

Manor Way Primary Academy

Happy and Successful Learners



School News 4th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term. We are so pleased to see that our overall attendance has been above 96% and even reached 100% this week which means that our children are well and all back in class and it has felt wonderful to start the term in this way.

It has been an exciting week with World Book Day yesterday, the Science Magician today and the Grand opening of the Early Years area.

As always, we are so proud of our partnership with our families and you have been super in supporting these events. The hats and costumes for World Book Day were incredible and the feedback we have received from the Grand Opening of the Early Years area has been fantastic.

We would like to welcome Sienna to Year 6 and the Manor Way family and congratulate her on settling so well in her first week.

I am also very excited to share that we have launched a new learning platform called Century Tech which uses artificial intelligence to create bespoke learning pathways for your child. We are starting with Year 6, to support them in preparing for Sats, and will then roll it out across other year groups in the Summer Term. I think it will revolutionise homework as it identifies gaps in knowledge, pinpoints and addresses misconceptions and personalises content, questions and pathways for every learner. It allows us to target interventions with easy-to-use data, support catch up on lost learning and access 1,000s of learning resources. Have a look at the [link here](#) and we will keep you up to date on when this will be rolled out to your year group. It's very exciting!

We would like to thank Mrs Hewitt for organising the donations to the Ukraine, via the company she works for, which will provide much needed support during the current conflict. The last date to send in donations is next Wednesday morning. We send our love and thoughts to all our families who are affected by this conflict.

Finally, a reminder that while the children recover from the excitement of this week it is time to start thinking about their Science Week projects and their Superhero costumes for Red Nose Day on 18th March.

Best Wishes

Lisa Buffery - Executive Headteacher

Celebrating Success

Praise Certificates were awarded to the following children. A huge well done to them all for working hard on their ASPIRE Character Virtues!

 Praise Certificates- Friday 4th March 		
R	Hayden Jones	For being respectful around the classroom with other children
Year 1	Amelia Lim	Always being polite and respectful.
Year 2	Phoebe Whittington	Being Respectful
Year 3	Robyn Gillies	Being a role model.
Year 4	Casey Pickett	Working hard in her writing this week.
Year 5	Lucas Shaw-Farinha	For focus and effort in learning
Year 6	Sienna Sahota	For settling in well at Manor Way and being an excellent role model.

Hot Chocolate Friday

Hot Chocolate Friday awards are given to celebrate pupils who are always displaying the right attitude and behaviour. The following children received these awards during the last two weeks:

 Hot Chocolate Friday! 		
Reception	Evelyn Farr	
Year 1	Zayan Khan	
Year 2	Cooper Harris	
Year 3	Isobelle Hutchinson	
Year 4	Lilia Darby	
Year 5	Niah Broome	
Year 6	Archie Tresler-Mooney	

Our learning this week

In Preschool, it has been a marvellous return! It has been a joy to welcome you all back. The children have all met Miss Rowe and spent the week getting to know each other. Well what a busy first week back. We have been recapping some of our phase one phonics and sharing our favourite stories as part of our World Book Day celebrations!



On Tuesday we learnt all about Shrove Tuesday and St Davids Day. The children took part in a pancake race, followed by pancake flipping maths games! Some children also planted some daffodils in our outdoor area. It has been a marvellous first week back, well done everybody please have a restful weekend ready for next week. Best wishes Miss Hurst and Miss Rowe.

In Reception, we have been recapping our digraphs and trigraphs from phase three in phonics. In maths we are learning to count to 15, and find the numbers one more or one less. The children have enjoyed celebrating pancake day, writing out the ingredients and having a taste of a pancake with different toppings. It was so wonderful to see the amazing costumes on Thursday for 'World Book Day'. We have started our new whole class reading book 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. The children have enjoyed acting out the different voices for the billy goats gruff. Well done for another amazing week of learning in Class R.



In Year 1, we have had a great start to the new term. We have continued our journey on Grandad's Island in English and have been practising writing our own similes. In maths we have been comparing two numbers by finding the difference and using vocabulary including 'more than' and 'fewer than'. We had a stunning start to our new ASPIRE topic of the Great fire of London with a visit from the firefighters with their fire engine. We sat inside the engine and many of us sprayed the fire hose too! We also enjoyed World Book Day and we had a great time making up our own 'Rocket Rules,' inspired by an author masterclass we took part in. The children looked fantastic and a fantastic day was had by all! Well done Class One!



In Year 2, this week in English we planned and wrote our own versions of the story, 'Little Red Reading Hood' and we came up with some super ideas such as 'Little Red Baking Hood', 'Little Red Writing Hood', 'Little Red Singing Hood' and lots more! We can't wait to publish our stories next week! In maths, we have been learning about unit and non-unit fractions. In science, we have been learning about life cycles. As part of our British Values afternoon on Monday we were all given a potato and had to write a story about it. Then, our teacher collected all the potatoes and we had to try and remember which one belonged to us - we found this very tricky! We learnt that although we are all different we are still all the same. Finally, we enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day - we looked amazing in our costumes!

In Year 3, we have made a super start to the second half of our spring term. In maths, we have continued learning about time. We have explored duration and we are beginning to look at reading a 24 hour clock. In writing, we have worked super hard to write our first drafts. As part of our British Values topic, we have enjoyed discussing diversity and we loved getting creative designing our own 'Cheerio Portraits'. However, our favourite day of the week has to have been World Book Day! We have a reading-packed day finished with tasting some Butter Beer inspired by Harry Potter.



In Year 4, the children have made a cracking start to the half term. We have continued learning about fractions in maths- adding and subtracting and showing this on a bar model. We have been writing our first drafts of our own adventure story, based on 'The Whale' and we are looking forward to publishing these. As part of British values afternoon, we learnt about diversity. We thought about the ways in which we are similar and different and we role-played different scenarios to help us understand how it would feel to be excluded because we were different in some way.



In Year 5, we have settled back into school life very quickly and have enjoyed investigating angles in maths. We have started writing our first poem of the year in English, all about The Malfeasance - a misunderstood monster. We have finished Who Let the Gods Out and have started to explore the context of our next book, holes. We can't wait to get our teeth into it. We had loads of fun on World Book Day and were particularly enthusiastic about Ring-A-Bell Reading, which was a pleasure to see. Well done for a great first week back, Class 5!

In Year 6, we have settled in quickly after half term and I am really pleased with how our children have been taking responsibility for their learning. Focusing on our grammar, I have been really pleased with how pupils can identify sentences in the active and passive voice as well as identify sentences that are both formal and informal. In our writing lessons, we have shown fantastic creativity and imagination this week by completing our very own stories for our No More Marking task. As well as this, we thoroughly enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day - one of our favourite days of the year. Well done Year 6 - lets keep going full steam ahead!



Staffing

We would like to congratulate Mr Eeles, our Assistant Headteacher, on his exciting and well deserved promotion to Deputy Headteacher. Mr Eeles will start at his new school after Easter. Mr Eeles has worked very hard on developing our Aspire curriculum and Mastery maths across Manor Way and we wish him well in his new role.

We had a very strong field of applicants for the post of Assistant Headteacher which also includes leading curriculum, maths and teaching Year 6. The children were involved in the interview process and we are pleased to share that Mrs Brettle will be starting at Manor Way as Assistant Headteacher after Easter. Mrs Brettle is an experienced Year 6 teacher and a lead practitioner working across schools in her current MAT.

Year 6 parents will be receiving an invite to a virtual meeting on Thursday 10th March at 4pm with both Mr Eeles and Mrs Brettle to share how we have carefully planned the transition for your Year 6 children.



My name is Laura Brettle and I have been teaching for 10 years, after qualifying from Newman University in Birmingham. Here, I completed the undergraduate degree with English specialism. During my career, I have worked in two schools, beginning my career in a school in Sandwell as an NQT. Currently, I work at a school in the Dudley Borough, where I have been for the last 8 years. My role here is class teacher, key stage leader English lead and more recently a school improvement practitioner across my trust schools. I have worked in both Key Stage One and Key Stage Two, with the majority of my experience being in Year Six; a year group I thoroughly enjoy teaching.



Outside of teaching, I have been married for 6 years and have two children (Archie, who will soon be 4 and Hallie, who is nearly 18 months old). I enjoy making lots of memories with them and spending time exploring, playing, painting, visiting different places and going on family holidays in our caravan. On a weekend, I teach dance at a local dance school, where I attended as a child and have performed for the amateur dramatics society CHAOS.

I am looking forward to becoming part of the family at Manor Way and working with you all to support the children to be happy and successful learners.

Easter School for Year 6

Easter school this year will be provided free of charge for Year 6 pupils on Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th April. The day will start at 9.30 and finish at 3.30pm with a range of activities including arts and craft, karate and sats preparation and revision. It will be led by Mrs Golden, Mrs Boden and Mrs Whitmore who are all looking forward to it.

Science Week Activities

Following our informative and thoroughly enjoyable science show today, we are looking forward to starting science week officially on Friday 11th March when we will be focusing on 'growing green' with activities about sustainability. We hope the children are enjoying their science projects and we are looking forward to seeing what they have discovered at our Science Fayre on Thursday 17th March. Please bring your projects to school on the morning of the fayre rather than before that to help with storage and so that we can see them at their best on the day.

Red Nose Day 2022- Friday 18th March

We will be helping to raise money for Red Nose Day on Friday 18th March. As we have the power to change lives, we are asking the children (and staff!) to dress up as Superheroes- whether it's Superman, Wonderwoman, a superhero of your own creation, or a local hero in your community. Children can donate £2 to dress up. This year, donations can be made via our JustGiving page: [Just Giving - Manor Way Superhero Day 2022](#). We look forward to seeing our children and staff dressed up as superheroes on Friday 18th March. Happy Fundraising!



Year 6 Residential to Kingswood

Thank you to those parents who have paid the £50 deposit for the Kingswood residential trip. If you have not been able to make this payment please do so as soon as possible. We have set up a payment schedule for the remaining balance, helping to spread the cost between now and when the children go. Please login to ParentMail to make a payment.

Preschool Applications

We have places available in our Preschool for September starters. To apply, or for more information, please contact the school office on:

information@manor.windsoracademytrust.org.uk.

Attendance

Whole School Attendance from 14 - 18th February 2022 96.5%	
Reception	96%
Year 1	97%
Year 2	93%
Year 3	99%
Year 4	94%
Year 5	99%
Year 6	97%



Well done and congratulations to Year 5 for receiving the Attendance Trophy last week!

The information below shows how attendance can affect your child's future progression. At Manor Way we aim for pupils to achieve an attendance figure of above 97%

Above 97%: Less than 6 days absence a year – Less than 30 Hours of Learning Lost Excellent attendance! These young people will almost certainly get the best levels/grades they can, leading to better prospects for the future. Pupils will also get into a habit of attending school which will help in the future.
95%: 10 days absence a year – 50 Hours of Learning Lost These pupils are less likely to achieve their target levels/grades and will start to find it difficult to maintain a habit of attending school regularly. Pupils who take a 2-week holiday every year can only achieve 95% attendance.
90%: 19 days absence a year – 95 Hours of Learning Lost The Government classes pupils in this group as "Persistent Absentees", and it will be almost impossible to keep up with work and achieve their target levels/grades. Parents of young people in this group could also face the possibility of legal action being taken by Dudley Council, including the issuing of Penalty Notices and Fines.

Ukraine

Whilst we are geographically far away from the events, many in our schools and communities will be directly affected and may have families or roots in the region. The news and social media feeds are filled with the latest information, and some of it is upsetting and worrying; and may not even be verified. Children listening and viewing distressing images can become frightened and fearful.

Here are some background reading resources to help you think about how adults can support children with what they are seeing or feeling. These links have been shared by Andrew Hall, who is a safeguarding expert, however please read through and decide if the information may be of use to you. If anyone would like any support relating to this please contact the school.

Supporting your child if they see upsetting content online about what is happening in Ukraine (Childnet) [Supporting your child if they see upsetting content online about what is happening in Ukraine | Childnet](#)

We should not hide from children what is happening in Ukraine (Schools Week/Children's Commissioner) [We should not hide from children what is happening in Ukraine](#)

How to talk to children about what's happening in Ukraine and World War Three anxiety (Metro) <https://metro.co.uk/2022/02/24/how-to-talk-to-children-about-whats-happening-in-ukraine-16163133/>

Help for teachers and families to talk to pupils about Russia's invasion of Ukraine and how to help them avoid misinformation (Department for Education) [Help for teachers and families to talk to pupils about Russia's invasion of Ukraine and how to help them avoid misinformation. - The Education Hub](#)

Charity Donations

Mrs Hewitt works for a company that is arranging to send much needed items to Ukraine. If you would like to donate please see the details below.

Please can we ask that items be in school by Wednesday 9th March.

The Big Battery Hunt- National Battery Day Friday 18th February

It's time to get hunting for those old and used batteries. Did you know over a billion batteries are consumed in the UK every year but less than half of them are recycled. At Manor Way we like to do our eco bit for the planet, so this half term we'd like you to collect all your used batteries and bring them into school to be recycled.

Get hunting!

Thank you to all those families that have sent in their used batteries to be recycled. The younger children in school will be bringing home a battery box to collect them in but a plastic bag is just as good.

Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel 2022- Monday 21st March- Friday 1st April

This year the charity Sustrans have combined Walk to school and the Big Pedal and have given it the new name 'The Big Walk and Wheel 2022'. Those who have enjoyed taking part in previous years will remember that during these two weeks the pupils and their parents/carers are encouraged to walk, scoot or cycle to school. Each journey is logged by the class teacher and entered into the database to try to win prizes. If you're new to this, don't worry, more details will follow but I wanted to prepare you so that you can dust off those scooters and bikes in the hope for some nice weather.

Express and Star Cash for Schools

We have signed up for **Cash for Schools**. From **Thursday 3rd March 2022** until **Saturday 2nd April** you will be able to collect cash for school tokens from the Express and Star. The five

schools with the most tokens collected per pupil will share the prize pot. All schools taking place will be showcased in a special **Cash for Schools** supplement which will appear in the express and Star on Thursday 3rd March.

Manor Way Activity Club- February Half term

The Manor Way Activity Club will be running 21st-25th February. Please contact Trudy Fowkes on 07746 592 589 for more information and to book places.

Vacancy

We are currently recruiting for a lunchtime supervisor at both Manor Way and Tenterfields Primary School. If you would be interested in applying for this position please follow the [link](#)

Spring Term Clubs

	Before School 8.30-8.45am	Lunchtime	After School 3.30-4.30pm
Mon	Get Moving	Reading Buddies	Dodgeball Yr 3-4 (YourSport) SATs Booster Club Yr6 (Mr Eeles)
Tues	Get Moving		Dodgeball Yr 1-2 (YourSport) Musical Theatre Yr 3-6 (Kirstie)
Wed	Get Moving Yr4 Maths Club	Reading Buddies	Hagley Golf Club Yr 4-6 (James) Football Club Yr 5-6 (YourSport) Pottery Club Yr 4-6 (Liz)
Thurs	Get Moving	Gymnastics Yr1/Yr2 Reading Buddies	AVFC Football Yr 3-4 (James) Football Club Yr 1&2 (YourSport) Badminton Yr 4-6 (DTP)
Fri			Sports Club Yr R-2 (YourSport) Gymnastics Yr 3-6 (Lisa H) Tag Rugby Yr 5-6 (DTP)

DIARY DATES

9th March	Last Day for Ukraine collection
7-11th March	Yr6 Mock SATs week
17th March	Science Fayre
18th March	Red Nose Day- Dress as a Superhero
21st Mar- 1st Apr	The Big Walk and Wheel 2022
3rd April	Last day for collecting E&S Cash for Schools Vouchers
5th May	School Closed Election Day
9th-13th May	Yr6 SATs Week
8th-12th June	Yr 1 Phonics Screening Week

TERM DATES

2021- 2022 Spring Term Dates

Term Ends: Friday 8th April 2022 (pick up 1pm)

2021- 2022 Summer Term Dates

Term Starts: Monday 25th April 2022

Half Term: Monday 30th May- Friday 3rd June 2022

Term Ends: Thursday 21st July 2022 (pick up 1pm)

2022- 2023 Autumn Term Dates

Term Starts: Monday 5th September 2022

Half Term: Monday 24th October- Friday 28th October 2022

Term End Friday 16th December 2022

Inset Days 2021- 2022

Tuesday 4th January 2022

(Monday 2nd May- May Day Bank Holiday)

Thursday 5th May 22 Election Day

Monday 27th June 2022

(Friday 22nd July 2022 Extra Bank Holiday)

Inset Days 2022- 2023

Monday 5th September 2022

Friday 25th November 2022

Friday 9th December 2022

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Monday 17th April 2023

Monday 26th June 2023