

12th November 2021



A message from our Headteacher: Jill O'Connor

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next week it is Anti-Bullying Week 2021, and the theme is 'One Kind Word'.

Children across school will be involved in activities linked to anti-bullying. This will begin with us all joining in with Odd Socks Day which is Monday 15th. For anyone who is new to Odd Socks Day it is simple - everyone wears odd socks to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique. Please could all children remember to come in odd socks on Monday to join in this fun activity. We will be holding an anti-bullying assembly on Monday. Throughout the week we will all be One Kind Word alert - listening out for and highlighting any kind words, phrases and actual acts of kindness. Children will also be designing some anti bullying posters.

We take any rare cases of bullying that should occur extremely seriously in school. Any incidents are logged and followed up on immediately. Children are all very aware of our definition of what bullying is STOP (several times on purpose) and confidently know what to do if they should encounter any bullying in school. Please check out the anti-bullying section on our website for further information.

Understanding the views of parents and carers about all aspects of school is very important to us. To gain an up-to-date picture of things that parents feel we are doing well and areas they would like to see improved, we would ask if all parents would respond to our online survey. This should only take a few minutes to complete and will help us to focus on areas of school that parents have identified as a priority. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/D8Z9NVH> The results of this survey will be shared with parents when they are collated. We are also asking the children about their views of school life including subjects they enjoy the most. Staff and governors regularly discuss school life and their learning with the children and the children's views on areas of school that they want improving feed into our school improvement plan.

Positive Covid cases remain low in school, however it is essential that we all continue to follow the guidance that we are all now very familiar with and work together to ensure cases remain as low as possible for the safety and well-being of everyone.

Finally, I am very pleased to inform you that the Council has been and inspected our new upper phase entrance. They have confirmed it is now a pedestrian access and the school keep clear markings will be installed as soon as possible. This means that we now have established a much safer entrance for our upper phase children. Thank you to the PTA and parents for supporting this important project.

Have a lovely weekend. My best wishes to everyone. Jill O'Connor Headteacher

### EYFS Phase: Nursery & Reception

We are really starting to feel the change in weather at the moment and the children are enjoying talking about and exploring seasonal changes. The children in both Reception and Nursery will continue to access the outdoor learning environment throughout the year (yes even in the cold and rain) so it's really important that they can be independent in changing their own shoes and putting on their own coat. If you know your child finds this a struggle, could you please spend some time supporting them and developing their skills.

The vast majority of our Kingfishers are now using the toilet independently, if your child is still in nappies or pull ups we would ask you to please send them in pants so that we can support with this important transition.

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.

[a\\_healy@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk](mailto:a_healy@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk)

[k\\_kavanagh@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk](mailto:k_kavanagh@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk)

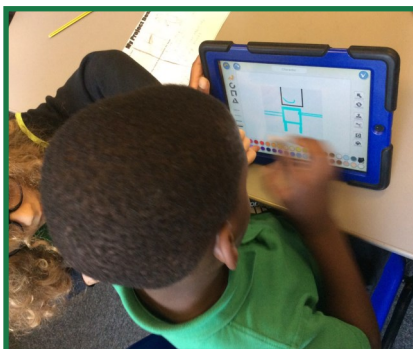
#### Learning in Nursery

The children in Wrens and Robins have had a fantastic time creating a paper storm with the shredded paper. A wonderful time was had by all!

This week in Kingfishers we have been looking at the story 'Owl babies'. The children have been using puppets to create a puppet show with their friends and creating their own owl pictures using cotton wool. We have also introduced group snack time which has encouraged the children to choose and try a variety of fruit.

#### Learning in Reception

Reception have been investigating light and dark this week. The children have used torches and globes to explore why we have day and night. Great work Reception!



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

The children in the Lower Phase have continued to impress us with more fantastic learning this week. The Year 1 children have been using their previous learning about seasons to understand the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees. In Design & Technology this week, the Year 2 children have been researching different types of transport in and around the school site. They have designed their own cars using the key features they have found and they will build these next week. In Year 3, the children have learnt about the ancient Greek messenger Pheidippides, who ran from the battlefield at Marathon to Athens to share the news of their victory. The children created their own piece of music to convey the messenger's varying emotions throughout his journey by repeating a rhythmic phrase at different tempos.

As always, the children are working incredibly hard to improve their reading skills. We are looking for parent volunteers to come into school during the afternoon to listen to some of our children read. If you would be interested in volunteering, please contact me to make arrangements:

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

#### Learning in Year 1

This week Year 1 in Maths we have been learning how to partition and combine numbers. We have enjoyed using dienes to help us!

#### Learning in Year 2

In Year 2 this week, we have been learning how to code in computing. We have designed a robot and written its instructions, which we learnt is called an algorithm. This week, we used Scratch Jnr on the I pads to create our own robot. We can't wait to code it next week!

#### Learning in Year 3

This week, Year 3 composed and performed their own pieces of music which were played at a soundtrack to the story of the Battle of Marathon. We used different tempos and dynamics in our pieces.



## Upper Phase: Years 4, 5 & 6

This week all of the children in the Upper Phase have been learning about Remembrance Day. Year 6 also went to the War Memorial Park to attend the remembrance service held there. We were very lucky to be selected to read some poems and, as always, our children were impeccably behaved. In Year 4 this week, they have been learning about the Vikings and their struggle for the Kingdom of England. Their creative curriculum books are bursting with wonderful learning and we look forward to sharing all of the children's learning with you very soon. Year 5, have been building up to writing an alternative fairytale in English taking inspiration from Egyptian Cinderella. It has been lovely to hear all of their ideas and I am very much looking forward to reading some of their stories next week.

Please look out for letters, which will be coming out next week, about some visits that will be taking place early next term.

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

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

### Learning in Year 4

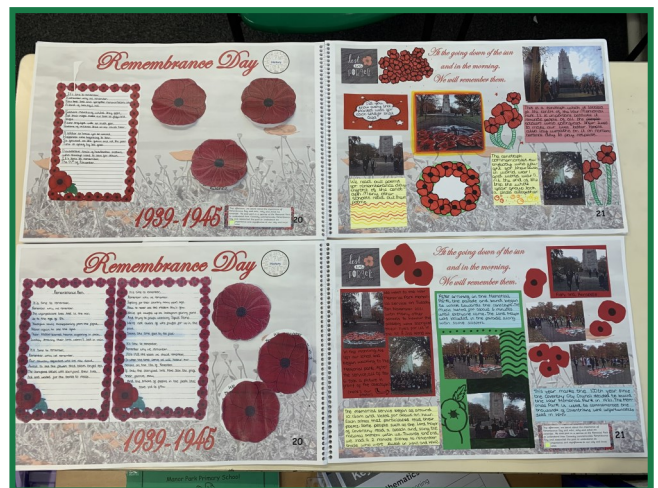
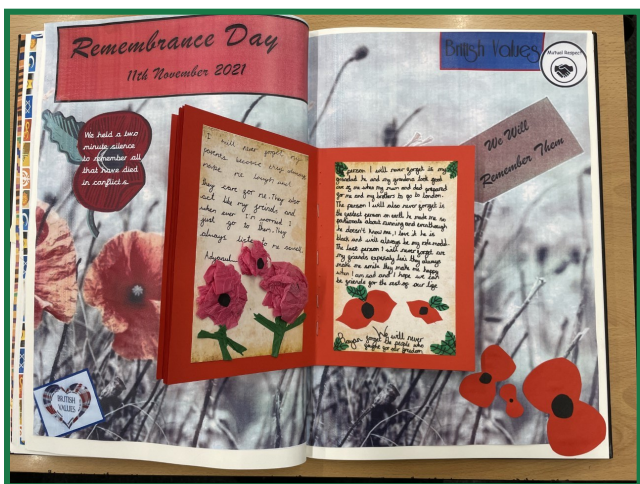
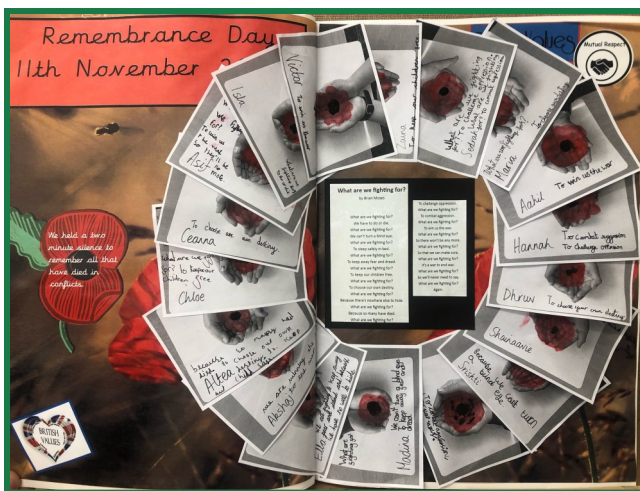
As part of Remembrance Day, Year 4 listened to Brian Moses read the poem 'What are we fighting for?'. The children took a photo of their hands in black and white, painted a poppy in their hands and then wrote one sentence about what was being fought for in the poem.

### Learning in Year 5

In Year 5 we have been learning about Remembrance Day, the history of it and they have discussed different people who are special to them that they will never forget. They have talked about why poppies represent this day, and they shared their memories of their special people.

### Learning in Year 6

This week, Year 6 attended a very special Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial Park. During our afternoon lessons, the children then reflected on the trip, and produced some wonderful work, showing their understanding of why this day is so important, why we celebrate it, and how it links to our topic for this half term: WW2. Excellent work this week, Year 6!



### Safeguarding Our After School Clubs

For any of our parents with children who access our after-school activities, can we ask that you inform the school office if your child has been in school but is not going to attend after school. This will ensure that we are not trying to locate your child unnecessarily when taking the after school registers.

Many Thanks

# S

*Self-sufficient*

### Positive Parenting

The Positive Parenting Team organises and coordinates Parenting courses in Coventry for all parents, carers, grandparents, foster carers, connected persons and for those with a Special Guardianship Order.

The courses provide a wide range of support for Coventry families. This may be for families planning ahead who are experiencing no difficulties, to families who are experiencing day to day difficulties with relationships, behaviours, feelings and confidence.

Please click on the link to visit the Positive Parenting website: [https://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/38/family\\_support/2884/positive\\_parenting](https://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/38/family_support/2884/positive_parenting), here you will be able to view a one off seminar, see information regarding various free courses available, and refer yourself onto an 8/9 week free course.

Please contact the learning mentor team if you would like any support or advice regarding this service.

# O

*Original*

### 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

# A

*Attitude*

### Free to a Good Home

The school has 4 whiteboards free to a good home, collection after 4.30pm Monday to Friday.



# R

*Resilient*





## **Good Attendance at Manor Park**

Manor Park promotes excellent attendance and punctuality at school and this remains a high priority on our School Improvement Plan for the coming academic year. The school staff and Board of Governors, alongside the Local Authority, believe that it is essential for all our pupils to attend school on time and avoid unnecessary absence, including holidays in term time. Any loss of time at school can significantly and adversely affect a child's attainment, progress and ultimately future life-chances.

To this end, we will do all that we can to encourage parents/carers to ensure that the children in their care achieve maximum possible attendance and that any problems that prevent full attendance are identified and acted on promptly. At Manor Park, we have an excellent safeguarding team, with Learning Mentors who track attendance and offer support to families. They also work closely with the Local Authority, when poor attendance is identified.

Any requests for leave of absence during term time, for any reason, will first need to be discussed at a meeting with the Headteacher, Mrs O'Connor, or a member of our senior leadership team. Please contact Ms Dhothar to make an appointment.

Please read our accompanying information on how poor punctuality and attendance can impact severely on a child's education.

At Manor Park, we believe that it is important to celebrate good attendance and punctuality, which are important life-skills. We celebrate attendance in the following ways:

- A weekly Attendance Cup awarded to the class with the best attendance for that week.
- Children who have achieved 100% attendance in any term will then be entered into a prize draw at the end of the academic year, with the chance to win a very special prize.
- Any class achieving 100% attendance, with no late marks, across a whole week will be awarded cash prize to spend on a treat.
- The class achieving the best attendance in a term, will be rewarded with a non-uniform day and a treat to celebrate.
- Mrs O'Connor and Ms Hodt will be giving out a house point for resilience to all children in classes which have 100% attendance for the week.

We very much appreciate your support. We also look forward to working together with you, striving for outstanding attendance in our school community, so that children are given all the wonderful learning opportunities they deserve.

The Attendance Team







With Christmas fast approaching, do you need a little extra, child free time to shop?  
Why not take advantage of one of our CHAMPS sessions and book your child/children into CHAMPS.  
Sessions begin at the end of the school day with a choice of collection times, as follows:

3.30-4.30pm-£4.50

3.30-5pm £6.75

3.30-5.30pm-£8.50

3.30-6pm £10.50

All prices are per day, per child and include a light snack.

All places need to be booked and paid for in advance (once booked, costs are non-refundable).

Booking can be made by emailing [k\\_buckley@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk](mailto:k_buckley@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk)



Manor Park  
Primary School