

11th March 2022



A message from our Headteacher: Jill O'Connor

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well. I am delighted to inform you that positive Covid cases of children and staff remain at very low levels in school and we are now able to remove the need to report cases to the LA daily unless we reach the threshold for implementing our outbreak management plan. This process will be managed by public health colleagues who, in conjunction with the LA, will provide advice and discuss next steps with schools as necessary if this threshold were to be reached. One of the main differences from the previous plan is that although the definition of outbreak remains broadly the same, the thresholds for escalation do not refer to specific numbers of cases.

For maintained Primary and Secondary schools the triggers are:

a higher than previously experienced and/or rapidly increasing number of staff or student absences due to COVID-19 infection

evidence of severe disease due to COVID-19, for example if a pupil, student, child or staff member is admitted to hospital due to COVID-19

a cluster of cases where there are concerns about the health needs of vulnerable staff or students within the affected group

We have also received confirmation that the Government do not require specific COVID risk assessments to be in place from the end of March. All of this is particularly good news and is significantly helping us as we return to more normal school life following the pandemic.

It has been wonderful to see children so engaged in outstanding learning again this week and to see their enthusiasm for the sponsored readathon that they are all participating in following on from World Book Day. Thank you for supporting them with this exciting challenge. They are doing so well, keep going everyone!

We are delighted to maintain our momentum with reading by holding a book fair on Friday 18th March in the lower hall. Children will visit with their class throughout the day. They may bring in money on this day if they would like to purchase a book during their class visit. The book fair will be open for you to attend with your children between 8am and 9am and 3.30pm to 4.30pm. Please feel free to drop in with your child to look at the wonderful selection of books which will be on sale at very competitive prices.

A reminder that if children wish to bring in a snack for breaktime it must be a healthy snack such as a fruit or vegetables. In line with our policy, sweets and chocolate should not be brought in by children to eat at break. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Children will once again be reminded of the dangers they can encounter when working online in assembly on Monday when the theme of internet safety will be addressed. Please help your children to remain safe in this important area of their lives by discussing safe steps they can take when working online. Finally, Kerry Lakin one of our nursery nurses has left school for personal reasons. We wish Kerry every happiness and success in her new endeavours and thank her for all her contributions to Manor Park.

Have a great weekend.

My best wishes to everyone.

Jill O'Connor Headteacher

EYFS Phase: Nursery & Reception

Spring is well and truly in the air and the children in EYFS have been enjoying learning about gardening and growing and spending lots of time outdoors! Nursery children have been investigating all sorts of fruit and vegetables such as butternut squash, peppers and broccoli and have been using these to print fantastic paintings. Children have also been learning about how vegetables are important as part of a healthy diet. Reception have been very busy planting their very own beanstalks, after reading 'Jack and the Beanstalk,' and have been using wonderful, imaginative vocabulary to describe what they think might be at the top of the beanstalk! I was very impressed to see children retelling the story through role-play this week.

The nursery outdoor area continues to develop with a brand-new gravel pit, which the children love! The diggers and trucks have certainly been hard at work! We also have a lovely new decked area which has been built for water play. It's very exciting for the children to see the changes happening and great to see their enthusiasm for their new areas.

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

s_jacoby@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk

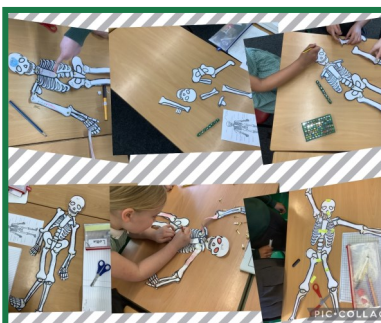
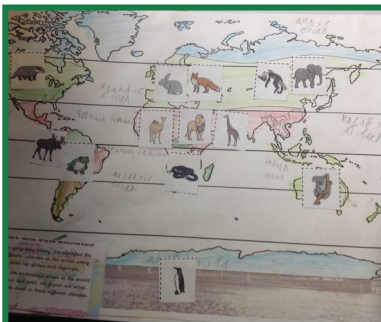
Learning in Nursery

The children in Wrens and Robins have really enjoyed playing in our wonderful small world area. They have had a fabulous time!

In the Kingfisher Nursery this week, the children have loved their new gravel area outside. They are exploring which vehicles are fastest while rolling down the ramps and which scoops can move the stones and rocks. Our learning this week has been about gardening and where vegetables come from. We have used paint printing to explore the textures of the vegetables and this has even moved on to us printing with our gardening wellies! What a super week Nursery!

Learning in Reception

This week in Reception we have been focusing our work on Jack and the Beanstalk and creating castles for our beanstalks to grow to. We look forward to seeing their progress!



Lower Phase: Years 1, 2 & 3

The children in Year 1 have used a range of techniques and tools to decorate their dinosaur eggs. They experimented with printing using different sponges and had a go at splattering paint to create a brilliant final effect. The children love to express their creativity and don't mind getting a bit messy in the process! The children in Year 2 have really impressed me this week with their knowledge of what plants need to grow and be healthy. We decided to put this to the test, and the children designed their own experiment to prove that a plant needs water, air, light and nutrients to grow. They will be keeping a close eye on their seeds to see if they germinate and they will observe how well the plants grow. In science further up the school, the Year 3 children have been learning about skeletons in different animals. They were able to confidently define the different types of skeleton and animals belonging to the following groups: endoskeleton, exoskeleton and hydrostatic skeleton.

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

j_isherwood@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk

Learning in Year 1

In Year 1 they got very creative. First they decorated their paper mache dinosaur eggs they made last week and experimented with different tools to apply the paint on. Then they made a nest for the eggs to lay in using a range of natural and craft materials. They looked so fantastic and real!

Learning in Year 2

This week, Year 2 learnt all about the country Iceland. We found Iceland on a map and spoke about the different clothes we would pack if we were to go on holiday there. We then looked at the different climate zones on a map and labelled the continents and seas.

Learning in Year 3

In science this week, Year 3 have been learning all about skeletons, bones and muscles. We learnt about the difference between an exoskeleton, an endoskeleton and hydrostatic skeletons. We also learnt about how our skeleton supports and protects us. We also made our own skeletons and labelled the bones.

Upper Phase: Years 4, 5 & 6

Well done to all of the Upper Phase children who have been working incredibly hard this week. Year 4 have been learning all about food chains in science this week. They created some 3D food chains and used a new app called 'Adobe Video' to record and present what they have learnt. I have also seen some absolutely fantastic homework from a number of Year 4 children this week - the effort and attention to detail given to their homework is so wonderful to see. Lots of house point tokens have been given out to them for originality and attitude to learning. Year 5 have started their new English unit based on the book 'Holes'. They have been using their figurative language skills to write a description of Camp Green Lake and have also been learning how to use semi colons in their writing. As part of their creative curriculum lessons, Year 6 have been researching all about the famous explorer 'Matthew Henson'. They have compared his journey with that of Ernest Shackleton and Robert Falcon Scott and have recorded their findings creatively in their books. Please do look out for this fantastic work on Seesaw.

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 our creative curriculum lessons this week, Year 4 have been focusing on science linked to ocean animals. We have been learning all about food chains, different organisms that make up ocean food chains, as well as, why they are sometimes broken and what we can do to save our oceans. We got really creative and made some fabulous food chains!

Learning in Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been working on the map work and grid referencing. At the beginning of the week, we drew scale maps of South America (10 million times smaller) and another one of our school site (500 times smaller). At the end of the week, Year 5 showed off their grid referencing skills by creating and solving each other's treasure hunts.

Learning in Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been creating pieces of abstract art inspired by contemporary native Canadian artist, Dominique Normand. Earlier in the week, the children looked at a number of abstract art techniques: drag, scrape and flatten, and also considered the mood they wanted their art piece to create, focusing on the colour shape and pattern. Well done, Year 6! We have been so impressed with your creativity this week, and how you have applied your learning to create wonderful pieces of abstract art!



Importance Notice

WHAT IF THIS HAD BEEN YOUR CHILD?

Yesterday, we were very sad to learn that one of our parking buddies was ran over and destroyed.

Can we take this opportunity to remind all parents the importance of being considerate and driving carefully when parking near the school site.



S

Self-sufficient

O

Original

A

Attitude

Absence

If your child is going to be absent from school, please inform us by **8.30am** wherever possible by calling the school office and leaving a message on the absence line or alternatively speaking to a member of the admin team. If we have not been informed by 9.20am a text message will be sent to parents/carers to question the reason for absence. Contact is required every day of your child's absence. If there is any doubt about the whereabouts of a child, then the learning mentor team will be notified who will try to establish contact to check on the safety and wellbeing of the child.

R

Resilient

Exceptional Leave

All requests for leave of absence must be made in writing to the headteacher by emailing attendance@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk

Prior to any absence, at least 4 weeks notice is expected for any planned absence.

Each request will be considered on an individual basis during a meeting with the headteacher.



Manor Park
Primary School



S

Self-sufficient

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Attitude

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Resilient

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