

3rd February 2023

Manor Park News



A message from our Headteacher: Jill O'Connor

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Mrs Jelley who will be returning to school on Monday. I know that Class 18 will be particularly pleased to see her and will give her a very warm Manor Park welcome. I would like to extend my appreciation to Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Brown who have done such a fantastic job ensuring that the learning of Class 18 has not been interrupted throughout this transitional change of staffing. As you would expect, Class 18 have risen to every challenge and have been amazing! Well done Class 18.

Thank you for your support and understanding during the national day of industrial action taken by members of the NEU on Wednesday. I appreciate the inconvenience that closing school to so many children would have had on many of our families. I am sure you will understand that we did not take this decision lightly and did so as a last resort. We have followed national and HR guidance in all our decision making, and as always the health and safety of everyone in school had to be the main priority.

A reminder about our spring parents' evenings which will be held on Tuesday 14th February and Wednesday 15th February between 4 - 6.30pm. We will be offering a hybrid model of meetings and will once again take feedback from parents as to their preferred way of meeting their child's class teacher. The meetings on Tuesday evening will be offered as remote appointments, with face-to-face meetings on Wednesday. Appointments are now open on the online system for you to book, so please book a time that is convenient for you. Members of the governing body will be in school on the parents' evening on Wednesday evening, along with the PTA, who will be serving refreshments. Please do chat with the governors as it is an opportunity for you to share any feedback about the school with them or ask them any questions that you may have.

We currently have vacancies for two co-opted governors on our governing board. We would be delighted to hear from anyone who is interested in becoming a governor at Manor Park. School governors are the most important volunteer workforce in education. It is a rewarding role that provides an excellent opportunity for personal development in a unique environment. These skilled and motivated volunteers who are committed to improving education and making a positive difference to children's futures, can develop many skills and experiences in their role.

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a governor or know anybody who is, please contact the school for more information. We would be delighted to meet you and discuss the role in more detail. We are particularly interested in finding governors with a background in, or passion for, teaching and learning. As these are co-opted governor vacancies you do not have to be a parent of a child in the school to register an interest.

Finally, Year 3 are very excited about their wow event for this term which is to visit Cadbury World in Birmingham where they will no doubt enjoy a full day immersed in everything chocolate. Have a wonderful time Year 3!

Have a relaxing weekend. My best wishes to everyone.

Jill O'Connor Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 14th February

Parents' Evening

Wednesday 15th February

Parents' Evening

Monday 20th February

Half Term

Friday 10th March

Class 10 Assembly

Friday 10th March

Class 19 Assembly

Tuesday 21st March

PTA Disco KS1

Thursday 23rd March

PTA Disco KS2

Friday 24th March

Class 13 Assembly

Friday 24th March

Class 14 Assembly

Friday 31st March

Teacher Training Day

Monday 3rd April

Easter Holiday

Monday 17th April

Summer Term

Friday 28th April

Class 12 Assembly

Friday 28th April

Class 15 Assembly

Learning in Nursery

This week in Nursery we have been learning to name 2D shapes. We explored the properties of the shapes and learnt some new words to describe them.



Learning in Reception

This week in Reception we have been learning about hot air balloons. We had lots of fun making our own hot air balloons and then testing them outside.



Learning in Year 1

In Year 1 geography this week we started looking closely at globes and maps. First we identified the continents and their key features. Then we discussed the types of animals that belong to each continent.



Learning in Year 2

Year 2 have been continuing to develop their knowledge about the world. They worked together in small groups researching and discussing similarities and differences between life in the United Kingdom and India. Discussions included food, climate and animals. Well done Year 2 on working so hard to build on what you know.



Learning in Year 3

In science this week Year 3 have been looking at the different parts of a plant and the role that they carry out. We now know what the roots, stem, leaves and flower does.



Learning in Year 4

Year 4 have been using felt pens and a water wash to make a watercolour effect in art this week. They painted The Great Wave by Hosokai.

Learning in Year 5

This week in Year 5 the children conducted an investigation in science based on 'air resistance'. They made parachutes of varying sizes, wrote their predictions and tested the rates at which they fell at.



Learning in Year 6

Last week Year 6 had a visit from a polar explorer called Simon. We spent the day in the hall learning about his adventures to Antarctica and the Arctic. There were some interesting facts to take in as well as some very gruesome photos of the stages of frostbite. We all had a great day and came away with a lot of knowledge about the Poles.



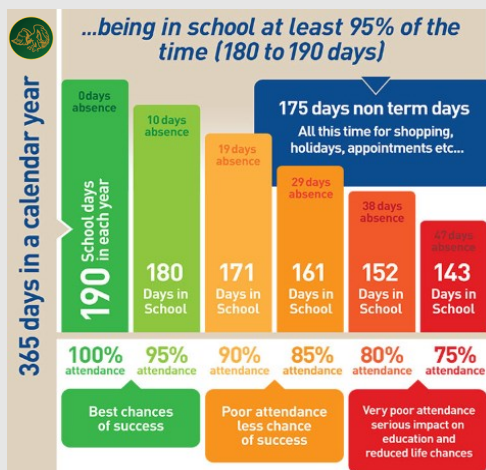
During Manor Park University the children in the 'Tech Warriors' course have been designing and creating their own computer games.



Attendance



Congratulations to **Class 17** who achieved **99.7%** attendance last week..



DID YOU KNOW? A two week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance you can achieve is 94.7%

ePetition

[Quinton Park Road crossing ePetition](#)

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.

Water Bottles in School

It is important that our children stay hydrated throughout the day and therefore they do require a water bottle, labelled with their name in school each day. As we promote healthy eating habits, we would ask that only water is brought in from home.

Thank you

Pre Loved Uniform Sale

During parents' evening on Wednesday 15th February, we will be setting up a preloved uniform store. This will be held in the school's main office waiting area starting at 4.00pm, where you can purchase pre loved school uniform. All items will be sold for £1.00 each (cash only)

You can donate outgrown items by taking them to the school office.

Donations needed:

Jumpers with the Manor Park logo

Cardigans with the Manor Park logo

Manor Park Fleecees

Ties

PE T-Shirts with the Manor Park logo



Parking Buddy

WHAT IF THIS HAD BEEN A CHILD?

Yesterday we were very sad to learn that one of our parking buddies was run 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

R

Resilient