

# Manor Junior School Monthly News



## Dates for this month

### Pantomime dates:

- Year 3 - 1<sup>st</sup> December
- Year 4 - 6<sup>th</sup> December
- Year 5 - 7<sup>th</sup> December
- Year 6 - 14<sup>th</sup> December

### Junior Disco & Christmas Celebrations is:

- 13<sup>th</sup> December
- 4:30pm - 6:00pm for Years 3 & 4
- 6:30pm - 8:00pm for Years 5 & 6

### Year 3 End of Term Assemblies are:

- 18<sup>th</sup> December
- 19<sup>th</sup> December
- 20<sup>th</sup> December

### Christmas Dinner and wear a Jumper: 19<sup>th</sup> December

### Prize giving and Reports: 20<sup>th</sup> December

### Last day of Autumn Term is: 20<sup>th</sup> December

### Children back Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018

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8:00am - 4:30pm

## Motivation, Joy, Success!

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy November we have had, remembrance assemblies, visitors, trips and all culminating in the fabulous International Day celebrations. The success of these events is all down to our fabulous school community of staff, families and pupils all contributing to our wonderful school. Thank you!



The spirit of enterprise was in full swing this month with the Year 5 children busy counting their monies raised through the International Day and learning the valuable lesson of raising funds as they plan for their trip to France in Summer 2018. Our young business men and women of Year 6 hosted a very popular DVD and popcorn evening, all funds raised will go towards reducing the cost of the year 6 Summer residential. They are already planning a second event for the Spring Term.

I do hope that you have all had a chance to explore our new school website and have found it easy to navigate. We are in the process of ensuring that the calendar reflects all the planned events and it will be live by the end of the term.

Preparations for the end of term are well underway, the children will be carrying out their final Autumn term assessments and these, combined with teacher assessments will be collated and presented to me on the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December. You will receive notification of your child's progress and attainment in their end of Autumn Term Report that will be sent home on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December after our Autumn Term Prize Giving Ceremony.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and fun holiday with your friends and family. The school will open for the Spring Term on 2<sup>nd</sup> January for staff to complete training on our new curriculum, behaviour and assessment procedures. All children are expected to be in school on **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018**.

Best wishes to you all,

Clare D'Netto

### Community Celebrations by Mrs Virdi (Deputy Head Teacher)

#### Children in Need:

As usual this was a very successful day and tied in well with our positive relationships themed week. Thank you to everyone who dressed in their pyjamas. We raised £471 for this charity.



#### Cinema Trips:

Sticking with the theme of the Cinema, every child had visited the local cinema to watch a film during the Film Festival season. Yet again, our children showed exemplary behaviour as well as enjoying this inspirational experience.



#### Movie of the Month:

Around 80 children enjoyed popcorn and the experience of socialising with friends whilst watching Cars 3. £200 was raised. Watch out for next month's movie; we hope to see you there.



#### International Week:

A festival of colours embarked Manor Junior School on Thursday, where children and staff dressed with a stunning array of cultural attire. French is the language, children are taught and much of the learning that took place this week was based around France. Thank you to Year 5 for organising and running the French Market.



**Year 3** by Miss Reddy (Year 3 leader)

This half term, Year 3 have been exploring the Stone Age. At the beginning of the topic, the year group went outside to collect as much information they could about Stone Age life. In groups, they visited each Classroom to learn about a specific artefact. These included a timeline, a clay pot, pieces of flint, a hand axe and a fish harpoon. The children were enthusiastic to learn about each artefact and were keen to share what they had learnt in their artefact fact files. They compared the artefacts to modern Britain.



Rayyon Kalam from 3S shared how 'The timeline showed different parts of the Stone Age and it was interesting to learn about the different tools they needed back then.'

**Year 4** by Mrs. Beveridge (Year 4 Leader)

As we were learning about Electricity in Science we felt it was only fitting to visit the Science Museum in London. It is always a joy to take students on trips to help enrich their learning. Our children saw electrical gadgets from the past that some of the parents and teachers remember fondly. A highlight of this trip was learning more about the famous Scientist Michael Faraday and seeing the students participate in a number of activities. The students from Manor showed exceptionally good behaviour and all enjoyed this experience. Thank you to all the parents who helped on this trip.



"The interactive games and exhibition on electricity and the future was fascinating", commented Yusuf 4P.

"I liked seeing Michael Faraday and watching him carry out the experiments," commented Ahmad 4P.

Zikra 4P, winding the handle generated electricity

During November, all classes have been focusing on improving their writing skills. Our children have been writing recounts and diary entries. We are encouraging them to use ambitious vocabulary in their written work rather than just the words they know how to spell. Please encourage your child to write at home too. Thank you for all your support.

Everyone in Year 4 would like to wish you all a safe and 'Happy Festival Seasons'.

**Attendance and Punctuality** by Mrs. Viridi (Deputy Head Teacher)

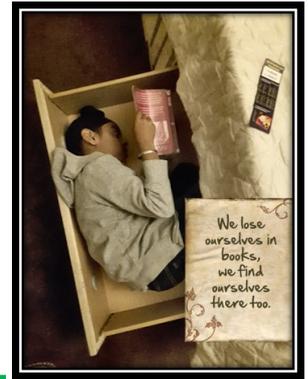
Attendance and punctuality are essential to ensuring that your child gets the most out of their time at school. They are also important life skills that your child will need as they become young adults and enter the world of work. Please ensure that your child arrives in time for the start of school at **8.55am**. Children can be dropped off in the playground from 8.45am onwards, so there is really no reason for anyone to be habitually late. Late arrivals are disruptive for the child who is late and also for the other pupils who have begun lessons. Congratulations to the following classes:



Week Beginning	30 <sup>th</sup> October	6 <sup>th</sup> November	13 <sup>th</sup> November	20 <sup>th</sup> November	27 <sup>th</sup> November
	3S = 99.17% 6S = 98.33%	3R & 3P = 100% 6F = 100%	4P = 99.31% 6I = 99.33%	3R = 99.33% 6S = 99.67%	3R & 3Ru = 98.67% 6I & 5T = 98.33%

## Year 5 by Mrs. Mistry (Year 5 Leader)

Over the last month, the children of Year 5 have been encouraged to read for pleasure and they have quite literally been caught reading here, there and everywhere! We've found children reading up trees, on top of vans, in drawers, at the supermarket, in the sink and even on top of fridges. If your child has not yet been caught reading in an unusual place, it's not too late. Join in on the fun and encourage them to find an original place to read. Then, take a photo, print it off and send it into school where it will be displayed in our Year 5 area.



"I'd never heard of David Almond before but I'm now reading Skellig. I've realised he's a great author and I want to find more of his books to read." (Fariha 5M)

We have also begun a book challenge which pupils are very excited about. Each class has been given a list of categories in which they need to find books for and then read. This has challenged the children to try new authors and different genres. Many have enjoyed being exposed to texts they may not have necessarily chosen themselves.

In class, we are continuing to read Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo and have written some great balanced arguments and recounts from the unit of work. The children have had the opportunity to debate issues from the text and have learnt how to open sentences in interesting ways. It's great to see the children so enthusiastic about their reading.

Last but not least, thank you for your continued support in aiding your child's reading at home. Your input is greatly appreciated.

## Year 6 by Mrs. Fergusson (Year 6 Leader)

This has been both an exciting and busy month in year 6. At the start of November, children worked very hard on their Remembrance assemblies. The progress that every child made from the first rehearsal to the final performance was outstanding in terms of projecting their voice, speaking with expression to convey the appropriate emotions and the quality of the singing. They all looked very professional in their black outfits with a simple red poppy.



Year 6 have enjoyed writing their own poems to express their thoughts and feelings, as the rehearsals progressed. Increasingly, pupils took ownership of their performance and made suggestions so that the end products included choral speaking, rap, dance and paired and group solos. When the children sang "*We are the Children*" there were many adults who were left speechless with emotion or felt tears run down their faces. As several classes remarked: "*We must have been good – the audience were in tears!*" A number of adults commented that they were "truly moved"; "*I had goose pumps all over and tingles run down my spine – it was just so poignant and moving to see them*". Mrs D'Netto remarked that they had achieved just the right balance between solemnity of the occasion and the hope that youth brings. Afterwards when the pupils were reflecting on the whole experience it was interesting to note that they recognised that teamwork and encouragement of each other played a huge part in the success. Many acknowledged and took delight in the vast effort and improvement they had witnessed in their quieter, shier and less confident peers: "*Wow did you hear X, I never knew that they could be that loud and clear – it was amazing!*"

We have just started our new class novel – '*The Eye of the Wolf*' which seems to be going down well and has got them intrigued as to the link between the boy and the wolf. Our reading challenge has been launched and it has been encouraging to see more children tackling reading with greater enthusiasm and challenging themselves to read different authors, genre and more demanding material. Generally, there has been more chat about books and reading including some heated debate whether e-books or paper books are best. One of our aims was to help pupils to develop greater reading stamina, sustain interest in longer books and be able to summarise their reading to you with increased detail and understanding, which at the start of the year we discovered is an area that needs considerable improvement.

Scrutiny of work, books and lesson observations continue to help the Year 6 team adapt plans to ensure that they do all possible to help match the curriculum to the needs and interests of the cohort. This half-term we are studying mountains and adaptation and interdependence in science so are using the mountain environment as our example. by making the subjects links in a cross-curricular manner is helping pupils see the links as one boy commented: "***We were reading about zoos in our homework – it all links together!***"

## Motivating and Supporting your child by Miss Kemp (SENCO / Inclusion Manager)

**School nurse visits:** The school nurse can help if you are concerned about your child's height/weight, hearing/sight, behaviour, development, toileting, new and existing health issues and eating habits. There is no need to make an appointment. Just drop in between 9 – 10am on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

**Vitamin D:** At this time of year it is important that we are all getting enough Vitamin D as there are less daylight hours and we spend more time indoors. A deficiency in vitamin D can lead to problems with bones, teeth and muscles, all of which are still developing in our children. The NHS suggests it may be beneficial for children to take a vitamin D supplement during autumn and winter to prevent problems occurring. For more information speak to your pharmacist or visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vitamins-and-minerals/>.

## JOY at MJS - Celebrating Success by Mrs Arrarte (Assistant Head Teacher)

As we embark on the 'most wonderful time of the year' may we reflect on Numeracy November. This month, we have had our Numeracy November Challenge 2017, on Mathletics, as well as some great achievements for our Manor Maths Team.



We are thrilled to inform you that **Manor Junior** has secured a place in the Regional Finals of the '**National Young Mathematicians' Awards 2017**'! Round 2 of the competition was held at Explore Learning Ilford on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017. We are now still anxiously waiting in anticipation to see if we are now through to the next round. Fingers crossed for the team.

Our team of four Year 6 pupils thoroughly enjoyed their experience at Explore Learning Barking. We would like to congratulate them on their success no matter what the outcome of the latest stage may be. They worked exceptionally well as a team and showcased each other's ideas beautifully.

We hope to always inspire new generations of mathematicians and would love our Year 5 children to start thinking about their maths skills and if they would like to participate in next year's competition.

After much deliberation, the Maths team would like to announce the winner of the 'Name the hippo' competition. For those of you that were unaware of this competition, the Year 6 Maths Team realised when they put the initial letter of each of their names together it spelt MATS. They quickly realised that they needed a H to spell MATHS, hence the hippo was added to the team, as their mascot. However, the team decided that 'hippo' was not a very inventive name so launched a competition on our Facebook page and in assemblies to the school to name the hippo. Year 3 in particular were very keen and came up with some very inventive names.

The team would like to announce that the Winner of the name competition is Pranav 4P with the name Hipperpolsom. The team were very impressed with all entries. They particularly liked with 'Holly' from Alisha 3S and 'Happy Ho Ho' from Saaia 3S, which may well become his nicknames over the festive period.



During Maths challenge week, as a school, we attempted a whopping **2742 tasks** and achieved over 85 percent in 2116 of them. We achieved 515 060 curriculum points and 241 875 live Mathletics points! Overall we came 247 out of a total of 411 schools who took part worldwide. Well done Manor!

Well done to Amaan, in 3s, who attempted a tremendous 76 tasks, during Numeracy November Challenge week, achieving over 85% in 75 of them. A fantastic achievement to be very proud of.

At the end of Maths challenge week, we will be awarding 206 bronze certificates and 16 silver certificates. **Bronze certificates go to:** Zainab, Rafay (6M) Hannah B, Jack, Abdullah (6I) Rayan-Ur (6S) Soha (6F), Harris Deen, Nafeez, Fariha, (5M) Abdulahi, Jeevan (5J) Chijioke (5H) Sabriya, Rizwan (4B) Jibrán, Uswah (4DS) Faizan, Ana-Maria (4T) Sukaina, Andre, Haniah, Jasmeet, Ahmad (\$H) Amanpreet, Anayah, Khadija, Suraj (3P) Ismah, Coby, Shakira, Deena (3A) Muhammad (3s) Jeevan, kaysanur, Yanus, Fouzia, Cydnie, Aminha, Sydney Rose (3R) Amilah, Farhan, Hiba and Alex (3RU). **Silver certificates go to:** Samin (6F) Mahammad (5H) Avneet, Heeba (6M) Amaan (4P) Nevie (4T) Amaan (3S) Musa and Aasher (4DS).

Well done to our top three performing classes who were all in Year 3. In third place with 80,093 points was 3RU, followed closely by 3P with 81,093 points but the clear winners with a whopping 99,137 points was 3R! Well done Year 3!

Well done and Thank you to everyone who took part in the 'November Numeracy Challenge' on Mathletics. No matter what the outcome, I think you'll agree it was a lot of fun.