

15th July 2022

## Manor Park News



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

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well and are enjoying the beautiful sunshine. Whilst we all love this wonderful weather, it does cause us problems in ensuring that children and staff are not at risk from high ultraviolet levels and extreme heat. We take this very seriously and do checks throughout the day to ascertain whether children are safe to go outdoors, particularly at breaks and lunchtimes when their exposure to the sun is at the highest levels. I apologise that we have had to cancel sports day this week, which I know was a huge disappointment to parents and children. One of the main issues we face in extreme weather conditions, is having very little shade on the fields and playgrounds which means children who are outdoors are in full sun. Staff are not allowed to apply sun lotion to children and consequently we must assume that children are unprotected when having access to the sun and limit their exposure accordingly. If we can reschedule sports day to a day next week, we will try hard to do so for the children to enjoy. You will appreciate that the weather is so unpredictable, planning and cancelling events based on long range weather forecasts is problematic. Although the weather on Thursday changed at the last moment from the forecast, and we could have gone ahead, it was too late to re-schedule the event at such short notice.

We are expecting temperatures to be extremely high on Monday and Tuesday next week. We are therefore relaxing our uniform policy for these two days and children may come to school in non-uniform, wearing any cool, comfortable clothing they have. Children will remain indoors, and we will cool rooms with fans to make them as comfortable as possible.

Next week will be the last week of the school year, and it promises to be an exciting and enjoyable week for children, staff and families. One of the highlights will be our Year 6 show which is looking amazing! We are continuing with the Year 6 shows for parents as scheduled and we are looking forward to welcoming parents into school to watch their children excel, in what is always a very popular event.

On Wednesday, a local artist will work with children from this term's winning house which will be announced to children early next week. There is still chance for some last-minute house points to be awarded before the final count, which the children are determined to get.

A message from our Headteacher: Jill O'Connor

On Tuesday we are meeting with members of the PTA at 9am. We are very keen to relaunch a new PTA next academic year and we would love you to join if you feel you are able to do so. The purpose of the PTA is to arrange a variety of fun events for the children and families throughout the year, whilst raising money which is all spent on enhancing school life for the children. You will be assured of a very warm welcome and I am sure you will make some new friends from the school community whilst helping with social events. Please do come along for a coffee on Tuesday if you are a past member of the PTA or if you are interested in joining. If you cannot make this event, we will be holding welcome events early next term to relaunch the PTA.

Wednesday is our final parent's evening of the year, which will be held between 3.45pm and 6.30pm. This is a drop-in session with no appointments needed and will give you an opportunity to discuss your child's report which you will all receive today, and have a chat with your child's teacher. You can also look at your child's work. Please bring your child along if you would like to do so as they may want to show you their new classroom and introduce you to their new teacher if they are in school. Please be aware that our new staff will not be in school on this day. There will be a pre-loved uniform sale on this evening with all items of uniform priced at £1.

We will be holding a thank you coffee and treats social event on Thursday morning to show our appreciation to parents who have helped in school this year. Invites have been distributed to parents for this event. Year 6 will look after our important guests on this day, before heading over to Red Kangaroo for their end of year treat. They are very excited about this trip which they have chosen themselves. It is very well deserved and will be a wonderful finale to their Manor Park journey. Have a great time Year 6.

### Staffing Updates

I would like to inform parents that governors have agreed for me to reduce my working week to three days from September, and I will therefore be working Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday each week. I will remain the substantive headteacher for Manor Park, with Miss Hodt taking on a role as acting headteacher to ensure the smooth running of the school on Thursday and Friday each week. There will be no detrimental impact on the leadership of the school, and I am certain that you will not be aware of any changes in the school leadership or the experiences that your child receives.

Finally, Miss Elward and Miss Shale have just informed us that they will be leaving us at the end of this term to begin new opportunities. We wish them well in their new pursuits and thank them for all their contributions to Manor Park.

Have a wonderful weekend in what is predicted to be some of the hottest days of the year so far, with this hot spell continuing into early next week.

My best wishes to everyone,

Jill O'Connor Headteacher

### Learning in Nursery

This week the children in Wrens and Robins have really enjoyed using all the different tools and shape cutters playing in our fabulous play dough area.

This week in Kingfishers the children have been enjoying the sunshine and went on a lovely morning walk around our school grounds looking for signs of summer. We found lots of different beautiful flowers.



### Learning in Reception

In Let's Investigate Day this week, Reception have been experimenting with solutions that contained washing up liquid and other ingredients, such as honey, to see which one makes the best bubbles!



### Learning in Year 1

Year 1 have been out and about learning all about plants. They learnt that most plants flower and they can tell you why, as well as learning why flowers are bright colours. The children were fantastic at identifying the beautiful array of flowers around school. Ask them to tell you the names of the flowers growing in the grounds of Manor Park. Well done Year 1!



### Learning in Year 2

For our science day on Tuesday, Year 2 were investigating which material would be best to protect Humpty Dumpty when he fell off the wall. We used eggs and wrapped them up in felt, bubble wrap and tin foil so they would protect the egg. We then created our own ways to protect him, such as creating our own parachutes.



### Learning in Year 3

This week, Year 3 made models of Stone, Bronze or Iron Age settlements. We gathered natural resources from round the school and used the designs that we made last week to build our models.



### Learning in Year 4

For science day this week, Year 4 made a model digestive system to learn about the journey our food takes and the function of each organ involved in the process.



### Learning in Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been learning about the Big Bang theory. They used their knowledge to create a representation of the different stages of this theory showing their understanding of how astronomers believe the universe was created.



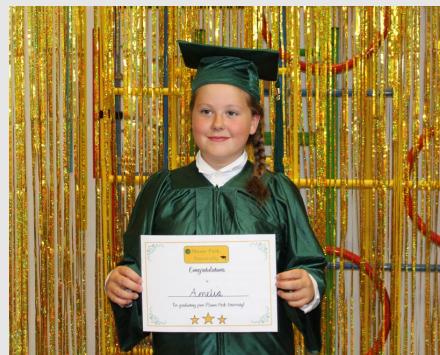
### Learning in Year 6

On Wednesday, Year 6 spent the day at West Orchard Church with Year 6 from Grange Farm doing lots of activities to get ready for secondary school. They did some drama, meditation, artwork and got the chance to ask some current Year 11's some questions.



## Manor Park University in the Spotlight

This week the Year 6 children have graduated from Manor Park University. Congratulations!



## A Message from our Safeguarding Team

We have been informed by Coventry Safeguarding Board that there have been a number of updates on Snapchat and Instagram recently. The Safeguarding Team would like to make you aware of these new changes:

**Snapchat:** In June there was an update on Snapchat called **Snap Map Facility**. This new update lists a person's full address and location. It also gives directions of how to get to their location.

**Snapchat Plus:** A new feature added to Snapchat with monthly subscription costs, Snapchat Plus, which creates a best friend list, can cause fall outs between young people.

**Sendit and NGL:** Sendit and NGL (Not Going to Lie) are anonymous Q&A style apps that allows users to post 'ask me anything' style questions via **Instagram**. These questions receive anonymous responses from 'friends'. These types of social experiences tend to be problematic. Online anonymity can lead to bullying, friendship breakdowns and Child on Child Abuse (inappropriate questions etc).

According to Snapchat's terms of service, **users must be 13 years old**. We would recommend that parents look at their child's devices for these apps as they are very easy for children to download onto their devices.



## Dates for your Diary

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
w/c 18.07.22	PTA Coffee Morning 9am  Year 6 Show 2pm	FinhamFest 9am-11am (Y6 to Yr7 Finham Park Students only) Year 6 Show 6pm	Parents Evening 3.45pm-6.30pm Pre Loved Uniform Sale 4.30pm	Red Kangaroo Trip Year 6 2.30pm-3.30pm	Last day of the summer term

# Let's Investigate



## Year 1

The children in Year 1 had a SPLASHTASTIC day! They spent the day investigating which material would be best to create an umbrella.



## Year 2

Year 2 have been doing some eggcellent, eggciting eggsperiments today, to test materials and the properties needed to protect an egg from smashing!



## Year 3

Wondering how to protect yourself in the sunny weather this weekend? Year 3 have been investigating the effects of different sun creams on UV beads today. Their advice is to wear a hat, sunglasses and plenty of high factor sun cream.

The children used UV beads and 3 different SPF sun creams to see the effects of the sun, and it's UV rays on them. After completing the investigating, the results showed that the highest SPF was the most effective.

## Year 4

We have been learning about the digestive system and created our own model to show the journey that food takes. The children learnt about the function of each organ.



## Year 5

Today, we investigated whether the size of the surface area of the parachute affects how quickly gravity pulls the parachute down. We discovered that the larger the parachute, the more air resistance and the slower the parachute falls. We've been using and applying our knowledge from this term about gravity to help us understand why objects are pulled down.

