

18th March 2022



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

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last three weeks since half term have flown by, and it feels like we are already hurtling towards Easter! The school calendar is very busy, and staff have been planning for the rest of the year now that restrictions have eased. Watch out for various communications about future trips and events between now and the end of the academic year. Year 3 are very excited about their visit to Cadbury World on Thursday and our MPU ice hockey children will be visiting the Coventry stadium on Monday to consolidate their new-found skills.

Our Year 6 pupils have now received their secondary school offers and this is always a key milestone for children as there is the realisation that their primary school years are coming to an end. However, our job has been to prepare children for this very occasion and help them manage their nervousness, anticipation and excitement about what lies ahead. We will be working closely with all the secondary schools that our children are moving to throughout the remainder of the year to support a smooth transition.

We have recently welcomed back several former 'Manor Parkers' who were eager to return to us to complete a work experience placement, as they aspire to become teachers in the future because of their very happy memories of times spent at Manor Park. We always love seeing how they have grown and developed into wonderful young people and adults. We do not know what path each of our children will follow, but we hope that the learning and broad experiences children have here will help shape and determine successful futures for them all. We are always keen to hear from any former 'Manor Parkers' to go on our ever-growing alumni board. Please signpost previous pupils to us if they are willing to share adventures they have taken since leaving us. We would love to hear from them.

Positive Covid cases from children and staff have started to gradually rise this week after a period of very low cases. Everyone is remaining very vigilant and doing everything they can to help to keep everyone safe as we continue to navigate through this period of returning to normal life. Cases do however continue to put pressure on staffing, and we are doing everything we possibly can to maintain stable, high-quality teaching and learning experiences for every child, which is always our top priority.

Thank you for supporting our book fair today. The children really enjoyed attending what is always a very popular event. All commission from books sold will be spent on books for children to enjoy in their classroom book areas.

Mrs Kavanagh-Byrne has informed us today of the birth of her daughter Lucie Erin born on 12th March 2022.

Finally, goodbye and good luck to Poppy Hurst one of our learning support assistants who has left us to take on an exciting new role in a private nursery closer to home. Our thanks are extended to Poppy for her contributions to the school during her time spent with us.

Have a wonderful weekend

My best wishes to everyone

Jill O'Connor Headteacher

## EYFS Phase: Nursery & Reception

I have been out and about this week looking at the super learning taking place across EYFS, both inside and outside the classroom. Children have been eager to talk about the skills they are developing and proud to show off their wonderful achievements. In Nursery, children are really enjoying their key group time, learning phonics and beginning to write letters - some children are already writing their own name, which is lovely to see. Today, children have been thinking about the festival of Holi and to celebrate have created colourful pictures and patterns. In Reception this week, children have been reading the story, 'Charlie Cook's Favourite Book' and this has led to exploring lots of different types of books, with an exciting visit to the library bus to find some. Following instructions from the story, children have been making their own bird nests, looking carefully for materials in the outdoor environment - even in the pouring rain, with waterproofs on! We love a rainy day adventure!

Equally, we love a sunny spring day and if you and your family are celebrating Holi and the onset of spring, we wish you a

colourful and fun-filled weekend!

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

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

### Learning in Nursery

The children in Wrens and Robins have had an amazing time in our fabulous construction area. They have been using lots of different types of building blocks to make their super creations. Well done everybody!

The Kingfisher children have been absorbed in their gardening learning this week. They have planted cress seeds and learnt about the differences between where fruits and vegetables grow. We have been very proud of the amazing creative work the children have completed: painting observational pictures of flowers and creating 3d flowers. We can't wait to fill our garden with new seeds and lovely flowers next week!

### Learning in Reception

'This week we have loved exploring the book 'Charlie Cook's Favourite Book'. In this book there is a bird who loves to make nests so we put on our waterproofs and made our own fantastic bird nests in the rain!'



## Lower Phase: Years 1, 2 & 3

The children in Year 1 spent a lovely afternoon in the Memorial Park as part of their science learning on seasons. They produced observational drawings and identified different birds and plants throughout the park. Year 2 have been observing the cress seeds which they planted last week and found that some of their predictions were correct.

Interestingly, they found that the cress seeds in the dark have grown but they are yellow! They planted their own bean seed and will be keeping an observational diary over the coming weeks. It would be wonderful if they could do some planting and growing at home too! The children in Year 3 are getting very excited about their trip to Cadbury World next week! During D&T day on Tuesday, the children designed and made their own chocolate bar prototype thinking carefully about their target audience. They made the chocolate to go inside the packaging and even created an advert to encourage others to buy their product. Some of them were very convincing!

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

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

### Learning in Year 1

This week Year 1 took a walk to the Memorial Park to observe seasonal changes. The weather was certainly much kinder to us than on our autumn walk! The children made observational sketches of different trees and plants and they also tried to spot different types of bird. Well done Year 1; it was a real pleasure to take you out for the afternoon.

### Learning in Year 2

This week in Year 2 we have been learning how to give change. We turned our classrooms into the Manor Park shop and took it turns to be the shopkeeper and the customer. We used our previous knowledge of the number line to subtract one number from another.

### Learning in Year 3

On Tuesday, Year 3 had their D&T day! They created a new chocolate bar, designed packaging for it and then made the chocolate bar itself!



## Upper Phase: Years 4, 5 & 6

I have really enjoyed spending some time in the Upper Phase classrooms this week talking to the children about their love of reading. They were all so enthusiastic about the books available to them and were keen to share some of their favourite reads with me. Over the next few weeks, we will be introducing a book with recommended reads in all classrooms. The children can access these to discover what they might like to read next based on their friend's recommendations. We look forward to sharing these with you. The Year 6 children have been using the reading caravans this week to research all about climate change. They used a range of non-fiction books to make notes and find out about the inspirational 'Greta Thunberg'. Year 5 have been our super scientists this week! They have been learning how to separate solids and liquids and used the filtering technique to check whether solids were soluble or insoluble. This week Year 4 have been learning about the history of sea exploration; focusing on the famous explorer Jacques Cousteau.

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

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

### Learning in Year 4

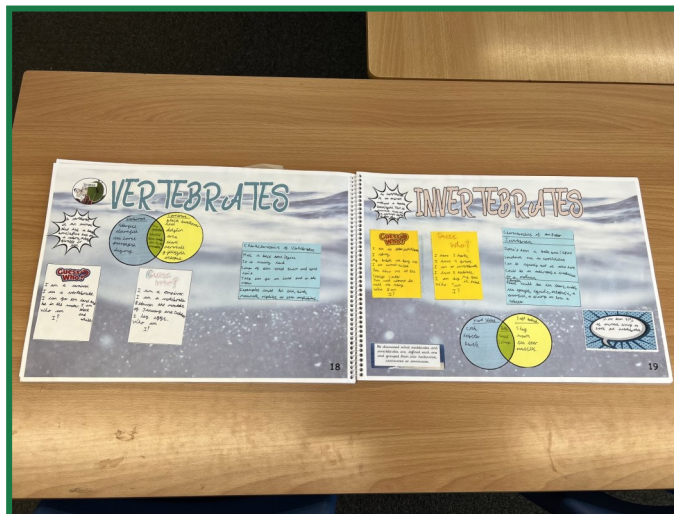
Year 4 have had fun learning all about vertebrates and invertebrates this week. They created their own guess who cards!

### Learning in Year 5

This week Year 5 have been applying their learning from last week on water resistance. They tested their designs to understand how the shape of an object affects the amount of water resistance. Year 5 confidently used timers in their experiment and repeat testing to see an average time it took each shape to sink to the bottom of the beaker.

### Learning in Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been learning about climate change. We have looked what causes global warming and analysed what can be done to help slow down climate change. We then produced documentaries about how climate change is effecting the polar regions. Well done Year 6 for being so passionate about global issues.



### Reporting a Covid-19 Case

If your child has tested positive for Covid-19 please complete the Covid-19 related case form on the school website under the contact us section.

Thank you.

### Cake Sale for Ukraine

Next Thursday 24th March after school, we will be holding a cake sale to raise funds for Ukrainian refugees who are fleeing their country as a result of the ongoing conflict there. We are looking for donations of cakes to be sold at the sale, and would like children to either bake and bring in some cakes or bring in shop bought cakes. Donations need to be brought in on Thursday morning.

The sale will be run by members of the school Junior Leadership Team, School Ambassadors and volunteers from Years 4 and 6 so if you can, please contribute to the sale and support this very worthy cause.

Any cakes that are not sold on Thursday will be available for children to buy at breaktime on Friday.

# S

*Self-sufficient*

# O

*Original*

# A

*Attitude*

# R

*Resilient*



Manor Park  
Primary School