

17th December 2021

## Manor Park News



### A message from our Headteacher: Jill O'Connor

Dear Parents and Carers,

*What a fantastic term we have had! We have so much to reflect upon and be grateful for as we have seen school life gradually take on more normality and all the children and staff SOAR to success. I am delighted that positive Covid cases have been significantly lower this half term than they were in autumn 1. This is partly due to our ongoing great community team effort, with everyone following guidelines and working together to follow guidance and keep everyone safe.*

*Our final week of term has been incredibly busy and exciting. We announced the termly winners of our new house point system this week and the Artists were thrilled to take on the position as winning house. It was a very close contest with most house point tokens being awarded for our personal quality attitude. It is testament to our children and no surprise that so many children have been given tokens by staff for displaying a very positive attitude in all areas of school life. Children in the winning house were rewarded with a festive treat, along with a visit from Charlotte Moore a basketball paralympian. They will also have a visit from a local artist in January to showcase his work and skills to them, as the house point system will reward winning houses termly with a visit from local companies wherever possible linked to their house, to celebrate our wonderful city.*

*Thank you to all those children who have helped in school this term by taking a job from our jobs board. They were thanked for their very positive input by attending a pizza party on Thursday.*

*The Junior Leadership Team and Mr Reynolds ran very popular year group dodgeball games all week, culminating in a pupil versus staff game. Christmas lunch and jumper day was amazing and class parties were as popular as ever. Great fun has been had by all.*

*We have made some slight adjustments to staffing for next term to ensure that all children receive the best possible teaching and learning experiences. Details of staffing, including an updated staff list are on the website.*

*School will be closing today for the Christmas holiday, and we will re-open on Tuesday January 4th. I would like to wish all our children and families a wonderful Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year. Enjoy all the festivities and I hope Santa comes. I sincerely hope everyone stays safe and can enjoy spending time with families and friends over the festive period.*

*A huge thank you for your continued support in all areas of school life which is greatly appreciated by us all. Particular thanks for your generosity for sending in gifts for our Project Gambia boxes. Over 250 boxes are now on their way to Gambia to support children in need this Christmas. We are really excited about the new term ahead with new topics to be launched through exciting WOW events for all year groups which the children are very excited about.*

*Happy Christmas to you all.*

*Jill O'Connor Headteacher*



## EYFS Phase: Nursery & Reception

EYFS has been buzzing with excitement and wonderful learning opportunities this week, with RE day, Let's Investigate day and our own celebrations in school. Children have continued to impress me with their enthusiasm, and confidence to ask questions about their learning, which is fantastic. Our scientists in Reception have certainly demonstrated great curiosity while experimenting with different methods of making fake snow, using a variety of ingredients. In RE, children have been comparing the different festivals of Hannukah and Christmas and in their own celebrations have been making fabulous baubles and salt dough tree decorations. Our children and staff, in both Nursery and Reception, have certainly enjoyed the Christmas festivities with plenty of Christmas craft, music, singing, and class parties.

I hope you have a wonderful Christmas holiday and enjoy spending time with your loved ones. I look forward to seeing you in the new year when we begin an exciting new term.

If you have any questions or concerns you can contact me on:

[s\\_jacoby@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk](mailto:s_jacoby@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk)

### Learning in Nursery

This week the children in Wrens and Robins have had a fabulous time making flapjack. Well done everybody.

This week in Kingfishers nursery we have had lots of fun outside having bike races pretending to be Santa delivering presents. We have also made Christmas stockings and written letters to Santa!

### Learning in Reception

This week in Reception we have enjoyed exploring how to make snow in different ways. We then made special baubles and decorated our Christmas trees.



## Lower Phase: Years 1, 2 & 3

What a fantastic first term it has been! It has been a real pleasure to get to know the children in the lower phase over the last few months. They have worked incredibly hard in all areas of their learning and they continue to impress their teachers daily. This week, the children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Christmas-themed investigations on Let's Investigate Day. The children in Year 2 used their knowledge of thermal insulation to investigate which material would keep Santa warmest on his travels. In Year 1, the children looked at the properties of materials and designed their own earmuffs. Year 3 investigated which material would be best for Santa's reigns and how to power Santa's sleigh. The children looked amazing on Christmas Jumper Day and enjoyed Christmas lunch with their friends and teachers. It has been a wonderful term and we are looking forward to the next one. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and we will see you in the new year!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns you can contact me on:

[j\\_isherwood@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk](mailto:j_isherwood@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk)

### Learning in Year 1

This week Year 1 have investigated which material was the most suitable to make ear muffs.

### Learning in Year 2

During 'Let's Investigate Day', Year 2 had a wonderful time investigating which materials would be best for Santa's outfit. We set up an experiment by dressing mini Santas in different materials and measured using a thermometer how well they kept the heat in. We don't want Santa to get cold during his epic journey on Christmas Eve!

### Learning in Year 3

This week for our Let's Investigate day, Year 3 made paper chains from different materials and tested them with weights to see which material was the strongest. After that, we experimented with an alternative source of energy to power Santa's sleigh as the Reindeer have gone on strike. We found that using balloons and air provided a good source of power.



## Upper Phase: Years 4, 5 & 6

We have made it to the end of a very busy term - well done to everyone! The children have, once again, been fantastic and have made amazing progress since September. They have had lots of fun this week with Let's Investigate Day, RE day and Christmas activities. The project Gambia boxes have all been decorated and filled; thank you so much for all of your contributions for these as I am sure it will be very much appreciated. Next term, we have lots of exciting learning opportunities for the children as they start their new topics. Year 4's new creative curriculum learning will focus on the topic of waves; Year 5 will be learning about South America in their topic Spirit of Samba and Year 6 will be learning all about the polar regions in their topic Frozen Planet. We are looking forward to sharing this work with you as the term progresses.

Thank you for all of your support this term and I would like to wish all of our families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

If you have any questions or concerns, then please feel free to contact me on:

[t\\_brown@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk](mailto:t_brown@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk)

### Learning in Year 4

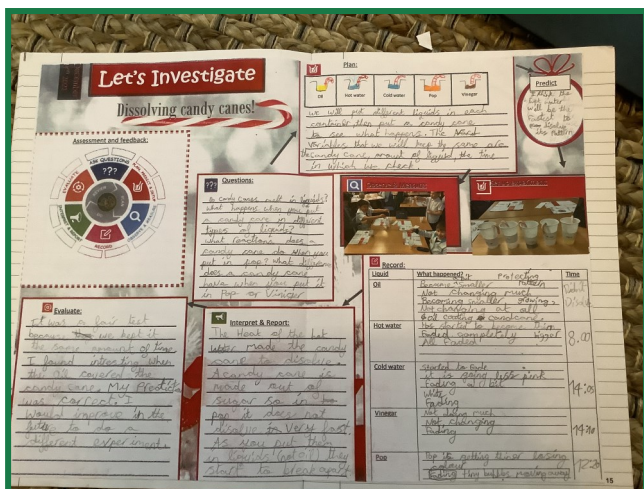
We have had a great final week with a whole day for RE and a whole day for Let's Investigate. We learnt about Hinduism and Hindu's beliefs in life after death. For our science day, our Christmas investigation involved observing which liquids caused our candy canes to dissolve the fastest! The result was hot water followed by cold water and vinegar. The oil however, seemed to protect the candy cane from dissolving. We also finished our electricity unit in science by adding switches to circuits.

### Learning in Year 5

This week Year 5 have thoroughly enjoyed decorating, designing, and organising the Christmas boxes that will be sent to Gambia.

### Learning in Year 6

During Let's Investigate Day this week, Year 6 used their learning from this half term to create a shadow puppet theatre, based on the Christmas story. Before the children created their puppets, we investigated which material would be most suitable, by testing a range of variables to see what affect this would have on the density of the shadow. Then, using their learning, the children used black card, as they discovered it to be opaque, and absorbed the light from the light source, to create the best shadow. Excellent learning this week, Year 6! All your teachers would like to wish you and your families a wonderful, well-rested Christmas, and we look forward to seeing you back at school again in January!







# Let's Investigate



## Our Scientists



### Year 1

Ever wondered why ear muffs are made from a certain material. This interested the Year 1 children. They tested a range of materials thinking about the properties they wanted the material of their ear muffs to be.



### Reception

For Reception's Let's Investigate Day we have been experimenting with different ingredients to create the best snow. We described the best kind of snow talking about how it felt and smelt.



### Year 2

We have been classifying and sorting different materials. Then we tested each of the materials to discover which material was the best for Santa's suit to keep Santa warm.



### Year 3

Wondering what Santa's sleighs reins should be made of? Not year 3! They investigated best paper for Santa's putting different weights on the end and measuring when they broke.



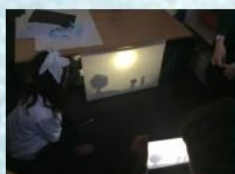
### Year 4

For our 'Let's Investigate Day' Year 4 investigated what reaction occurred when candy canes were put into different liquids.



### Year 5

We have been investigating the best surface to cause the least amount of friction for Santa's sleigh. The children tested different materials on ramps and compared the time it took their sleigh to get down it.



### Year 6

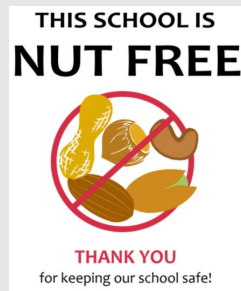
We've had a fantastic and fun time applying all our learning about light from this term. We completed a range of tests changing the distance from the light source (the variable) to discover the best distance to create the most effective puppet shape.





### Nut Free School

We have many children in our school that have nut allergies and even the smell of nuts can set off a reaction. Please can you ensure that your child does not bring any form of nut into school and please be aware that some chocolates and spreads also contain nuts.



# S

*Self-sufficient*

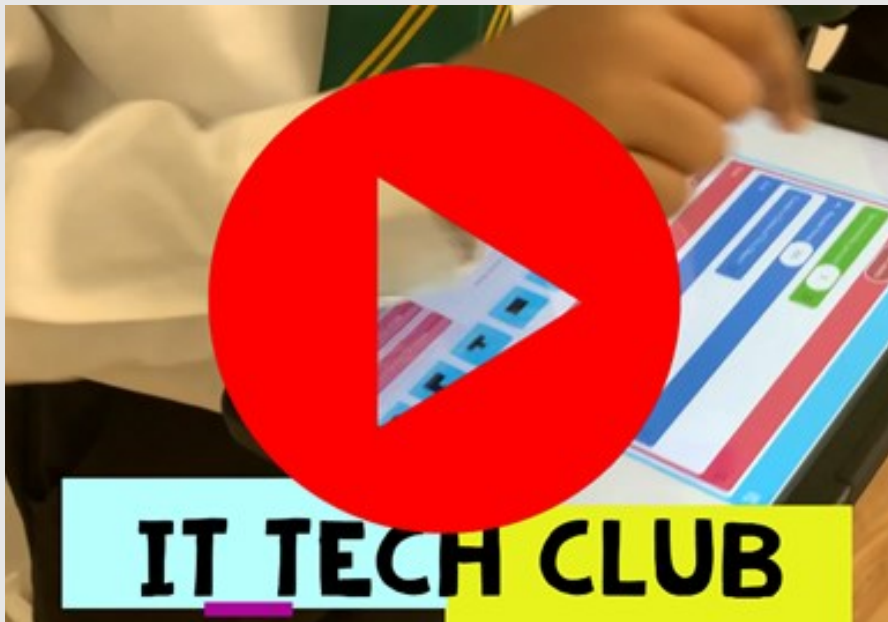
### Tech Club

Tech Club pupils have been embarking on designing a Firework App this term, within which they have created an array of amazing exploding fireworks using coding techniques. By embedding their school skills from their subjects they have been able to understand variables & co-ordinates to program the app.

Supporting our goal of individuality, pupils customised colours, shapes, pictures and speeds of their fireworks, taking full control of their coding! As young coders, they enhanced their critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving and logic skills whilst nurturing imagination.

The challenge is to continue with more tech coding as we progress- please keep an eye out for Tech Club continuing next term. If you would like your child to join the 21st century Tech club please text your child's name & class to 07503 977497 for a letter.

Watch this space for further Tech Club news...



# O

*Original*

# A

*Attitude*

# R

*Resilient*





S

*Self-sufficient*

O

*Original*

A

*Attitude*

R

*Resilient*



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6<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Cleaners (2 vacancies) as soon as possible

Salary scale pro rata term time only: Grade 1 Point 1 @ £9.24 per hour.

Hours of work: 10 hours per week 38 weeks term time only:

Monday - Friday 3.30 - 5.30

We wish to appoint hardworking, enthusiastic, trustworthy, and committed cleaners to join our team of premises staff to ensure the delivery of a high-quality cleaning service.

This post is exempted under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and as such appointment to this post will be conditional upon the receipt of a satisfactory response to a check of police records via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment.

To apply for this position please apply online using the apply button or download an application form below and return this to: [admin@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk](mailto:admin@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk) Interview date will be determined once in receipt of a completed application form.

Closing date 9th January 2022 - midnight