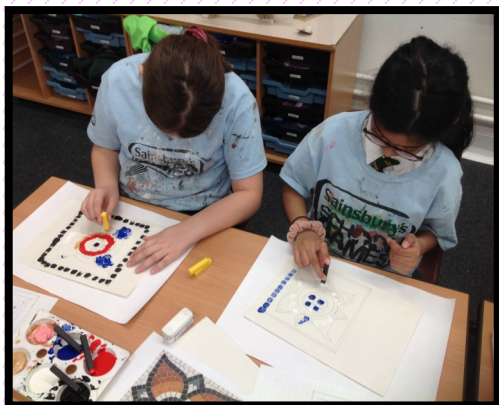
Year 2 have had lots of fun learning basketball skills in PE this half term. Today we played a game in teams and used all our new dribbling and throwing skills.

## Year 3

For our D&T project this term, Year 3 designed, built and tested their own Greek sandals. We took inspiration from the Ancient Greeks and used sewing and glue guns to make the sandals secure. The test was successful, and we didn't have any wet feet!



## Year 4



This week, Year 4 have been drawing and painting their mosaic designs.

## Year 5



Inspired by ancient Egyptian carvings, the children had a go at creating their own using clay.

## Year 6

This week, Year 6 had their own VE day celebration. We ate food, played 1940's themed bingo and even learnt some wartime dances! A great afternoon was had by all.





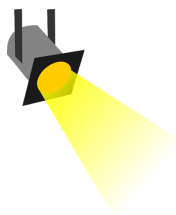
## Spotlight on: THE GOVERNORS

Co Opted  
Governor



Jennifer Williams

Manor Park has always been a very special and important part of my life. I attended the school as a child myself only a few years after it opened, and my three children also spent their primary years there. I first became a parent governor in 1987 and was part of the amalgamation process as the infant and junior schools became one primary school. I served on the finance committee and also chaired the premises sub-committee.



## Spotlight on: Our Environment



This year, the Food Bank is collecting food and presents for those less fortunate this year. If you could please give where you can, it would be massively appreciated. If all donations could be brought into school by Wednesday please.

Many thanks,  
Manor Park Primary School





# COVID-19 Keeping You Safe



For Covid-19 related matters contact: [covid@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk](mailto: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.



## Anti-Bullying Ambassadors



Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors have been hard at work designing posters about their role within school. They worked so hard on them and they all look fantastic! Well done! These have been displayed throughout the building for everyone to see.

The ABA's have now been given their high-vis jackets to wear on the playground during break and lunchtimes so that they are clearly visible to their year groups.

We are looking forward to the ABA's continuing their amazing work in the New Year!

The Learning Mentors

