

Manor Road Round-up

Welcome to our March 2022 Manor Road Round Up!

Welcome to our Spring edition of the Manor Road Round Up. We have had a very busy term with lots to tell you about!

Since the easing of Covid restrictions, our children have started to participate in inter-schools activities and educational visits have resumed. This has been so welcome! Our children have taken part in a whole host of sporting activities and competitions, including gymnastics, netball and dance. Key Stage One have also made regular visits to Clayton Green Library and this will continue during the Summer term. The children have loved borrowing books and are all taking part in the current reading challenge, encouraging them to read as much as possible.

Despite the mixed weather over the past few weeks, our school grounds are again beginning to come to life. Our bees are busy collecting pollen and the chickens have been laying lots of eggs. There are many bulbs and spring plants now appearing all over the school grounds. We are in the process of making our final arrangements regarding the redevelopment of the Compass Garden into the Key Stage Two Chill Out Zone and we are hoping to get the project started as soon as possible.

Earlier this term, we achieved the re-accreditation of the 360° Online Safety mark for all the work we have done to improve online safety at school. We are very proud of this award as it was a very challenging process and recognises the school's commitment to online safety. All the children also took part in the National Internet Safety Day which helped children learn how to play online games safely.

Over the term, the PTFA have been very active organising events. The Valentine's disco, Pop Up Mother's Day Shop and Easter Bingo were very popular and raised lots of money which will be spent on the Key Stage Two Chill Out Zone.

This term we said goodbye to Mr Phelan, after almost 18 years as our Site Supervisor. We gave him a lively send off last Friday to say thank you for all he has done for the school. Thank you to all of you who brought him gifts and wished him well. Mr Bradley has taken over from Mr Phelan and I know you will make him feel welcome when you see him around school.

As ever, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support and we very much hope you all have a lovely Easter holiday!

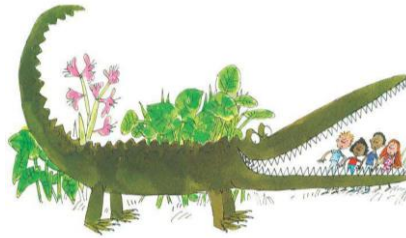


Ash Class

Ash Class have been having lots of fun. With friendships and routines in place, the children have been engrossed in a variety of different topics.

We have also worked really hard on our learning. We love to read! We have read many exciting stories, including a mixture of fiction and non-fiction. One of our favourites was 'Jack and the Jellybean Stalk' where we got to experience what it was like being Jack and eating all of the delicious jellybeans! Many of our children can be found applying their skills when in the continuous provision, either playing teachers or making cards for their friends and families.

The new reading corner has been very successful in promoting new and exciting vocabulary. The children love reading to the teddies as well as each other. They enjoy a weekly visit to the school library as well as sharing a book with their friends at the outdoor library. We loved reading 'The Enormous Crocodile' by Roald Dahl. The children's interest in the book led us to start reading 'Matilda' which we enjoy at the end of the day.



In Maths, we have been consolidating our knowledge of numbers to 10 with a deep understanding of the composition of each number. We have been focusing on recognising, ordering and especially number bonds which links to addition and subtracting. The children have been really keen to show off their addition skills by answering simple addition sums and extending this into their play.

We have been baking lots and these skills are transferable into many areas of the EYFS. The children use coins to 'pay' for their cakes before they eat them!



Our main topics have been based around animals and Spring. We have read many, many stories which give children the language skills to repeat and retell. The class especially enjoyed reading 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and then making fruit cocktails using the fruit from the story. Another favourite was making stir fry for Chinese New Year and then dancing with our enormous Chinese Dragon!

We have enjoyed taking part in the Easter Egg hunt and completing lots of Easter themed activities this week.

We hope everyone has a lovely break and we will see you all after Easter!



Elm Class

Wow – what a busy term we have had in Elm Class!

In History, we have been looking at Queen Elizabeth II, which has fitted in perfectly with Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee year. In Science and Design Technology, we carried out an investigation and tested materials to find the best one to use for an umbrella for the Queen. We designed and made an umbrella for the Queen to use during her many royal visits. Along with Oak Class, we are going to write a letter to the Queen showing her our ideas and offering her our services if she needs a new umbrella!

We have really enjoyed an experience day linked to our story 'The Queen's Hat' where she visited London Zoo. We had our own petting zoo in school and met lots of different animals including Frank the tortoise and Tyrion the snake. We loved it and said it was the best day ever! In English, we wrote descriptive sentences about the place the Queen's hat blew to and then wrote our own stories about Mrs Marshall's hat and the places it visited in our local area!

We have been solving word problems involving addition and subtraction in our Maths lessons and have been having a go at writing our own word problems for our friends to work out. We have also been looking at number patterns involving 2s, 5s and 10s.

In RE, we have been learning about Hinduism and places of worship.

In Computing, we have been looking at BeeBots and have learnt how to program one. We have also made our own videos to teach children in Ash Class how to use a BeeBot.

All of us in Year 1 have also been having a fantastic time in our swimming lessons at All Seasons Leisure Centre.

We are now ready for a good rest over the Easter holidays!



Oak Class



Oak Class have had a very busy term with a lot of work on Queen Victoria. We began with a History unit looking at the life of Queen Victoria. The children spent some time researching the life of Victoria as a child and talked about how different her life was to theirs. The children were really good at imagining how they think she felt, using the imagining and telling lenses from The Write Stuff English. One group of children imagined being Victoria as a child and wrote about her life in the first person. Another group of children sorted facts and fiction statements about what they knew about Victoria's life as a child. We talked about the important inventions that happened during Queen Victoria's reign and shared the book 'Queen Victoria's Knickers' and the role she played in the design and wearing of knickers.

In Science, the children have been sorting and grouping materials and investigating their properties. They have been introduced to a range of different scientific vocabulary used to describe their properties, eg. soft, hard, rough, smooth, durable, comfortable etc. and how this makes them fit for purpose.



This led to our Design Technology unit, 'Textiles' which was to design a pair of knickers. As a class, we thought as this year sees Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee, we should design and make a pair of commemorative 'pants' for her merchandise. The children used the idea from Queen Victoria, who added her initials to every pair of knickers she had made. We also added a commemorative Platinum Jubilee badge to our finished pair of 'pants'.

In Maths this half term, we have been investigating numbers to 40, counting, ordering, partitioning and working on our place value knowledge, making sure all our digits and numbers are correctly formed and in the right places.

During Book Week, we listened to the Roald Dahl story, 'Matilda' and watched clips to compare the events of the story. We had a 'Pet' morning which saw dogs, guinea pigs, rabbits, a tortoise and a snake visit our class! The children spent the morning stroking and holding the animals and asking their owners questions. There was also a bit of dog training!



We have walked to Clayton Green library, listened to a story and registered with the library so we could borrow a book. We have now arranged for all the Key Stage One classes to visit the library on a regular basis and helped the children to start the Lancashire Library Reading Challenge. Book Week ended with a great dressing up day and we all looked fabulous!

In Re, we have been focusing on Hinduism and enjoying learning about how Hindus worship in their temples and everyday lives. We had Grace from Yew class visit and share how her family worships. The highlight for the class was making salt dough Diva lamps to celebrate Diwali.

Oak Class really enjoyed the fabulous Easter Day organised by the School and Rights Councils. We had some fantastic entries to the Design an Egg Competition and we are making Easter Baskets, hoping the Easter Bunny will visit before we finish!

Miss Bennison has been working in Oak Class this half term. The children have continued to work extremely hard and have kept Miss Bennison very busy!. We have loved working with her and are sure she will go on to be a very successful teacher.

As we reach the Easter break, we can reflect on all our efforts and achievements over another busy term in Yew Class.

Yew Class

In our English lessons, we have continued to use 'The Write Stuff' system for creating independent writing following scaffolded sentence stacking lessons. We have written an imaginative story based on the fictional 'Stardust', researched Neil Armstrong for a question and answer text and, linking to our music work on un-tuned percussion instruments, we have learned how to write a set of instructions for making maracas.

Maths No Problem this term has focussed on money, from recognising coins and notes, finding amounts of money and ordering and comparing them, all the way through to beginning to use bar models to help us to solve problems involving money. We have also begun to find out more about fractions, learning about halves, quarters and thirds of whole objects, comparing and ordering them and recognising their relationship to a whole item.

In Science this term, we have loved linking this to our English work on Neil Armstrong, our History work about the UK's space history and our Design Technology unit on designing and building a lunar buggy. We received a letter from Major Tim Peake, who has been having trouble with his 'astro-nappies' for travelling to and from the International Space Station, asking us to find a suitable, waterproof material. We used our knowledge and understanding of the properties of a range of materials to help us to carry out a test to find the most appropriate material.

Our second Science unit has focused on plants and we have been putting our Biology skills to good use, dissecting fruits to find their seeds, observing the inside of broad beans closely and germinating our own seeds in bags on our classroom window!

We have also really enjoyed using our outdoor space during Science lessons this term, updating our Nature Diaries with the latest Spring developments and having a wonderful time looking for worms on the school grounds, as well as building and testing Gentoo penguin nests outdoors during our British Science Week activities.

British Science Week as a great success in Yew Class, as we enjoyed investigating what happens to folded paper flowers in water, designing posters for this year's topic of 'Growth', and designing creatures adapted for life in a Martian environment.

We also loved celebrating Book Week in Yew Class, having great fun reading 'George's Marvellous Medicine', dressing up in amazing character costumes, making our own 'marvellous potions', swapping books, making wooden spoon characters and designing new covers for our favourite stories.

Our Geography unit this term has focused on the contrasting location of the area of Kenya around Nairobi. We have really enjoyed finding out about the human and physical features of the landscape, engaging with videos shown through the eyes of two Kenyan children and comparing their lives and homes with our own.

In History, we focused on the development of Space exploration in the UK, learning about the first British woman in space, Helen Sharman, and our most recent space adventurer, Major Tim Peake.

In Computing, we learned all about the International Space Station and how it is supported by a plethora of computer systems, and recently we have been learning how to program algorithms in order to create simple apps.

In our PE this term, we have made great progress with our basketball skills, learning how to bounce a ball, dribble it with control and beginning to apply tactics in simple games scenarios.

As we now enter the run-up to Easter, with Easter Egg hunts, dress-up days and boiled egg design competitions, I would like to thank you all for your support over another busy term and wish you a wonderful, hopefully relaxing Easter holiday.

Year 3

After completing our brochures on Iron Age Living, our next English unit was based around 'The Happy Prince' and we are currently writing explanations about how rocks are formed. They're sounding very scientific with all the new vocabulary we have been learning.

During Book Week, our dialogues between the Twits were very entertaining and we wrote some rather revolting poems about the contents of Mr Twit's beard!



In Maths, our work on measures helped us to practise our knowledge of place value. We are working to improve our problem-solving skills and are applying our knowledge of times tables to our work on fractions.

We moved on from the Stone Age to the Iron Age in History, and will be finding out more about what happened during the Roman invasion next term. While finding out about volcanoes in Geography, we questioned and debated why people choose to live near volcanoes, most of us deciding that despite the many benefits it wasn't for us! We also worked collaboratively to create a volcano dance in PE.



In our Science topics of Forces & Magnetism and Rocks, we devised and carried out our own fair tests on magnets and rocks. We chopped and squished chewy sweets to learn about how different rocks are formed, grew salt crystals and looked at the make-up of soil. Having found out about fossil formation, for Art Week we will be making fossil prints by creating our own printing blocks.

I think we need a well-deserved rest!

Spring term has again been full of fantastic work in Year 4! We have created our own factual tours in English, written newspapers about the disappearance of Sophie from 'The BFG' and are currently getting ready to write our own narratives based on 'The Great Chocoplot'.

Year 4



During the first half term, we learnt all about ancient civilisations in History. We looked closely at the Egyptians, Indus Valley, Shang Dynasty and the Sumerians. The children found learning about and comparing the civilisations enjoyable, especially the Egyptians! In Geography, we have been looking at human and physical geography in both France and England. We carried out lots of research in this unit using laptops and iPads and used maps and atlases to help locate various places along the way.

Science this half term has been lots of fun! The children now know all about the human digestive system and worked together to construct and label the organs inside our bodies. We can now name and talk about the functions of all teeth and recognise how various animals have teeth to suit their diet.

In Design Technology, we made our own pencil cases by sewing together material and adding a button as a fixture. These were amazing and the children even added their own designs on the front to make them eye catching and personal.

In Art, we have created our own paintings in the style of impressionism. The children used the school grounds as their inspiration and spent a sunny afternoon sketching the field and trim trail. The children learnt how to mix paints to make different colours and how to create light and dark shades using watercolours.

In Maths, we have now finished Book A. We have now learnt how to simplify fractions, find equivalent fractions, read and interpret graphs and tell the time. We are coming to the end of our current unit of decimals, and plan to keep working hard to plug gaps and challenge ourselves with word problems each lesson.

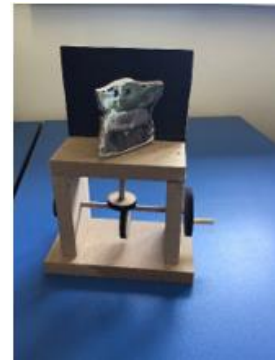


We have had a very busy and enjoyable Spring term. We are looking forward to brighter days, getting outside for some of our lessons and lots of hard work before Summer!

Year 5

The Spring Term has gone so quickly! The children have all been working so hard in all subjects. I am so impressed with how much progress the children have made since the beginning of the academic year.

We have been busy with design technology this term. The children cooked dolma (stuffed peppers) with cacik (Greek yogurt with garlic, cucumber and dried mint). This is a dish inspired by Mrs Pisirici's time when she lived in Turkey. The dish was really healthy and the children all had second helpings, with some even having third helpings (Mr Astley included). We also baked fresh bread rolls. The children experimented with bread fillings - the most popular one being chocolate. This has inspired some of the children to bake loaves of bread at home. We also went on a trip to Walton Le Dale High School to create a moving toy with a cam mechanism.



In terms of school sport, some of the children have competed in the netball leagues at Albany Academy, so well done to the children who took part in those fixtures. It has been great to see how much the children have improved. The dancers in Year Five and Year Six managed to secure fourth place in the Chorley School Sports Partnership dance competition at Chorley Town Hall on 16th March. Also, some of the children from Year Five took part in the Commonwealth Baton Relay. They carried the baton to Lancaster Lane Primary School.



In Year Five, we are very lucky to have a parent helper: Mrs Kerfoot. Thank you so much to Mrs Kerfoot for giving up her time to come in and support the children. We also welcomed Mrs Rushton who is a Student Teacher. She has been amazing and I wish her all the best for the future. She will be missed, and I know she will be an awesome teacher.

Year Five really enjoyed World Book Day. Thank you so much to all of the parents and children for their effort with their costumes.

Well done to every single child for working so hard and thank you for being such a pleasure to teach. You all work so hard and produce a good amount of work, to a good standard, every single lesson.

I hope you all have a lovely Easter break. Don't eat too many eggs...

Well, it's been a busy term in Year 6!

Year 6

We've been working hard trying to cover the Curriculum in time for the SATs in May. We've come a long way in our confidence and have tried so hard - not long to go!

In English, we've been focusing on grammar, punctuation and spelling and reading. We've also done some independent writing recently after watching 'Alma' - a video we found a little creepy but proved to give us some great writing!

In Maths, we have covered shapes, percentages, algebra, ratio, area and perimeter, angles and volume. We have been busy as we really would like to cover all of our topics so we can start our topic of Theme Park Maths in May.

In Science, we've looked at light and how light travels, including planning and completing our own experiment and experiment write up (it's been great practice for writing science investigations up when we get to high school). In Science Week, we looked at how our bodies grow and how our body parts change as we get older. In particular, we looked at hand size and measured our own hands to create an 'average' hand size for a 10-year-old. We did this for every age group in school. The results were interesting - some people had similar hand sizes to a year 3 or 4 child and some children had much bigger hands - we thought it may have something to do with our height! We also looked at the surface and climate on Mars and designed an animal that could survive on Mars. Our animals were very creative and we had to consider a lot of factors: the cold temperature, the low oxygen levels, low gravity levels as well as a surface rich in iron. It meant we created some weird and wacky animals that would be able to survive there!

In History, we looked at the Vikings and learnt all about where Vikings originated from, where they invaded as well as looking at their home life, clothing, artefacts and even food. It led to us creating a very authentic Viking fish stew and Viking flatbread in DT. The reviews were mixed - the flatbread being the biggest 'marmite' item - you either loved it or hated it. But, we completed all of our tasks completely independently from the peeling, chopping, dicing as well as following the recipe for the Viking bread independently too. We have some great cooks in Year 6!

In French, we've been learning all about French foods and have even had a tasting session this week! We've also been able to ask for prices and ask for things in the market. Tres Bien!

In PE, our topic this half term has been Outdoor Adventurous Activity which has centred around Orienteering. It has led to lots of teamwork which has been lovely to see and has geared us up for Robinwood nicely. We also had Miss Warren come in and teach Dance this half term. She's a dance student in her final year at university and has been looking at the impact that dance has on our mental health. The sessions were great and it was a lovely way to start a Friday morning!

Year 6 have also been involved in some clubs and competitions recently. The Year 5 and 6's competed in a recent netball competition which was fantastic. The team improved so much! We also had the dance competition where children danced their hearts out - it's been lovely to see sporting events back up and running. We also have the Tag Rugby Club run by Mr Astley twice a week - we definitely have a very competitive group for that - it's fantastic to see them all working so well together! We also took part in the Commonwealth Baton Relay - taking the baton to Lancaster Lane School. We have also entered our pledges into the Lancashire School Games so fingers crossed for a win for Manor Road!

Whilst our focus this term has been on revision, we've also enjoyed getting outside as much as possible and enjoying the nice weather. We've done GPS treasure hunts outside, writing outside and even some arithmetic and reading outside too!

Year 6 also won 'Class of the Week' twice this half term which means we have chosen to have a day of no work and a water fight outside - what a great end to the half term!



PARENT, TEACHER AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Registered Charity Number **1107072**

Thanks to your generous support we have had another really successful term raising at least **£1,800**.

There is hopefully a little more to add to that with the final count from the Easter Bingo. Our team are ecstatic to be able to be holding events and seeing the children have such fun whilst raising money for the compass garden transformation to a KS2 Chill out zone.

The Spring term has been another busy term. We started with our amnesty box for those lovingly received gifts that may have been duplicated or unwanted. Thank you to everyone who donated. We will re-use them at PTFA events during the year to support our fundraising.

We held PTFA Uniform Sales and agreed that until the end of summer term they will be a monthly (on the first Friday of the month or the next available Friday after that if the first is a holiday). Should anyone want anything from the Uniform Shop, in between please see "Ways to Contact Us" below.

The Valentines Disco was held before half term with DJ Guy Barker doing another great job of entertaining infants and juniors. We made a change to the timings of the Junior Disco, and kept hot dogs, and the usual sweets and treats. We raised an amazing **£941.33**.

In March we held the lovely Mother's Day Pop Up stall, the Children really enjoyed shopping for gifts from a lovely array of items carefully selected by some of the PTFA shoppers. The event raised an **amazing £519.74** and it was lovely to see the children have such fun in choosing presents. We hope you had as much pleasure from receiving them.

It was sad to say goodbye to Mr Phelan who has always been on hand to help our team with the many jobs we have tasked him with over the years. The latest being to construct some shelves for us to store all our resources. As a thank you for all his hard work we gave him a small hamper of goodies to take away with him. We hope he enjoys his retirement and wish him all the best. We look forward to working with Mr Bradley as we prepare for events in school.

We held our Easter Bingo virtually this year. The fantastic DJ Guy Barker hosted the event, and everyone had a great time. Congratulations to the winners of the amazing chocolate hampers and goodies. A **massive thank you** to all families who have supported this through non uniform donations and tickets for the event. We also need to thank our PTFA helpers who prepared the prizes and our resident DJ for being the bingo caller and giving up his time.

We are progressing well with the KS2 Chill out zone work. We met with 3 contractors along with Mrs Marshall and we are hoping to have all 3 quotes back imminently. Once we have those, we will give a further update so that everyone appreciates the scale and cost of this project! We have £10,000 already and we know we need a reasonable amount more.

Thanks to all those who have helped out at PTFA events this term making the events so successful and enjoyable – it's really appreciated, and we can't do it without you. It has also been lovely to welcome some new helpers to the PTFA team. If anyone wants to get involved or has any new fundraising ideas, please contact us for the details of our next meeting. Everybody is welcome to join us as we plan for events in the Summer term including the May Beach Disco, Father's Day, Summer Fair and Sports Day refreshments.

We hope everyone has a lovely Easter.

Ways to Contact Us

In person – leave a message with the office

By e-mail - ptfa@manorroad.lancs.sch.uk

By facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/ManorRdPTFA/>