

Manor Park School & Nursery Newsletter



November 2023

A MESSAGE FROM MR COTTERILL

Autumn has well and truly taken hold and we are well on the way to that magical time of year. We have lots planned for the children this term with various visits and exciting activities within the curriculum. Our preparations for Christmas are in full swing with children practicing their lines for plays and songs with costumes being prepared. The dates for the Christmas performances listed in the newsletter. We have added an additional evening performance for the Juniors, details of tickets will follow soon.

I am very proud to say that our school grows from strength to strength and many of our staff are supporting other schools both in our Trust and in the wider Cheshire and North West area. Our SEND provision has been recognised as a strength of the school and we are supporting another school in Cheshire West with their SEND provision. Mrs Devenport continues to work with a number of schools to support them with their phonics and early reading provision. We continue to be visited by schools who are keen to learn about our outdoor play provision (OPAL) and we are also sharing our good practice in the areas of Nurture, Attendance, Early Years, Maths and English. This does make me very proud as Manor Park is seen as a school with such a strong provision and schools are looking to us for guidance, support and advice in so many areas. This is testament to the hard work and dedication of the staff, children, parents and governors.

Since half term I have been asked about the two trees that have been cut down at the front of the school. It was a difficult decision to make and somewhat a last resort but the roots of the trees were intruding into the school drains and had been for some time. They were beginning to cause such damage that it could not be repaired and would only have got worse. We will be planting four trees elsewhere in the school grounds as we do think it is important that trees are preserved wherever possible.

IMPORANT INFORMATION

Remembering Belongings – Can we please ask that all children arrive to school with all of the items they require for the day. Delivering items throughout the day places extra workload on the school office and interrupt's the children's classes.

Coats and Wellies – With the weather getting wetter and colder can you please ensure your child has a cardigan/jumper and a coat with them daily. We also recommend wellingtons for access to the field and spinney. These can be sent in daily or left in the welly sheds. Please ensure your child's name is written inside each wellington.

Lateness – It is essential that you ensure that your child arrives at school on time to prevent disruption to your child's own learning and that of others. If you are experiencing difficulty with punctuality and would like to talk to us about it please contact the school office.

A polite reminder that the end of the school day is 3.15pm for KS1 and 3.20pm for KS2. Children must be collected from the playground at this time.

KEY DATES

- **23/11/23** – Y5 & Y6 Girls football tournament
- **24/11/23** – Nasal Flu
- **29/11/23** - REC & KS1 trip to The Lowry
- **01/12/23** – Y5 & Y6 trip to Jodrell Bank
- **02/12/23** – Knutsford town Christmas light switch on
- **06/12/23** – Christmas dinner
- **06/12/23** – Christmas jumper day
- **06/12/23** – School choir Sharston House performance
- **08/12/23** – Y3 & Y4 Little Champions at Knutsford Academy
- **11/12/23** – Y5 Numbers at Work with Manchester Airport (in school)
- **13/12/23** – REC & KS1 Christmas performance (afternoon and evening)
- **18/12/23** – KS2 Christmas performance (afternoon and evening)
- **19/12/23** – KS2 Christmas performance (evening only)
- **19/12/23** – Class Christmas parties
- **20/12/23** – Break up for Christmas
- **08/01/23** – Return to school

PUPIL SAFEGUARDING CHAMPIONS

Our pupil safeguarding champions helped make playtime safer for the children by helping Mr Ashton tape the climbing trees. The children know that they are only allowed to climb the trees that have red tape on them as this indicates how high they can climb. No body part should be above the red tape.



RECEPTION VISIT TO KNUTSFORD LIBRARY

The Reception children walked to Knutsford library on Wednesday 8th November. We waited until the rain had stopped and then put our coats and hi vis jackets on and braved the elements. We managed to avoid the puddles and stay dry! We were met by Anne the librarian who told us all about the library and read us a story. We were then able to choose our own books to read and really enjoyed using the scanner machine to check books out. We finished the visit with another story, 'Superworm' written by one of our favourite authors, Julia Donaldson. We walked back to school, it was uphill on the way back! We were ready for our lunch when we got back to school!



NELLY OUR SCHOOL DOG

Over the past few weeks Nelly our school dog has been spending some time in school getting used to the sounds and smells and becoming familiar with her surroundings. Now she is ready to start spending some time with the children and has thoroughly enjoyed going for short walks and listening to some children read. As you can see from the photos she has made herself very comfortable.



SHARING LEARNING

Our Y2 pupils had a go at weaving as part of their fire of London project.



Year 3/4 have been fully immersing themselves in the Stone Age. First, they were chefs creating a fruit stew fit for any hunter-gatherer. They then became artists using natural pigments for their paints and applying them on different surfaces. Finally, they brought it all to life in their Stone Age life dance routines. I'd be afraid if those hunters were stalking me!



POPPY APPEAL 2023

Thank you to everyone who supported the 2023 Poppy Appeal by purchasing poppy badges, wrist bands and other items that were being sold in school. The year six children did a brilliant job of selling the items each afternoon in the classrooms. We also held a whole school one-minute silence on the playground to show respect and gratitude to the armed forces past and present who have lost their lives fighting for their country.



CHILDREN IN NEED



Thank you to everyone who supported Children in Need. We raised an amazing **£168.40**



SCHOOL COUNCIL

You may remember that in the last academic year, the School Council decided that they wanted to raise money to adopt an animal at Chester Zoo. The children presented a choice of three different animals to adopt in an assembly and then every child in school was able to vote for the animal they wanted to help – with Sumatran tigers the overwhelming favourite, with a whopping 73% of the vote.

The children ran a 'Name the tiger' competition to raise the funds and they successfully hit their target amount! Therefore, if you visit Chester Zoo before the end of August 2024 keep an eye out for the Sumatran tigers! You will be able to see a plaque by the Sumatran tigers, which reads 'Thank you to Manor Park School and Nursery'.

If you happen to visit the zoo and see the plaque we would love it if you would share your photos with us.



ROCK WRANGLE



Last week, years 2-6 took part in Manor Park's annual Rock Wrangle. As part of this the children took part in a Battle of the Bands where each house had to score as many points as possible by correctly answering times tables questions. With over 52,000 correct answers in 3 days, Warren were the winners of the Rock Wrangle this year. The three Most Valuable Players from each house received a certificate and trophy in our results assembly.

We also took part in England Rocks a national competition organised by Times Tables Rock Stars and the top 3 scorers also got a certificate for that too as well as year 4 who were the top scoring class! Well done to everyone who played and especially to Jody Durran who reclaimed the title Rock Hero for Eternity by being the fastest Rock Hero in the whole school! 🎸



MPSA UPDATES

A huge thank you to our incredible MPSA team who arranged a successful Halloween disco this half term. They managed to raise a fantastic amount of money.

Funds raised by the MPSA are used to provide experiences, equipment and facilities for the school and we are extremely grateful for all of their hard work.

Look out for their updates on

The Christmas raffle

Advent calendar raffle

Colouring competition

Visits from Santa



ATTENDANCE

We advise parents/carers to avoid taking children out of school in term time. Holidays taken in term time will not be authorised. If you decide to take your child/children out of school, please call into the office for a Leave of Absence Form to be completed. This is so that we can accurately identify where a child is.

Please remember that taking your child out of school without the school's authorisation may result in the Local Authority issuing a Fixed Penalty Notice to each parent/carer for each child. The penalties are shown below.

Penalties for unauthorised absence		
Timeline	One child	Two children
Paid within 21 days	£60 per parent	£60 per child = £120 per parent
After 21 days and before 28 days	£120 per parent	£120 per child = £240 per parent
After 28 days	You will receive a summons to appear before the Magistrates' Court on the grounds you have failed to secure your child's regular attendance	You will receive a summons to appear before the Magistrates' Court on the grounds you have failed to secure your children's regular attendance

SAFEGUARDING KEY PEOPLE

Mr S Cotterill – Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs S Jeffery – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs K Thatcher – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

If you have a safeguarding concern please contact the school office and ask to speak to one of the safeguarding leads.


SAFEGUARDING

YouTube kids allows children and young people to watch and search for the shows they like and discover new ones. It contains videos that are uploaded to YouTube but it has an algorithm that pulls out appropriate videos for younger children.

Stay safe on YouTube Kids using the instructions on Parental Controls, Blocking & Reporting below.


Parental Controls

Configure the Parental Controls with these simple instructions:

- 1 Tap on  in the bottom right corner of the app & then complete the multiplication.
- 2 Tap on **Settings** and then select your child's profile.
- 3 Enter your password. Here you can configure **content settings**, **allow search control** and **watch history**.


Block

Block a video using these simple instructions:

- 1 Select the video you want to block and then tap on .
- 2 Tap **Block**.
- 3 You can choose from two options, **Block this video only** or **Block entire channel**.

Report

Report a video using these simple instructions:

- 1 Select the video you want to report and then tap on .
- 2 Select **Report**.
- 3 Select your issue and then tap **Report**.



SUPPORT FOR PARENTS/CARERS

The Bread and Butter Thing offers weekly groceries at a fraction of high street prices at our Manor Park hub at Manor Park Primary School on Tuesdays at 11:45am. For £8.50 we offer roughly £35 worth of food each week including fresh fruit and veg, chilled food for the fridge and cupboard staples such as pasta and cereal. We get our supplies from the stuff that you hear about in the news going to waste: it comes from supermarkets, factories and farms. Why not give us a try? There is no commitment and its free to join. If you want an order just reply to the weekly text you receive on the day you get it. It's really easy to sign-up to TBBT...

Step 1 - Text 07860 063304 with your full name, postcode, and the name of the hub you will be collecting from: Manor Park

Step 2 - Select the size of order you want to receive: Family - £8.50 (this is our top seller). We also offer Individual - £5, or Large Family - £17. There is a Vegetarian option available too.

Step 3 - We'll send you a text every Sunday to see if you want an order. Just reply "YES" by 10:00AM the next day. We'll deliver your order to Manor Park Primary School on Tuesday at 11:45am. Step 4 -Collect and pay for your goods from Manor Park hub at Manor Park Primary School.