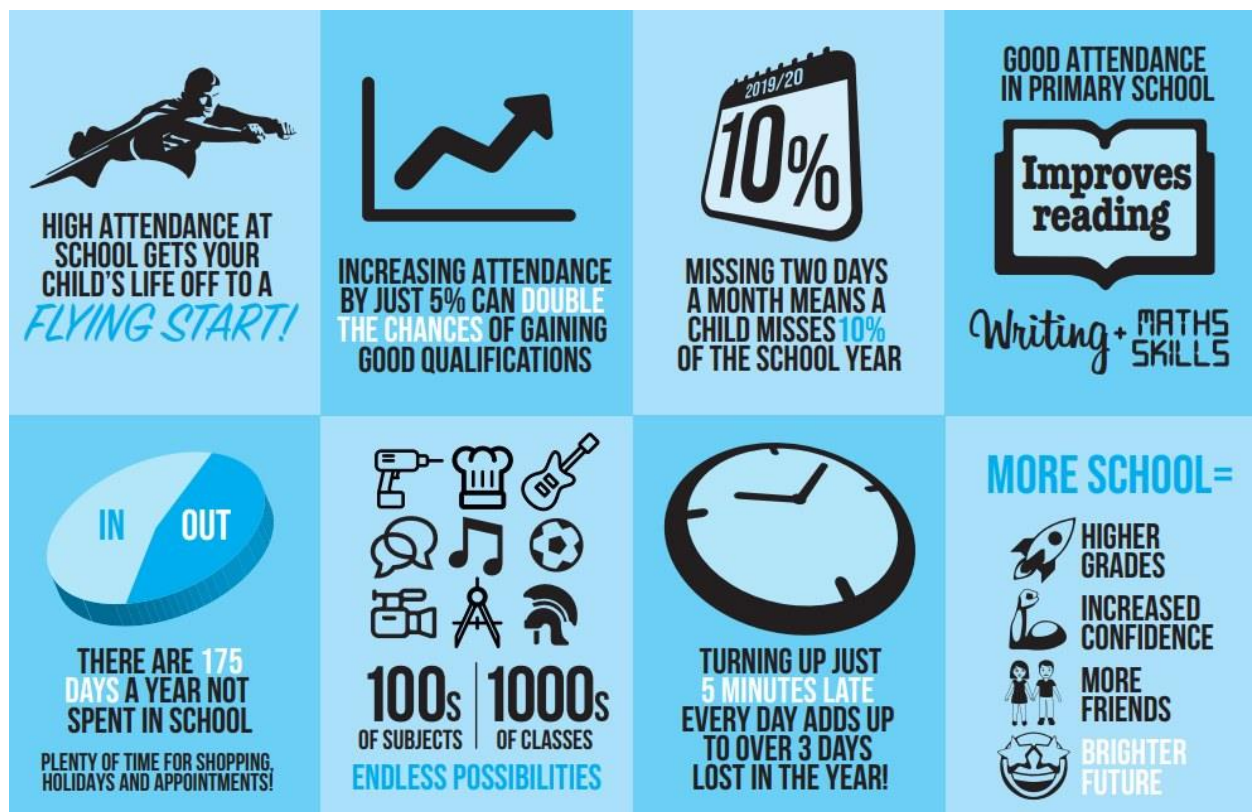




## Newsletter for 4th April 2025

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





**"THIS MORNING, HE  
WAS WORRIED ABOUT  
SCHOOL... BUT LOOK  
AT HIM NOW!"**

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**



**HM Government**

Head to the Education Hub to find out more.





## Headteacher's Message



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*Dear Families,*

*I hope that all our families celebrating Eid recently had a wonderful time at this special time.*

*Thank you to the staff and families who came together at our Community Fair on Friday. Money raised will fund a special 'Bouncy Castle' day for all pupils in summer term and I'm looking forward to meeting with the School Council soon to get their suggestions on how we use funding*

*from community events to provide more special events, and to create more special memories. Previously, money raised has supported the development of our Sensory Room and partially funded the Year 6 residential.*

*Well done to Year 4 who completed their 11Before11 promise on Thursday by 'Messing about on the water' at Cannon Hill Park. You can see photos of this, and other events, on our Instagram feed [www.instagram.com/manorparkprimaryacademy](https://www.instagram.com/manorparkprimaryacademy)*

*This week, we are looking forward to further performance skills workshops led by teachers and students from BOA. We also have parent/carers workshops in Years 2, 4 and 5, Blue Cross assemblies to teach dog safety, and our Easter assembly. Remember to send in your competition entries!*

*Communications with parents and carers is now done through Marvellous Me. If you need any support with using Marvellous Me, please get in touch.*

*The last day of term is Friday 11th April. Schools reopens after the Easter break on Monday 28th April.*

*Kind regards*

*Christine Chapman*

*Headteacher*

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## **IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE**



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*As a community, we have a collective responsibility to keep our children safe. Do not park on the yellow zig zag lines and please park somewhere that is safe when dropping off or collecting your child from school.*

*Parking inconsiderately can put people in danger and you also risk being fined by the council or local police. Under the Highway Code, it is illegal to park on school zig zag yellow lines.*

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## **If you need someone else to collect your child...**



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*We know that sometimes you may need someone else to collect your child at the end of the school day. **Please make sure that:***

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- *The person collecting your child is older than 16 (if they are your child's sibling) and over 18 (if they are not a sibling)*
  - *You inform the school before 2.30pm if someone new is collecting your child. Though we know other parents collect children for each other, you must let us know that you have given your permission*
-



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*Thank you for helping us to keep your child safe,*

*Becky Lewis*

*Deputy Headteacher*

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Star of the Week - Watch this space Friday 11th April



## Apply for free school meals - Important!



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[Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

*Did you know that by registering your child for free school meals, you're not only ensuring they get a nutritious, hot meal every day but also supporting our school's funding? Every child who is registered for free school meals **generates extra funding for the school, which we can invest directly back into your child's education and wellbeing.** This funding helps us provide more resources, better learning environments, and additional support for our pupils. While all children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 (as well as those under the Mayor's Meals scheme in London) automatically receive free school meals, we only receive extra funding if you officially register your child. Please read the attached letter for information on how to apply.*

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# — AND — THE WINNERS *are...*

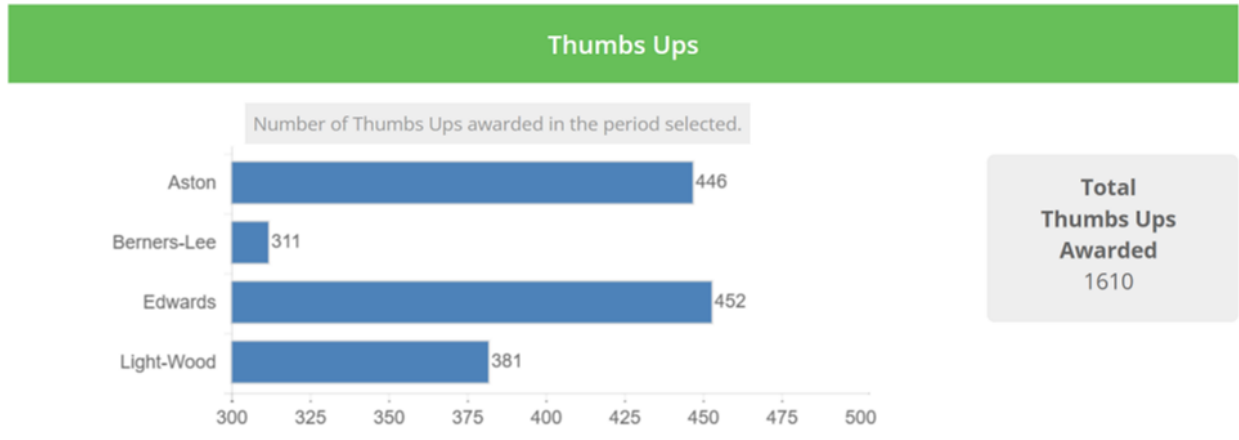
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*House Points are now collected using Marvellous Me. **You can see you child's individual house points by clicking on the 'thumbs up' button.** However many 'thumbs up' they've had, this is the number of house points they have received in school!*

*This week's winner overall is Edwards!*

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## Safeguarding and Wellbeing Update - Instagram



follow

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# INSTAGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION  
13+

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Instagram remains one of the world's most popular social media platforms, especially among teens – with around 70% of 13 to 17-year-olds using it. Owned by Meta, Instagram allows users to share photos and videos, create interactive 'stories', broadcast live, send private messages and follow others. With regular updates and new features, it's essential for parents and educators to stay informed about how children are using the app – and what the risks are.

### EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Instagram's design encourages prolonged use through endless scrolling of trending content and generating a fear of missing out (FOMO). Children can quickly lose track of time browsing posts from friends, influencers, and strangers, which may disrupt their day-to-day activities.

### AI CHATBOT CONCERNS

Meta's AI, which is available on Instagram, allows users to chat with an in-app chatbot. While often helpful, it can blur boundaries for young users, who may ask for or read content that is inappropriate or see it as a real friend or confidant. Privacy issues also arise, as conversations may not be as secure or private as children assume.

### RISKS OF GOING LIVE

The livestream feature allows real-time broadcasting to followers – or anyone, if the account is public. This increases the chance of unwanted contact from strangers and pressure to act in ways that gain attention, including engaging in inappropriate behaviour. Viewers may also post offensive or harmful comments during live sessions.

### THREADS INTEGRATION

Threads is Instagram's sister app for public, text-based conversations. Posts from Threads appear in users' Instagram feeds and can lead children to view, share, and comment on public conversations with strangers. The content may not always be age-appropriate and can be misleading or false.

### SCHEDULED MESSAGING

Instagram's newer ability to schedule direct messages means that children could receive messages late at night or early in the morning. This can disrupt their sleep or keep them preoccupied before the school day even begins.

### EXCLUSION AND LOW SELF-WORTH

Feeling left out online can have a real emotional impact. Being left out of photos, receiving fewer likes, being unfollowed, or being ignored in chats and comments can leave children feeling excluded, which often hurts as much as in real life. There is a risk this can lead to reduced self-esteem and a sense of not belonging.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### USE INSTAGRAM'S SUPERVISION TOOLS

Instagram's built-in Family Centre lets parents monitor how much time their child spends on the app. Specialised 'teen accounts' are private by default and offer controls on who can message them. Make sure that children use their real age when registering their account to ensure they have these protections.

### OPEN UP THE CONVERSATION

Talk regularly to the children in your care about what they enjoy on Instagram – and what makes them uncomfortable. Encourage honest chats about filters, body image, and online approval. Reassure them that they don't need to edit their appearance or chase 'likes' to feel valued.

### SET BOUNDARIES FOR THREADS AND AI

Parental controls on Instagram also apply to Threads. These allow parents to monitor time spent in the app, check follower lists and adjust exposure to sensitive content. Discuss AI features, too, therefore helping children understand that chatbots aren't real people and should be used with care.

### BE MEDIA-SAVVY WITH INFLUENCERS

Parents should follow a few of the influencers their child watches, so they can better understand the content they're seeing. Use this as a springboard to talk about the difference between genuine recommendations and paid promotions – and how online personalities can shape opinions and behaviour.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

## Dates for your Diary



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***Parents Evening*** - Monday 7th April and Wednesday 9th April

***Last day of school*** - Friday 11th April

***Return to school*** - Monday 28th April

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## School Term Dates for This Year - 2024/25

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*Please see the calendar below showing all of the school term dates, bank holidays and teacher training days for the next academic year.*

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## Manor Park Calendar 2024/25

August 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
31				1	2	3 4
32	5	6	7	8	9	10 11
33	12	13	14	15	16	17 18
34	19	20	21	22	23	24 25
35	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
35						1
36	2	3	4	5	6	7 8
37	9	10	11	12	13	14 15
38	16	17	18	19	20	21 22
39	23	24	25	26	27	28 29
40	30					

October 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
40		1	2	3	4	5 6
41	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
42	14	15	16	17	18	19 20
43	21	22	23	24	25	26 27
44	28	29	30	31		

November 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
44					1	2 3
45	4	5	6	7	8	9 10
46	11	12	13	14	15	16 17
47	18	19	20	21	22	23 24
48	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
48						1
49	2	3	4	5	6	7 8
50	9	10	11	12	13	14 15
51	16	17	18	19	20	21 22
52	23	24	25	26	27	28 29
1	30	31				

January 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
1			1	2	3	4 5
2	6	7	8	9	10	11 12
3	13	14	15	16	17	18 19
4	20	21	22	23	24	25 26
5	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
5						1 2
6	3	4	5	6	7	8 9
7	10	11	12	13	14	15 16
8	17	18	19	20	21	22 23
9	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
9						1 2
10	3	4	5	6	7	8 9
11	10	11	12	13	14	15 16
12	17	18	19	20	21	22 23
13	24	25	26	27	28	29 30
14	31					

April 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
14		1	2	3	4	5 6
15	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
16	14	15	16	17	18	19 20
17	21	22	23	24	25	26 27
18	28	29	30			

May 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
18				1	2	3 4
19	5	6	7	8	9	10 11
20	12	13	14	15	16	17 18
21	19	20	21	22	23	24 25
22	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
22						1
23	2	3	4	5	6	7 8
24	9	10	11	12	13	14 15
25	16	17	18	19	20	21 22
26	23	24	25	26	27	28 29
27	30					

July 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
27		1	2	3	4	5 6
28	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
29	14	15	16	17	18	19 20
30	21	22	23	24	25	26 27
31	28	29	30	31		

### Bank holidays 2024/25

26 August '24	August Bank Holiday	26 December '24	Boxing Day	18 April '25	Good Friday	5 May '25	Early May Bank Holiday
25 December '24	Christmas Day	1 January '25	New Year's Day	21 April '25	Easter Monday	26 May '25	Spring Bank Holiday

### Teacher Training Days

2 September 2024	3 September 2024	29 November 2024	31 March 2025	21 July 2025
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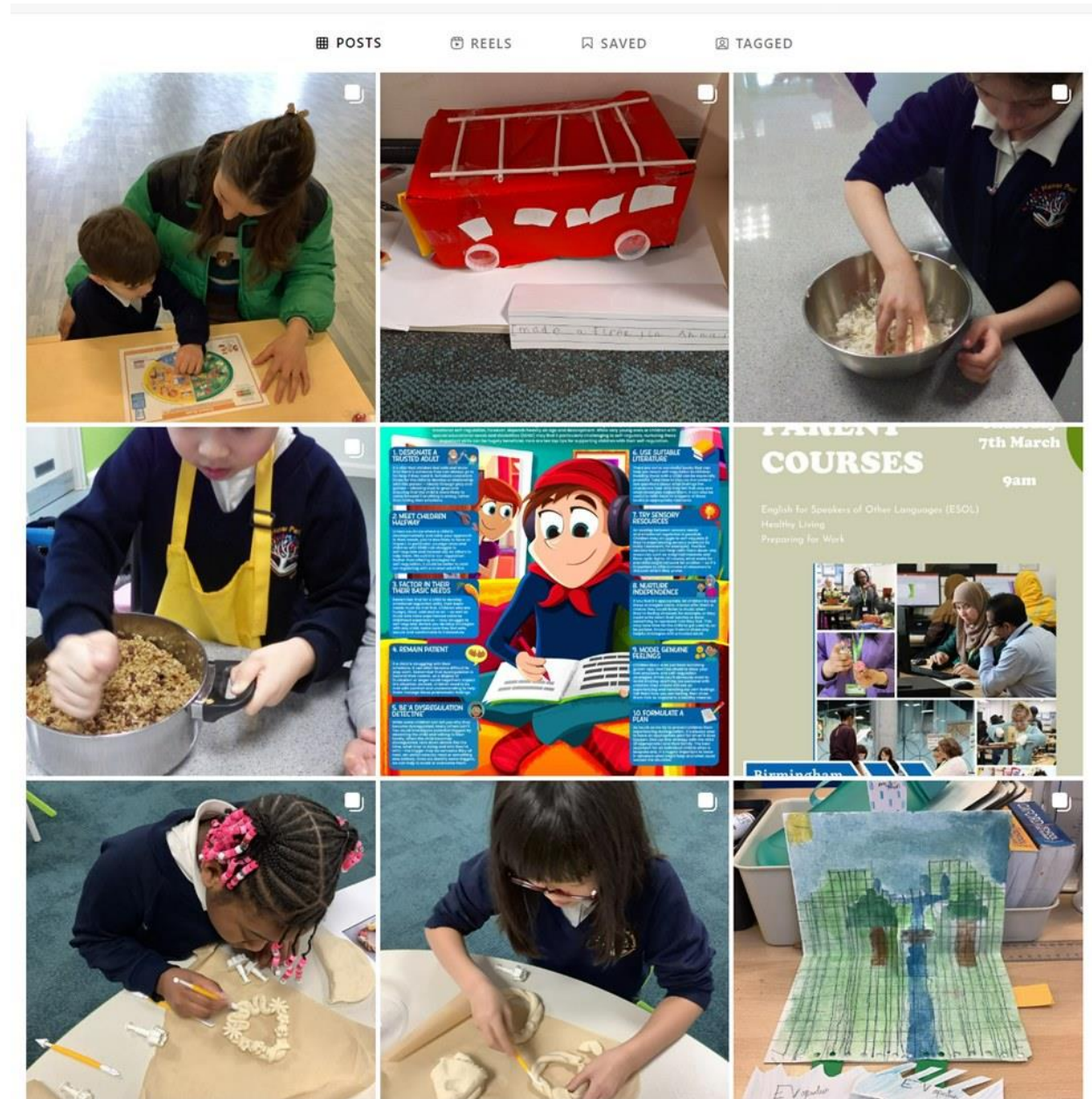


**We are a Nut Free School!**



*Give us a follow on Instagram!*

<https://www.instagram.com/manorparkprimaryacademy/>





If you need to report your child's absence...



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*Please call 0121 327 1023 to report your child's absence by 9.30am*

*If you need support with your child's attendance, please contact Jo Green via email at [enquiry@manorparkacademy.org](mailto:enquiry@manorparkacademy.org) or call the school office.*

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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.**



**We are your Designated Safeguarding Leads.  
We can help you.**



**Ms Christine Chapman**  
Headteacher  
DSL



**Mrs Saima Mahmood**  
Teacher  
DSL



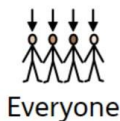
**Miss Becky Lewis**  
Deputy  
Headteacher  
DSL



**Mrs Natalie Brindley**  
SENDCo  
DSL



**Miss Jo Green**  
Lead DSL



Everyone



has

a



right

to



feel safe.



Please



talk to



us.

