28th January 2022



A message from our Headteacher: Jill O'Connor

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are all keeping safe and well. There continues to be a steady number of confirmed positive cases in school from children and staff, although thankfully the number does seem to be levelling off. Thank you again for your cooperation and vigilance in undertaking regular lateral flow testing on your child, particularly when they present with symptoms. Please do not send your child into school if they have any Covid symptoms or are ill in anyway. As you are aware, the government has removed restrictions under Plan B from 27th January and has announced the end of wearing face coverings. As we still have high numbers of positive cases which are classed as an outbreak, in line with our outbreak management plan, staff will continue to wear masks in public areas whilst numbers remain high. The school will be advised and supported by the Local Authority on any recommendations of any restrictions or safety measures we should keep in place over the coming months should this be deemed necessary due to infection rates within school. We will continue to share these with you via the school newsletter.

Nursery Update

Sarah Mole, our extended nursery manager will be leaving us on February 4th February to enable her to spend more time with her family and to support her personal life and well-being. We wish her every happiness in her new endeavours. We appreciate that this unavoidable and unplanned change in staffing has caused some disruption to nursery provision. I apologise to parents for any inconvenience caused. I would like to reassure you that the happiness and welfare of every child is our highest priority. Sarah Jacoby has settled well into her new position as nursery manager and EYFS leader. Sian Pearson has recently joined the nursery teaching staff to strengthen the team and to work alongside Emma Goddard and Sarah Jacoby as qualified teachers in the setting. We are confident that this change in staffing will be seamless for the children, and I am confident that parents will welcome and support these new staff.

We have made some adjustments to our nursery provision going forward due to ongoing parental demand and feedback. We have moved all our three-year-old children into our Kingfishers nursery, based in key worker groups by age, under the direction of the teaching staff. All our current two-year old children will remain with us in their own two-year-old room, prior to moving to the Kingfishers nursery in September. We are operating a waiting list for new 2-year-old children as we have adjusted our long-term plans to operate nursery provision from children's third birthday going forward. Children who are 3 on or before September 1st 2022 can join us with immediate effect. Two-year -old children will be able to join us as soon as they reach their third birthday. Full time and part time 15-hour and 30-hour funded places and privately paid places are available from 7.30 am to 6pm for eligible children. We are also taking names for children who want a part-time or full-time place with us in September. Please contact us directly if you want to book a place as places will be offered on a first come first served basis.

nursery@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk

We are currently overhauling the nursery outdoor learning environment, with daily continuous access to the outdoor area being a crucial part of the nursery curriculum. Can we remind parents and children that this is a working environment, with staff spending a considerable amount of time at the beginning and end of the day to prepare a suitable learning environment for the children. Could children across school please refrain from using this equipment and area before and after school. Thank you for your support.

A reminder that bookings for our parents' evenings on February 15th and 16th are now open. Please book an appointment for these remote meetings to meet your child's teacher and share in their many achievements. We are really looking forward to meeting you.

Have a wonderful weekend. Kind regards.

Jill O'Connor Headteacher

EYFS Phase: Nursery & Reception

In EYFS this week, we have been making the most of the mild, dry weather and having a fantastic time learning outside in the sunshine! It has been lovely seeing the children in nursery enjoying their huge outdoor space, which has been opened up so that we can develop it with exciting new zones and resources - watch this space to see how we transform it! I am so impressed with how the children are adapting to routines and being so positive during their key worker group time, as well as how they are being kind, helping each other and sharing. It was a pleasure to teach Class 4 this week and read them a story called 'The Hundred Decker Bus' - they loved it and we all talked about where we could travel to on the bus and what we might see - their ideas and imagination were fantastic! Across Reception children have been very artistic this week, sketching and painting buses, drawing maps for the bus driver to follow and using instruments to perform 'The Wheels on the Bus'! They also created their own '100' decker bus and pretended to be passengers, which helped with learning subtraction as each person got off. What a fun-packed week! It's fantastic to see all the children in Early Years having so much fun in their learning.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me on:

s_jacoby@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk

Learning in Nursery

The children in Wrens and Robins have had a wonderful time exploring our fantastic outdoor area. They have all had an amazing time!

This week, children in Kingfishers have been building some super houses for the three little pigs with our construction equipment, both inside the nursery and in our outdoor area. We even used hairdryers to test how strong they were and whether they would blow down!

Learning in Reception

This week in Reception we have loved learning all about buses. After reading 'The Hundred Decker Bus', we have been to visit our library bus, carefully sketched it and even made our very own Reception Decker Bus. It is very, very tall! Great Work!



Lower Phase: Years 1, 2 & 3

This week, it has been lovely to see the fantastic work that children have been completing at home. From dinosaur masks to home cooking recipes, the children are doing a brilliant job with their home learning. These are looking fantastic on display and in their creative curriculum books. In Year 1, the children have continued to learn about the different animal groups, using the 'Chatterpix' app to

showcase their learning on amphibians. On Tuesday afternoon, each class was joined by an adorable 13 week old spaniel who supported them with their learning on mammals; the children and staff had a wonderful time! As the children in Year

2 continue to learn about India, they have really impressed me with their knowledge of Ghandi this week. They have been able to speak confidently about his life and why his actions were so significant. In Year 3, the children went on a fact hunt around the school to find out about the Aztecs and their beliefs surrounding chocolate. Did you know that Aztecs used chocolate as currency as they believed it was more valuable than gold? Fascinating!

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

j_isherwood@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk

Learning in Year 1

During Year 1's science lessons, they have been looking at mammals. We had a visit from a furry friend to help us remember the features of a mammal.

Learning in Year 2

In science, Year 2 have been learning about animal habitats. This week, we learnt about the ocean habitat. We created our own seascapes to show where in the ocean animals live.

Learning in Year 3

This week, Year 3 went on a fact hunt to find facts and information about the Aztecs. We found facts about Aztec gods, their culture and even how the Aztecs used chocolate as money! Then we used the information to make some amazing Aztec fact sheets.





Upper Phase: Years 4, 5 & 6

The children have been working incredibly hard in their learning this week. Year 4 have made phenomenal progress in their times tables learning and have impressed us all with their resilience and positive attitude. This week, Year 4 have also been learning all about rivers and even made their own versions out of natural materials. Year 5, have been learning about the well-known artist Brianna McCarthy and will next week be putting their collage skills to the test to re-create some McCarthy inspired work. We are really looking forward to sharing the final pieces with you, so please look out on Seesaw for some examples. Continuing with their topic (Frozen Planet), Year 6 had a visit from The Freshwater Theatre Company this week and went back in time to 1912 to learn all about the ill-fated maiden voyage of the Titanic. All of the children were fabulous at getting in to role and really enjoyed experiencing what life may have been like onboard the ship. A very successful week for everyone in the Upper Phase!

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

t_brown@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk

Learning in Year 4

In Year 4 this week, we have been learning all about rivers. We learnt about how a river travels from source to mouth and the different features that it travels through along the way. We then made our own river in a tray using foil and natural materials. We poured water into them and watched how the water travelled along the river, recording videos to explain it.

Learning in Year 5

Year 5 have researched and created biographies for two key and influential naturalists, David Attenborough and Jane Goodall. The children thoroughly enjoyed finding out about these scientists lives and getting creative with their presentation.

Learning in Year 6

This week, Year 6 have taken part in a fantastic Titanic workshop from the Freshwater Theatre. Firstly, we went back in time to 1910, to learn about the construction and experience the different elements that went into building the luxury liner. Next, we jumped forward to 1912, to experience what life was like onboard for the passengers and crew; we also learnt about what it would have been like for the different class passengers and crew on that fateful night. After that, we learnt about the aftermath of the disaster and thought about whose fault it was (or wasn't) in the official enquiry, before travelling back to 2022. We all had a fantastic time and learnt so much about the Titanic! Well done, Year 6.











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Original



Resilient



Manor Park Primary School

