# 12th March 2021



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

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### What a wonderful week we have had!

We have all thoroughly enjoyed reuniting physically as a school community. The children have once again been amazing, and they have brought the school back to life with their chatter, enthusiasm and laughter. It has been such a pleasure to see their excitement and the smiles on their faces as they have been able to reunite with their friends and the staff.

The children should be immensely proud of themselves and the way in which they have coped over the last few weeks. They are so resilient and adaptable. They are confidently taking each new day in their stride, trying their hardest with new learning and are being a good friend to those around them. We feel so privileged to have been able to share in this excitement with the children and catch up with all their news. Attendance has been really high at over 98% and we have been delighted to welcome so many new nursery children to school. A very

welcome to all our new children and families. I am certain that you will be very happy with us but please ask for help if you need anything at all.

A reminder that our learning mentor team is here for you if anybody feels that they need any help. The team can support you with any early help, including practical and emotional support and signposting parents to services that could help them. We appreciate that this pandemic continues to affect us all in different ways so please contact us for an informal chat if you need any help at all.

It is very much business as usual in school. We are continuing with our full curriculum offer, carefully supporting any children who need it and the children are thriving. All staff are deployed carefully to ensure the correct expertise is in the right place, with SLT supporting classroom teaching daily. Staff have worked hard with children this week to assess learning, and we have been amazed at the progress children have made and the many new skills they have acquired. You have done a wonderful job in supporting them alongside the live teaching we were able to offer during the school closure. I would like to reassure parents that there is no catch element to our teaching, rather we are doing what we always do, which is to nurture and teach every child at their own level, with a drive for excellence and the highest academic standards permeating school life. We are not concerned about children possibly needing to go back over anything they have found tricky or supporting them individually if they need that help. Please continue to do what you always do, which is to support your children and reassure them, letting staff know any concerns you may have. Above all, do not worry that your child may have fallen behind or struggled during the school closure. We have no concerns in this area and we are confident that children will meet their full potential and age-related expectations each day that they are in school.

Can I once again thank you for the unconditional support you have given to your children, the staff, leadership team and school throughout the last twelve months. This has been, and continues to be, greatly appreciated and certainly makes our work more effective for the benefit of every child. What a journey it has been since we were first instructed to close on March 20th last year, whilst scrambling to buy toilet rolls and soap! I sincerely believe that we have been on a learning journey together, and whilst this may have been the greatest challenge we have faced, we have all acquired new skills and more resources so that we are better prepared for future challenges. That is how we grow and become stronger.

Thank you to you all. We are incredibly proud of you.

Have a lovely weekend, Best wishes to everyone Jill O'Connor Headteacher

## Upcoming Events

Manor Park Red Nose Day

## Red Nose Day

Manor Park is raising money for Red Nose Day on Friday 19th March! We are asking everyone to wear as much red as possible and donate £1 to Comic Relief. Please donate in the events section on SimsPay or via <u>Justgiving.com</u>. We can't wait to see all of you in red!



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## EYFS Phase: Nursery & Reception

Wow! Another week full of amazing learning for our children in EYFS at home and in school, well done everyone.

Please get in touch if you have any queries, positive comments or questions. a\_bygrave@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk

#### Learning in Nursery

This week in Nursery the children have enjoyed sharing the story 'The Princess and the Pea' and they have been excited to create their own amazing beds for the story character using a range of materials. The children used their number skills to count the mattresses. They have also been using a range of peas to create their own soups and dinners in the outdoor area.

#### Learning in Reception

Welcome back to all of our amazing children. They have had such a fabulous week in school. The children in Reception have enjoyed sharing the story of 'The Smartest Giant in Town' and taking part in lots of engaging creative, writing and maths activities relating to the book. They have worked collaboratively with their friends and have been busy using non-standard measures such as hands, feet and cubes to explore measuring.

#### Learning in EYEP

This week in EYEP, we have been reading the story of 'The Princess and the Pea'. We have filled our water area with peas as well as using peas for counting in the maths area.







### Lower Phase: Years 1, 2 & 3

What a positive week, it has been fantastic to have all of our wonderful children back in school. In addition to our learning, we have spent lots of time talking to the children about their lockdown experiences and supporting wellbeing. In the Lower Phase, the children said that they have loved seeing their friends and that they are enjoying being back in school, we are so proud of them.

As always, feel free to get in touch with us if you have any queries, concerns or positive comments, we are always happy to hear from our families.

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#### Learning in Year 1

Our outdoor area has given the children lots of opportunities for practical, hands on learning. They have been archaeologists, digging for bones and fossils, carried out science experiments and created tracks in our outdoor creative area. They have enjoyed working collaboratively to make 'dinosaur eggs' which we will reveal soon!

#### Learning in Year 2

We have had a Global Awareness afternoon. We have had an online workshop with students from the University of Warwick, learnt about the inspirational Greta Thunberg and made our own climate change placards.

#### Learning in Year 3

This week Year 3 have been learning about Cadbury. The children researched the history of the company, its links to Birmingham and when some of their favourite chocolate bars were launched. They created some fantastic timelines to evidence their learning.







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

## Upper Phase: Years 4, 5 & 6

It has been so lovely to welcome the children back into school this week. They have been incredible and have settled back into school life so well - we are very proud of them all. They have all been working so hard on their learning and are enjoying continuing with their topics of Waves, Spirit of Samba and Frozen Planet. We look forward to sharing this learning with you all on Seesaw so please do continue to check this for any updates.

As always, feel free to contact me if you have any queries or concerns as I am here to support you and your family.

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#### Learning in Year 4

This week in their Creative Curriculum lessons, Year 4 researched vertebrates and invertebrates, looking at the characteristics of both and sketching examples of them from different angles.

#### Learning in Year 5

In Year 5 this week, we have been studying Eduardo Kobra. We have studied his artwork and learnt different skills he uses such as: shape work, facial features and sketching focusing on outlines. We also explored medium of colour within different Eduardo Kobra art pieces and experimented this ourselves.

#### Learning in Year 6

This week, Year 6 have worked extremely hard completing a number of maths and reading tests. After completing their tests, Class 23 have thoroughly enjoyed using our brand new reading caravans to read and relax. It has been wonderful welcoming all the children back to school and we have been so impressed with their attitude and hard work throughout the week.









