

13th January 2023



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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all those parents who attended the PTA meeting on Tuesday. It was wonderful to see our newly reformed PTA back in school reporting on the successful events they held for children last term, and discussing their plans for this term. The PTA have very kindly committed to financially use their fundraising to help to contribute to year group trips and visits which will help all parents across the year, particularly during these very financially challenging times. We are incredibly grateful to the PTA for offering this support, which I know you will all appreciate.

We continue to evaluate the importance and enjoyment of every trip and visit that we plan to enrich our innovative curriculum, whilst taking into account the costs to parents in each year group. We constantly endeavour to spread the financial contributions we ask parents for across the year as much as we possibly can. Thank you for your continued support in making voluntary contributions, without which trips are not always viable to take place. Year 1 are really excited about their visit to All Things Wild on Monday, whilst Year 4 are eagerly preparing for their visit to The Sea Life Centre on Wednesday. Thank you to parents from these year groups and the PTA for financially supporting both those visits which I know will be thoroughly enjoyed by the children.

I am delighted to inform you that our revised dining arrangements are a great success. Children now have more time to eat their lunch calmly, whilst socialising with their dining companions. In addition, all children have daily opportunities to participate in the wide range of physical and social activities on offer each lunchtime. Congratulations to the children for adapting so confidently to the new routines. They have all been fantastic as always.

A reminder that our book of condolence remains open until Friday 20th January if you would like to send a message of support to the family who very sadly lost their child during the Christmas holiday through the following link.

#### Book of Condolence

I would like to give you advance notice of 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. Further details and booking arrangements will follow.

Have a wonderful weekend. My best wishes to everyone.

Jill O'Connor Headteacher

### Dates for the term

Monday 16th January

Year 1 All Things Wild Trip

Wednesday 18th January

Year 4 Sealife Centre Trip

Thursday 26th January

Year 6 Polar explorer workshop

Friday 3rd February

Class 17 Assembly

Friday 3rd February

Class 20 Assembly

Tuesday 14th February

Parents' Evening

Wednesday 15th February

Parents' Evening

Monday 20th February

Half Term

### Learning in Nursery

After exploring the Antarctic and the Arctic, we have been printing with cold colours to make our own Arctic scenes. We used different objects to print with and our art is looking fantastic!



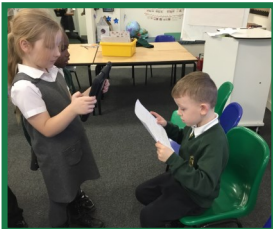
### Learning in Reception

This week in Reception we have been making predictions. We raced trains down ramps to see which one travelled furthest!



### Learning in Year 1

This week Year 1 have really enjoyed using the virtual reality headsets to travel back in time and see some dinosaurs as part of our 'Hear Me Roar' topic.



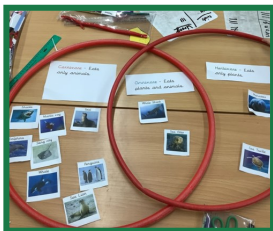
### Learning in Year 2

This week Year 2 have been learning about the equator. We learnt about how hot countries are closer to the equator and colder countries are further away from the equator. We then looked at India and the UK and created our own weather reports.



### Learning in Year 3

This week as part of our 'Food Glorious Food' topic, Year 3 tasted different foods from around the UK. We tried oatcakes from Scotland, soda bread from Northern Ireland, Welsh cakes from Wales and scones with jam and clotted cream from England. We really enjoyed trying the different foods from around our country.



### Learning in Year 4

This week as part of our science learning, Year 4 grouped sea creatures in a variety of ways.

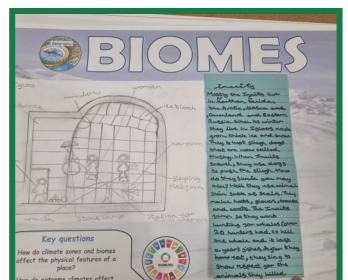
### Learning in Year 5

Year 5 learned about Earth's time zones this week. The children worked in groups to find out what time it is in many destinations across the world when it's 2pm in the UK.



### Learning in Year 6

In Year 6 we have begun to learn all about Biomes. This week we focused on the Inuit people and how they survived in the harsh landscape of the Arctic. We learnt about homes, travel, hunting and clothing of Inuits in the past. We took part in a team challenge to help a member of our group draw an igloo without having ever seen the picture. It was tricky but we succeeded.





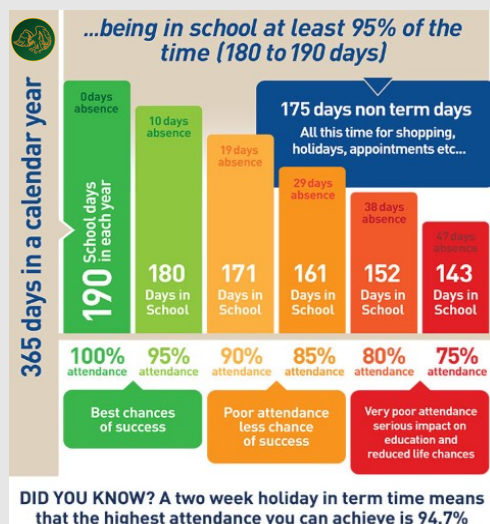
This week during Manor Park University the children in the 'Read all about it!' course have been planning what they would like to include in the school newspaper.



## Attendance



Congratulations to **Class 16** who achieved **95.7%** attendance this week..



## Nut Free School

We have many children in our school that have nut allergies and even the smell of nuts can set off a reaction. Please can you ensure that your child does not bring any form of nut into school and please be aware that some chocolates and spreads also contain nuts.

