











Newsletter 22nd September 2023

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

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

Our best attending classes this week are:

1st Turquoise 100%

2nd Ruby 98.2%

3rd Crimson 95.8%

Perfect attendance AGAIN Turquoise!!

Headteacher's Message

Dear Families,

We are delighted to tell you that more after school clubs start next week! There was high demand for most clubs, but we have been able to make sure that every child who applied has a space in at least one club! Choir and Sewing clubs will be offered again in Spring Term.

In our weekly phase assemblies, we share a range of cultural and faith celebrations and festivals from around the world, as well as listening to, and appreciating, a broad range of musical pieces. Last week, we talked about New Beginnings and how exciting it is to be starting a new academic year! This week, the children found out how Rosh Hashanah is celebrated and next week we will learn more about Mawlid, the Islamic observation of the day when the Islamic prophet Muhammad was born. We are also looking forward to visitors joining assemblies this term, including a Sikh faith leader and an inspirational speaker.

Information about our upcoming Parents' Evenings will be coming out soon. This is a great opportunity for you to find out about how your child has settled into their new class, as well as their learning and progress in school already this year. Included in this newsletter is information about how we share your child's learning and progress in different ways.

We need to update your child's photograph permission so every child will be bringing home a photograph permission letter. Our updated consents include social media and marketing materials. Please complete and return to school.

Well done to our Year 6 children who are swimming during their PE lessons this half term. They are learning vital water safety skills as well as a range of strokes...maybe champions of the future!

And finally, we also had a very successful 'Stay and Read' session in both Reception and Nursery classes. We will now continue this every Friday morning at 8.40am going forward. Please do stay and read with your Reception and Nursery children - it is a really special time!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Ms Chapman and Miss Lewis

How Well is My Child Getting on at School?





HOW WELL IS MY CHILD GETTING ON AT SCHOOL?

A parent and carer guide to progress at Manor Park Primary Academy

For most parents and carers, there are two main areas that concern them about their child's education:

- Is my child happy at school?
- Is my child making good progress at school?

The first of these questions is vital to get right – a happy child is more likely to make academic progress. For most parents and carers, it is easy to tell if their child is happy in school through discussion with their child and the class teacher.

The second question is often harder for parents and carers to answer. Surveys show that parents and carers like to receive information regarding their child's progress. This booklet is designed to help you access and understand the formal and informal routes for finding out about your child's progress at our school. It contains answers to frequently asked questions and will support you in feeling more confident about discussing your child's progress with the school.



What do we mean by progress?

Progress is about an individual moving forward in their learning, developing new skills and achieving their personal targets. It is not about comparing one child with another; it is about looking at how far a child has moved on in their learning in relation to their own starting point.

How do we share what your child is learning in school?

- Each term, you will receive a **Curriculum Newsletter** for your child. This will explain what they will be learning in school and how you can support them at home.
- Your child is set **Homework** by their teacher. This will demonstrate what they have been learning in school and will enable them to consolidate key skills.
- Your child will take part in **special events** linked to their termly topic. These will reflect the content of what they will have learnt in class, as well as engaging them in the topic!
- On our website, we have links to **Curriculum information** to explain the topics and themes that your child will learn throughout the year. Visit <https://www.manorparkacademy.co.uk/curriculum/> and <https://www.manorparkacademy.co.uk/curriculum/all-years/> to find out more!
- Throughout the year, we invite parents and carers into school for **Family Workshops** and **Information meetings**.
- Our school **social media** page and weekly **Newsletter** show examples of what has been happening in school.



How do we share your child's progress over time?

- Formal **Parents' Evening** meetings between parents and teachers are held each term. The first meeting in the autumn term focuses on how well your child is settling into their new class, but teachers will also share with you any new targets and areas for development. The second meeting in the spring term is very much a progress meeting. You will have the opportunity to find out about your child's work and the teacher will discuss with you how your child is progressing in the key areas of the curriculum, as well as their personal and social skills. During this meeting, your child's teacher will share with you results from assessment tests in school and their progress from autumn term tests.
- At the end of the academic year, you will receive an **End of Year Academic Report** for your child. This provides information about your child's progress and attainment during the year in each subject. The summer parents' evening will provide the opportunity to speak with your child's teacher about the report.
- If teachers have concerns about a child's progress, they will usually **contact** parents and carers as soon as these concerns are recognised. We would always ask parents and carers to be open with us about their own concerns and discuss these as they arise. You can arrange contact by emailing enquiry@manorparkacademy.org or by speaking to your child's class teacher at the end of the day.
- If your child has an additional need, their progress is tracked through individual manageable targets and class teachers will share these at Parent's Evenings. Children who have additional needs in areas other than cognition, have an **Individual Education Plan** which is shared between school and home. For those children who have an EHCP, an annual review is held, to which parents are invited.
- In Nursery and Reception, your child's progress is shared regularly through Tapestry, an **online journal**.
- It is also important to share your child's progress in terms of their attitude to learning and their life skills. Your child's class teacher will celebrate these through rewards and **Celebration Assemblies**.



How do teachers measure progress?

Teachers are assessing pupils **every day** to help inform their planning and ensure that progress is made. Through **marking work**, **observing** and **talking** to pupils, they gain valuable information about pupil progress. However, in addition to these on-going assessments of the children, teachers also carry out more formal assessments of the children at different stages as an additional measure of how they are achieving against National Standards.

- Each term, the children in Years 1 – 5 take part in NTS tests to assess their progress in maths and reading.
- Each half term, children who are currently on the Read Write Inc phonics programme are assessed so that teachers can track their progress in phonics.
- Each half term, the children in Year 4 are assessed to see their progress towards the Multiplication Tables Check standard.
- Each half term, the children in Year 6 are assessed using mock SATs papers to see their progress in reading and maths.

What are the national statutory assessments (Years 1 – 6)?

- At the end of **Year 2** – Key Stage 1 Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs). In 2024, these are no longer compulsory national tests. However, there will be optional KS1 SATs tests. These assessments test children’s ability in maths and reading (plus an optional test in English grammar, punctuation and spelling). The tests are informal, so they aren’t timed and they take place in a normal classroom situation.

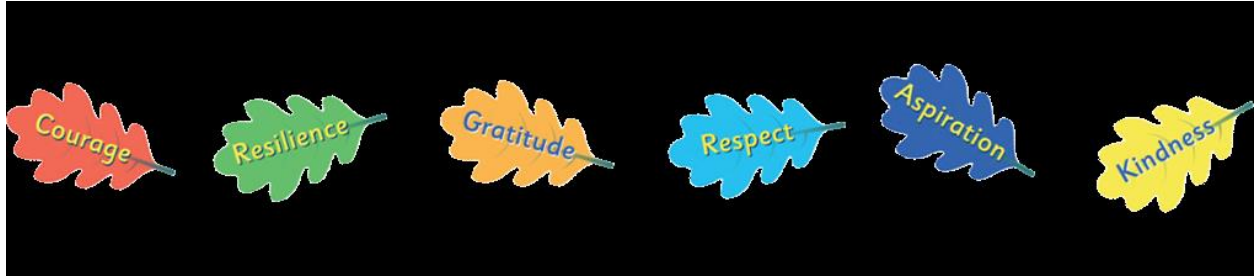
The following are national statutory requirements:

- At the end of **Year 1** – Phonics Screening Check. This takes place in June and is a way for teachers to ensure that children are making sufficient progress with their phonics skills to read words and that they are on track to become fluent readers who can enjoy reading for pleasure and for learning.
- At the end of **Year 4** – Multiplication Tables Check. This online, timed check assesses children’s recall of multiplication facts.
- At the end of **Year 6** - Key Stage 2 Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs). These assessments take place in May and are more formal tests in English (grammar, punctuation, spelling and reading) and maths. Each paper is 45 minutes long. Writing and Science are teacher assessed.

The children are given the opportunity to become familiar with these assessment materials and procedures throughout the year. **As a school we ensure that any formal testing is done in a calm and positive way so that all children feel comfortable. All teachers endeavour to make this a stress-free time and closely monitor pupil well-being.**



Stars of Manor Park



STAR OF THE WEEK!

These children were especially chosen because they have shown all of our school values consistently this week!

Nursery Siyana

Indigo Osman

Violet Eiman

Copper Amna

Gold Musa

Aqua Ikraam

Turquoise Zara

Cerise Ramia

Crimson Zulaikha

Bronze Yahyaa

Ochre Haneen

Ruby Aleena

Topaz Praise

Emerald Tahani

Teal Henna

A big well done to you all!

House Points!



House points :

1st Aston 580

2nd Lightwood 510

3rd Edwards 505

4th Berners-Lee 470

Pretty close! Who will be first next week?

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP

...MSG ME...

AGE RESTRICTION
16+
in UK and Europe;
rest of the world 13+

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original ... and might not be entirely factual, either.

ONLINE

VIEW ONCE CONTENT

The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing content' but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval; you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.



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)

Follow us on 'X'



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-nOEGXI2gPdIA&s=03

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

Dates for your Diary



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

Bikeability Week - Starting Monday 25th September

Reception Open Day - Tuesday 24th October

Parent's Evening - Thursday 26th October



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

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