

21st October 2021

## Manor Park News



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

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

*School will be closing on Thursday 21st October for the half term holiday. We will reopen to children on Monday November 1st. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday and keep safe and well. We have had quite a large increase in the number of positive Covid cases from children and staff. We are hoping that the holiday will give a much-needed break in transmission, and cases will decrease as result of this. Thank you for your support in notifying us of symptoms and test results and for quickly following advice for your child to isolate when needed, to enable the whole school community to be protected as much as possible.*

*It was wonderful that so many parents met staff during parents' meetings this week. Thank you for supporting your children and the school in the many learning opportunities provided this half term, which is greatly appreciated.*

*Casey Burden, one of our sports apprentices, will be leaving us to take up a position as a sports coach and learning support assistant at another school as her apprenticeship with us has come to an end. Our best wishes and thanks are extended to Casey at this time. She has inspired a lot of children to take up new sports at lunchtimes and after school as part of our extended sports offer.*

*All children in school will join in marking Diwali which this year falls on Thursday 4th November. Diwali is a festival of lights and one of the major festivals celebrated by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs and some Buddhists. One of the most popular festivals of Hinduism, Diwali symbolises the spiritual "victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance". We will be having a Diwali assembly on Monday 1st with classroom-based activities following this up across the week. Happy Diwali to all our families.*

*Children will be very excited to take part in activities linked to bonfire night which obviously falls in the same week, with wonderful fireworks to brighten our week no doubt abundant in the local community.*

*We will once again be selling poppies and novelties supplied by the British Legion to enable children to mark Remembrance Sunday on November 14th November. Items are priced from £1 to £3, with poppies available for any reasonable donation. These items will be available for sale on playgrounds every break and lunchtime between Tuesday 2nd and Friday 12th November.*

*Have a great half term and we are all looking forward to welcoming children and families back on November 1st. My very best wishes to everyone. Jill O'Connor Headteacher.*

### EYFS Phase: Nursery & Reception

I can't quite believe that we have finished our first half term. The children have made an amazing start in their school journey and it has been a pleasure to see them developing, growing confidence, independence and communication skills. Reception families, you will be receiving reading books very soon so please look out for them. Just a reminder that we will be finishing this half term on Thursday and that there will not be any provision for pupils on Friday.

We have a limited number of spaces available in our Nursery provision and we can take children from the age of 2. If you have any younger siblings and would like to take a look at what we offer than please get in touch.

As always, feel free to get in touch with us if you have any queries, concerns or positive comments, we are always happy to hear from our families. Have a fantastic half term break.

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#### Learning in Nursery

The children in Wrens and Robins have been really busy decorating their biscuits this week. I think you will agree they look fabulous!

This week in Kingfisher Nursery, we have been dressing up and playing imaginatively and the children have been excited to talk about their Halloween plans. The children have also been thinking about friendships and working together. They have played turn-taking games such as The Honey Bear game. Super team work everybody!

#### Learning in Reception

The children have loved the change in weather this week and have had so much fun getting muddy in the mud kitchen.



### Lower Phase: Years 1, 2 & 3

The children in the Lower Phase have had a fantastic first half term! They have settled in well and have embraced their learning with enthusiasm. This week, the Year 1 children have been working hard on their musical skills and they have learnt a superhero song and have performed it with confidence. They have experimented with a range of percussion instruments and have added this to their performance. In Year 2, the children have enjoyed using whipped cream and glitter in science to demonstrate the importance of washing their hands to combat the spread of germs. The children in Year 3 have been learning all about the history of the Olympic Games and have enjoyed taking part in their own ancient Greek competitions.

I hope you all have a lovely, restful half term break and we look forward to welcoming the children back the following week when they will be immersed in more exciting learning opportunities.

As always, please contact me with any positive feedback, questions or concerns:

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

#### Learning in Year 1

As part of their work around Black History Month, Year 1 read a beautiful story called Hair Love by Matthew A. Cherry. The children wrote on and decorated love hearts, whilst learning how their personal features or qualities are unique to them.

#### Learning in Year 2

We have been celebrating Black History Month. Based on the story Look Up, we have researched Mae Jemison who was the first black female astronaut to go to space and thought about our own dreams and aspirations for the future.

Look at our fabulous learning!

#### Learning in Year 3

As part of their 'Meet the Greeks' topic, Year 3 held their own 'mini Olympics' competing in the javelin, hurdles and relay



## Upper Phase: Years 4, 5 & 6

As we come to the end of a very busy half term, I would like to say how proud I am of the children in the Upper Phase. They have worked incredibly hard and have produced some work to be really proud of. They definitely deserve a rest! All year groups have celebrated 'Black History Month' in school, and have learnt about different inspirational figures during these lessons. Year 4 learnt about Martin Luther King and created their own 'dreams' for the future. Year 5 learnt all about the Windrush generation and discussed how they would have felt leaving home during those difficult times. Finally, Year 6 studied past and present influential figures including Rosa Parks and Marcus Rashford and discussed how racism has impacted on their lives.

I hope you all have a restful half term holiday and look forward to seeing you all in the new term.

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

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

### Learning in Year 4

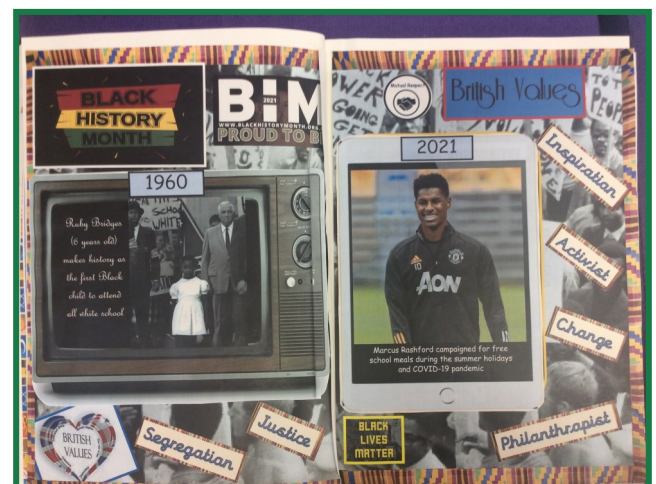
As part of BHM, Year 4 learnt about Martin Luther King. In classes, the children read a book which told them about his life, the challenges that he overcame and how he took his experiences of segregation into leading one of the most famous speeches of all time. The children then used the opening words of the speech, 'I have a dream' to write their own changes that they would like to see in the world.

### Learning in Year 5

This week Year 5 have been celebrating the achievements and contributions of the black community. Year 5 learnt about the Windrush generation and the lives of the people who entered the United Kingdom on the Windrush Empire in 1948. They have also discussed what they are proud to be and in what ways they are unique.

### Learning in Year 6

This week, as part of Black History Month, Year 6 have been learning about two inspirational figures: Ruby Bridges and Marcus Rashford. We looked at the impact that Ruby Bridges made in terms the Civil Rights Movement and discussed terms such as segregation and justice. We also focused on the work that Marcus Rashford has done to help eradicate child poverty, using his platform to become an influential figure in politics.



### International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

This week, the children have learnt about what it means to live in poverty. We thought about what we have that is essential and how grateful we are to have food, shelter and education.

This is part of our whole school work on leading the children through the United Nations global goals to support the children in becoming change-makers and global citizens.

Many thanks for your support,

Miss Ingram



# S

*Self-sufficient*

# O

*Original*

# A

*Attitude*

# R

*Resilient*



Manor Park  
Primary School



#### FREE gardening equipment for your school

For every £10 you spend (in store or online) at Morrisons, you'll get a Grow Token to help your school get everything they need to get growing. Download the MyMorrisons app today to start collecting Grow Tokens and choose the school you'd like to donate them to.

Your chosen school will be able to exchange their Grow Tokens for FREE gardening equipment to get kids growing.



### Online Safety

You may well be aware of a Netflix TV series called 'Squid Game'.

Released in mid-September, it is now the most popular series on Netflix. However, it has a certificate rating of 15 years old due to its extreme violence, and so it is not suitable for primary aged children.

Children may not have watched it themselves but they may well come across it on the internet in one way or another. Please make sure that you continue to monitor what your children are watching on TV as well as what they are viewing online as well. This is always good practice and helps keep your children safe whilst online.

Please make sure that you set your profiles on Netflix to age-restrict content.

Thank you for your support.





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