











# Newsletter 15th September 2023

Every lesson counts - your child must attend school every single day for the best chance of success!

 <p><b>HIGH ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL GETS YOUR CHILD'S LIFE OFF TO A <i>FLYING START!</i></b></p>	 <p><b>INCREASING ATTENDANCE BY JUST 5% CAN <b>DOUBLE</b> THE CHANCES OF GAINING GOOD QUALIFICATIONS</b></p>	 <p><b>MISSING TWO DAYS A MONTH MEANS A CHILD MISSES <b>10%</b> OF THE SCHOOL YEAR</b></p>	<p><b>GOOD ATTENDANCE IN PRIMARY SCHOOL</b></p>  <p><b>Improves reading</b></p> <p><i>Writing</i> + <b>MATHS SKILLS</b></p>
 <p><b>THERE ARE <b>175</b> DAYS A YEAR NOT SPENT IN SCHOOL</b></p> <p><b>PLENTY OF TIME FOR SHOPPING, HOLIDAYS AND APPOINTMENTS!</b></p>	 <p><b>100s OF SUBJECTS   1000s OF CLASSES</b></p> <p><b>ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES</b></p>	 <p><b>TURNING UP JUST <b>5 MINUTES LATE</b> EVERY DAY ADDS UP TO <b>OVER 3 DAYS LOST</b> IN THE YEAR!</b></p>	<p><b>MORE SCHOOL =</b></p>  <p><b>HIGHER GRADES</b> <b>INCREASED CONFIDENCE</b> <b>MORE FRIENDS</b> <b>BRIGHTER FUTURE</b></p>

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*Our best attending classes this week are:*

*1st Ochre & Turquoise 100%*

*2nd Ruby 99.1%*

*3rd Magenta & Copper 96%*

*Perfect attendance Ochre and Turquoise!!*

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## Headteacher's Message

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*Dear Families,*

*Thank you to the many parents who came to our coffee morning today and shared their experiences of being part of the Manor Park Community. This year, we are planning a schedule of trips and workshops and that will be coming out soon.*

*We are also keen to further develop community events and would welcome support from parents and carers. We will let you know how you can be involved and we can't wait to work with you!*

*We are delighted to announce that our **Stay and Read sessions are starting again in Reception on Friday mornings 8.40am - 8.55am.** If you have a Reception child, please do stay a little longer on Fridays to help your child develop a love of reading!*

*If you are a parent of a Year 6 child, please look out for information about our **Secondary Application Workshop Friday 22nd September 9.00am.** We are able to provide laptops and support you with applying for your child's secondary school place. The application deadline is October 31st 2023.*

*And finally, please remember to book after school club spaces for your children. Confirmation of places will be coming out at the start of next week.*

*Have a wonderful weekend!*

*Ms Chapman and Miss Lewis*

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Secondary School Application Workshop Friday 22nd September 2023



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*If you are a parent of a child in Year 6, we strongly recommend that you attend our Secondary School Application Workshop.*

*Here you will get vital information, advice and support to ensure that your child's secondary application goes as successfully as possible.*

*We will also have staff and laptops available to help you to apply for your child's Year 7 place.*

***Now is the best time begin looking at all local secondary school websites to find;***

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- *Information about upcoming open days/evenings you and your child can attend*
    - *The school's performance data*
    - *The school's curriculum, vision and values*
      - *The school's SEND offer*
      - *The schools Ofsted report*
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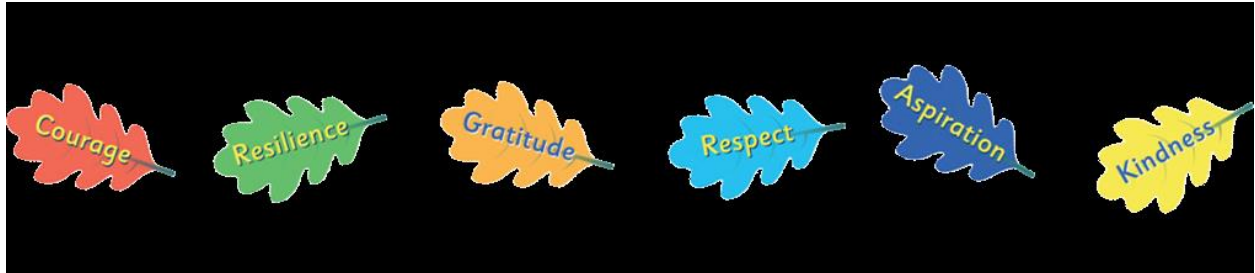
*This will help you to prepare for the workshop, the application and also piece of mind that you are choosing the right school for your child.*

*We look forward to supporting you with this, tea and coffee (and a biscuit!) will be available to get us through the process!*

If you would prefer to apply yourself at home, I recommend that you please click the link and read the guidance found on our school website. [Parent's guidance to submit online application, change of preferences and password resets. \(manorparkacademy.co.uk\)](#)

*Thank you,*

## Stars of Manor Park



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### STAR OF THE YEAR!

*These children were especially chosen because they have shown all of our school values consistently throughout the whole year.*

*Nursery    Mohammed Shazain*

*Indigo    Maria*

*Violet    Ahnaf*

*Copper    Mahmood*

*Gold    Marzia*

*Aqua    Ismael*

*Turquoise    Habiba*

*Cerise    Hassan*

*Crimson    Nicolas*

*Bronze Alimatou*

*Ochre Agrin*

*Ruby Andreas*

*Topaz Ali Raiyan*

*Emerald Masrupei*

*Teal Rayaan*

*A big well done to you all!*

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## House Points!



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*House points :*

*1st Lightwood 1255*

*2nd Berners-Lee 1210*

*3rd Aston 1175*

*4th Edwards 1105*

*Pretty close! Who will be first next week?*

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*The Waiting Room has been developed for citizens across Birmingham to provide links to 100's of Birmingham and Solihull based services that can help you take more control of your own health and wellbeing. It also provides links to key national organisations that can help you be more informed of the options available.*

*Manor Park Academy use these services to support children and families. If you need any support or advice, call in at the office to discuss these services.*

*[Home - The Waiting Room \(the-waitingroom.org\)](http://the-waitingroom.org)*

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# Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.



## PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

## ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

## AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

## DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

18 CENSORED  
Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary; emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

## FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

## ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful; if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

## TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

## BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Please supervise your children closely when they access games online from a device at home.



Follow us on 'X'



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*Thank you so much to those of you who have given us a follow!*

*Please head to @MPA\_Primary*

*or click*

[https://twitter.com/MPA\\_Primary?t=0jffDwMic-nOEGXl2gPdIA&s=03](https://twitter.com/MPA_Primary?t=0jffDwMic-nOEGXl2gPdIA&s=03)

*to find daily updates about the amazing things your children are doing at school!*

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## Dates for your Diary



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*Stay and Read - Every Friday 8.40am - 8.55am Reception Classes*

*Year 6 Secondary Application Workshop - Friday 22nd September 9.00am Main Hall*

*Bikeability Week - Starting Monday 25th September*

*Reception Open Day - Tuesday 24th October*

*Parent's Evening - Thursday 26th October*

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**At Manor Park Primary  
Academy everyone  
has the right to feel safe.**

**At Manor Park Primary  
Academy everyone  
has the right to learn.**