

10th February 2023



A message from our Headteacher: Jill O'Connor

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will be aware that we are having to have a lot of grounds work done at the front of school. Unfortunately, we have suffered considerable structural damage from the roots of the trees in this area, which are lifting the path and potentially causing damage to the foundations of the hall. This issue is causing health and safety concerns which we obviously have had to address. After taking expert advice, we believe that the safest way for us to proceed in this matter is to have the trees professionally removed. We have not taken this decision lightly, as we are fully committed to preserving the natural school environment, which is a major feature of our wonderful grounds. Indeed, we are constantly planting trees to create amazing outdoor learning experiences for our children. To support their learning, we have recently planted over 40 trees in our newly developed reception outdoor area and are looking forward to watching them flourish. I hope that members of our local community will fully support this grounds work and understand our rationale for having to have it done. We are aiming for it to be completed as quickly as possible.

Following on from Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 7th February, we will be holding an online safety assembly on Monday 13th February. We will then be completing various activities across school to continue promoting our commitment to staying safe online. The theme of the event this year is 'talk'. We will be encouraging and educating children on the importance of talking to trusted people about their experiences online and sharing any concerns or worries they may have. For more information on the event, please visit <https://www.saferinternetday.org>.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at our parents' evenings on Tuesday 14th February and Wednesday 15th February between 4 - 6.30pm. 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. Following the meetings, we will once again be asking you to share your views and preferences on your preferred way of meeting your child's teacher. The face-to-face meetings were by far the most popular bookings made. We are aware however, that remote meetings suit other parents. In order to ensure future plans meet the needs of our parents and carers as much as possible, we would be grateful if you would give us your feedback through a survey which will go live on Thursday 16th February.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 14th February

Parents' Evening

Wednesday 15th February

Parents' Evening

Monday 20th February
Half Term

Thursday 9th March
Year 5 Space Camp

Friday 10th March
Class 10 Assembly

Monday 20th March
Book Fair

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

A message from our Headteacher: Jill O'Connor

A reminder that 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. 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.

Staffing News

I am sorry to inform you that Mr O'Driscoll will be leaving Manor Park on Friday 17th February to take up an alternative career outside of teaching. We wish Mr O'Driscoll every success and happiness in his new pursuits. We know he will be amazing in anything he chooses to do! Miss Carr will be returning to school on Monday 27th February following her maternity leave, and she will become the class teacher for Class 19 Tuesday to Friday for the remainder of the year. Mrs Kavanagh Byrne will teach Class 19 every Monday. A very warm welcome back to Miss Carr. I know she is very excited about her return to work and is looking forward to seeing everyone again.

Have a relaxing weekend. My best wishes to everyone.

Jill O'Connor Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Friday 28th April

Class 15 Assembly

Monday 1st May

Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May

Bank Holiday

Tuesday 9th May

SATs Week Year 6

Friday 19th May

Class 7 Assembly

Friday 19th May

Class 8 Assembly

Wednesday 24th May

Class Photographs

S

Self-sufficient

O

Original

A

Attitude

R

Resilient

Soar to Success—Self-Sufficient, Original, Attitude, Resilient

Learning in Nursery

This week we have been exploring how we can get to space, looking at rockets and talking about astronauts. The children have loved building their own rockets in the construction area with blocks, foam bricks and shapes. They have shared their knowledge of space with us by using lots of space vocabulary. Well done, Nursery!



Learning in Reception

In Reception we have been reading the story 'Brilliant Boats' this week and creating our very own scenes out of mixed media materials.



Learning in Year 1

During art Year 1 have created clay animals. They have experimented with different pottery techniques such as rolling, carving, squeezing and joining. They then painted the sculptures thinking about colour and pattern.



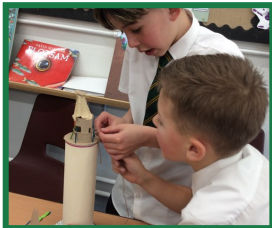
Learning in Year 2

This week in geography, Year 2 have been exploring artefacts from the Schools Library Service. The artefacts were from a village in India (Chembakoli) and the children particularly enjoyed finding out about various cooking utensils and foods. In addition, the box contained a range of other interesting items including a cheenam (flute), muthu korthathu (beads) and a velenchikol (bird trap).



Learning in Year 3

This week Year 3 went on an extraordinary trip to the wonderful Cadbury World! We had the best time learning about how our beloved Dairy Milk chocolate is made and even got to enjoy a delicious pot of freshly made, melted chocolate!



Learning in Year 4

This week the children in Year 4 have been learning about lighthouses. They have learnt where they are found, what they are used for and what they look like. They have used their newly learnt knowledge and creativity to create their very own lighthouse!

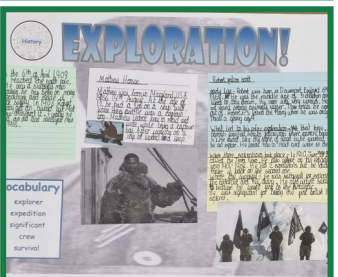
Learning in Year 5

Year 5 created their own space themed piece of art this week, inspired by American artist Peter Thorpe. They used oil pastels and used different techniques such as blending, stippling and scumbling to create different effects in their final piece.



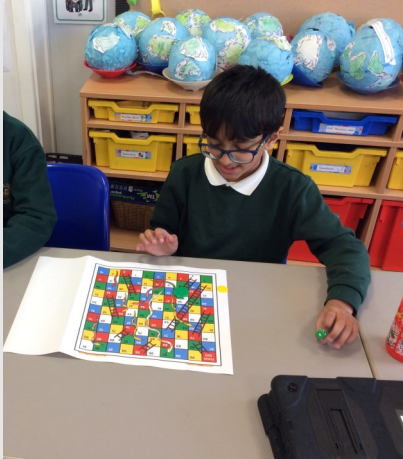
Learning in Year 6

This week Year 6 have been learning all about explorers from history. We found out about 3 polar explorers: Robert Falcon Scott, Ernest Shackleton and Matthew Henson. We learnt about the courageous feats of these men and the challenging conditions that they had to survive in.



Manor Park University

During Manor Park University the children in the 'Maths is Fun' course have been learning how to play 'Snap!' and 'Snakes and Ladders'.



Coventry Young Ambassadors

The Coventry Young Ambassadors, and some Manor Park guests, were fortunate enough to attend a book launch this week! The new children's book is called 'Murder at the Museum' by new author, Alasdair Beckett-King. The children were lucky enough to have a small work shop with the author, learning to think and speak like a detective, and meet him! The new book is about a 10 year old girl who has an alias as a detective! Very exciting.



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

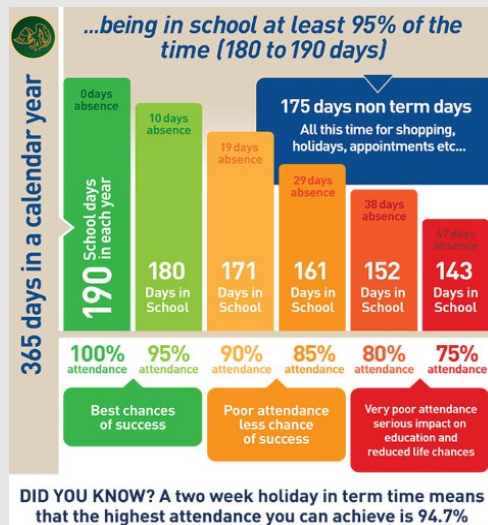
PE T-Shirts with the Manor Park logo



Attendance



Congratulations to **Class 22** who achieved **100%** attendance last week..



ePetition

[Quinton Park Road crossing ePetition](#)

Online Safety



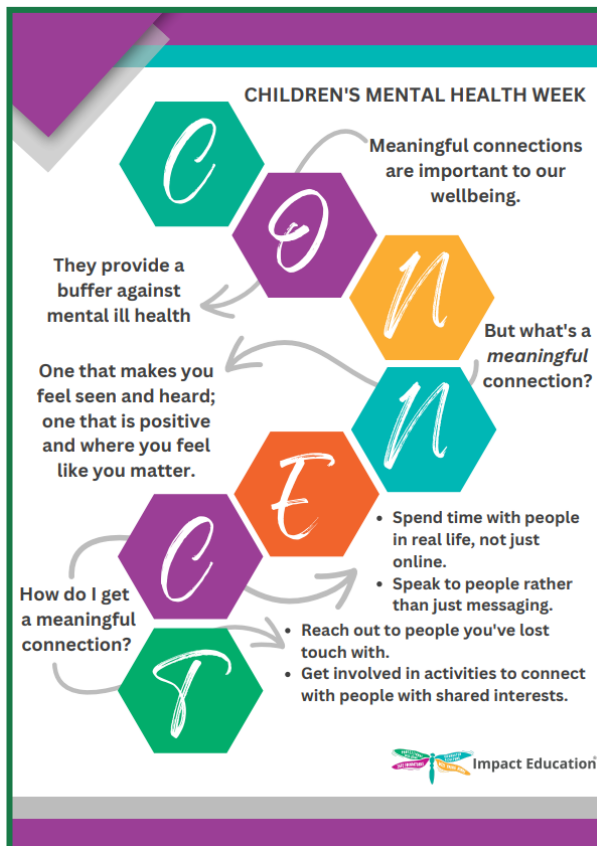
Please click image to enlarge

Exceptional Leave

All requests for leave of absence must be made in writing to the headteacher by emailing attendance@manorpark.coventry.sch.uk

Prior to any absence, at least 4 weeks notice is expected for any planned absence.

Each request will be considered on an individual basis during a meeting with the headteacher.



Free School meals

Please ask even if your child is of infant school age.

Do you receive any of the following?

- Income support
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Guaranteed Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit and your income (as calculated by the Inland Revenue) is less than £16190
- Universal credit
- Receiving support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act of 1999
- In the Armed Forces

If you can answer yes to any of the above you may qualify for free school meals/pupil premium

To apply just visit:
[Free school meals and extra pupil premium funds for schools - Section 1 - Coventry City Council](#)

If your application is successful not only will your child receive free school meals, but our school will receive additional funding called Pupil Premium to help you with costs of school trips and after school activities.

Want to apply? **Ask at the office**

Not sure?