





Writing

Reading

# **English at Manor Road**





Our wonderful English Ambassadors

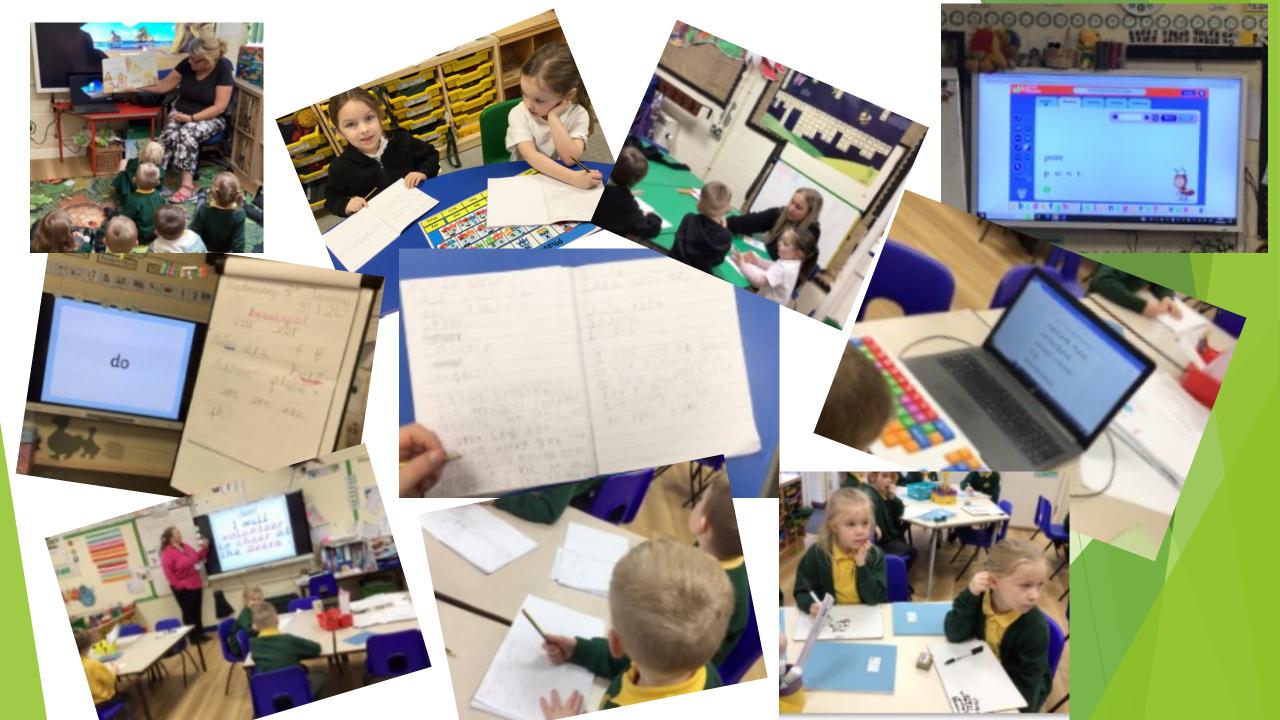




### **Strengths in phonics at Manor Road**

- Phonics is taught as soon as children join our school (Pre-School) with lots of opportunities for Phase 1 development.
- When children enter our Reception Class, the children are taught letter sounds using a rigorous scheme called Bug Club Phonics. The children are taught together so that everyone keeps up and those who need it are swiftly given interventions.
- Children are given the opportunity to access their reading using an online platform as well as the traditional paper copy of a book. This engages a wide range of learners and means children can challenge themselves further at home if they wish.
- Phonics is taught using the same scheme in Year 1 with the vast majority of our children meeting the expected level of progress on their phonics screening check at the end of Year 1.
- Phonics does not stop in Year 1- there are boosters and a specific KS2 Rapid phonics programme for any children who may need it.

**Phonics** 



- This half term I will be liaising closely with the Year 1 team to look at which children may need some gap analysis and interventions on specific sounds and families of sounds.
- I will be working with some of the KS2 children who have been identified as having some gaps in their phonic knowledge which is linked to spelling. We will be looking at spelling patterns together to help improve their confidence with spellings.
- I continually assess the lowest 20% in each class every half term and ensure these children are making accelerated progress. This is done through probes, precision teaching and interventions.

Phonics

#### **Strengths in Reading at Manor Road**

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Reading

- The reading books are mapped out from Pre-School to Year 6 so that we have good coverage of a range of genres. This is taught in English lessons, guided reading sessions, reading for pleasure in class as well as in topic work.
- Every class promotes reading for pleasure. The infants read a book most days and these are often what the children choose. Year 2 are currently doing the Brilliant Book Awards. Year 2-6 each have a top 50 recommended reading tree in class. Children are encouraged to read all 50 over the year.
- Ks1 classes all visit Clayton Green library every 3 weeks to ensure all children have the opportunity to experience libraries as well as read for pleasure.
- All classes in school visit the school library which is now being monitored and kept tidy by Mrs Law!
- School subscribe to My Happy News and children get a monthly newspaper with 'happy' news.
- Phonics gives a good base for reading. The children are mostly ready to move onto banded books in Year 2 and focus on fluency, pace and comprehension skills.
- Guided reading sessions take place either 3 or 4 days a week in all classes.





Reading Book Progression at Manor Road

Reading

#### The Reading Framework, July 2023

- ► Have a high-quality systematic synthetic phonics programme in place.
- Ensure all staff who deliver phonics (or may deliver this) are trained in it.
- Make sure the teaching of phonics is of a high-quality.
- Match pupils' decodable books to the GPCs taught.
- Encourage everyone to prioritise and promote reading.
- Make sure that any pupils who fall behind should be assessed, and appropriate interventions should be timetabled and completed.
- See Book Club time as 'valued'.
- ▶ Teach the phonics programme to pupils who struggle with decoding, regardless of age.
- Recognise that fluency is key to comprehension and ensure staff are trained in how to teach this.
- Understand that reading aloud to pupils is critical.
- Regularly review the books to read.
- Ensure pupils are reading across the curriculum.
- Treat the acquisition of vocabulary as a high priority.

#### Strengths in Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation at Manor Road

- Spelling is taught in EYFS/KS1 using phonics and teaching tricky words through phonics lessons/homework.
- Spelling from Year 2-6 is taught using Jane Considine's The Spelling Book. Teachers are using this as a base to teach children the spelling patterns without the pressure of a spelling test.
- Staff are also teaching children the statutory spellings for each year group and teaching them using patterns as well as games/ different strategies. These are shared with parents so children can go over them at home.
- Punctuation and Grammar are something we are working on as a school and in particular writing. Staff are now taking block weeks to pre -teach elements of SPAG that are needed in each year group. This is a priority, along with spelling that has cropped up in assessments in KS2 particularly, since Covid.
- Year 5 and 6 have SPAG books which go home to help children master the basics.
- Children are assessing their own work using marking ladders so they can work on their targets independently.

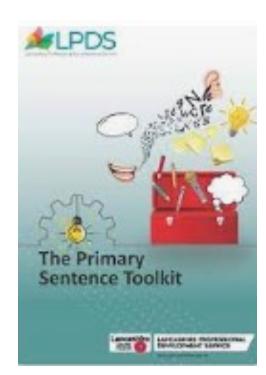
**SPAG** 

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6. mature	mature treasure pressure
7. mention	mention direction martian
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CGP

KS2 English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling



The Study Book

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	write clear and informative sentences.	0
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-0	write my report in sections.	
	write a short introduction.	
	include a fascinating fact.	
bold	colourful title and dingram with mlso liked my short int	h lable

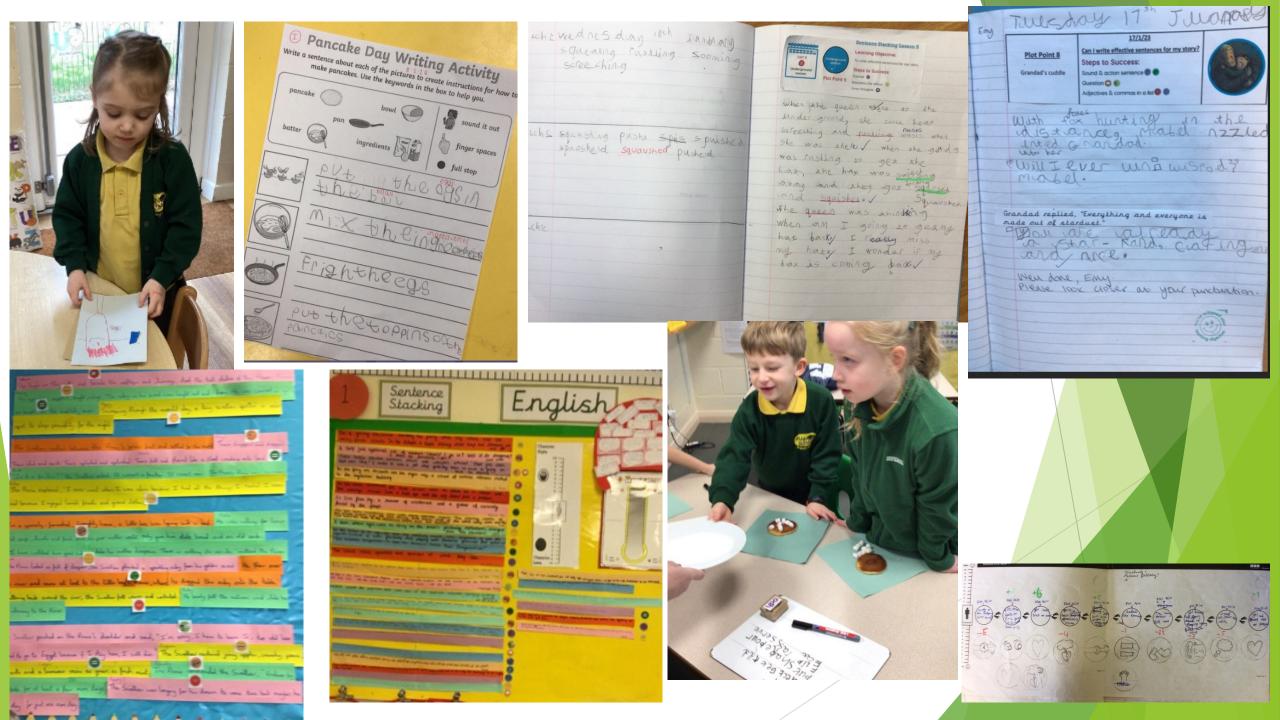
**SPAG** 

- There is a gap in children's phonic knowledge in spelling in lower KS2 (due to missed learning in Covid) so we are catching up by giving the children phonics interventions to teach them 'where' sounds go in a word.
- Continue to use marking ladders to give children more ownership of their targets.
- Be more flexible with the English units and work as a staff to plan in more SPAG dependent on the childen's needs.
- Staff are in the process of implementing a simple sentence progression document which we can all follow to track the way we teach SPAG.

#### **Strengths in writing at Manor Road**

- Jane Considine's approach to writing has increased vocabulary in all year groups. Children are choosing to use much more adventurous language in their writing and this is very evident in books.
- Experience Days continue to be a hit with children and very successful for the cultural capital element of English. Children 'doing' before writing so they have an experience to write about.
- All classes have implemented the sentence stacking very well and this has helped children by using a level of scaffolding.
- Early writing opportunities are everywhere in the EYFS, starting in Pre-School. Children are encouraged to mark make as soon as they join our school.
- From a very recent questionnaire with the children, most children enjoy English and they like having the opportunity to deepen the moment (DM) in lessons.
- The lenses are becoming embedded with most children being able to say what they are/mean.
- All staff are using the writing targets we made together in 2022 and these are shared with parents and children.

Writing



Writing

- Staff are in the process of implementing a simple sentence progression document which we can all follow to track the way we teach SPAG. This will be alongside Jane Considine's The Write Stuff. Staff are now consistent in the way we teach writing and that was my aim after Covid so now I feel we can interlink SPAG more to match the children's needs.
- Continue to moderate in key stages and track children through their journey at Manor Road.
- Moderate externally in the cluster as well as at the end of EYFS, 2 and 6.

## Strengths in Communication & Language/ Speaking and Listening at **Manor Road**

- Communication and Language is a prime area of the EYFS and we have recently received the Lancashire Quality Award in Communication and Language.
- Both K Maloney and I are language leads for Lancashire. This gives us insight into the latest research and guidance when working with very young children. Communication and Language is at an all time low in the EYFS and has been flagged as a priority for all schools.
- Language development at Manor Road steadily builds on the solid foundations established during the early years. Children's attention, listening, understanding, vocabulary, speech, grammar, storytelling and conversations all develop further in terms of skills, knowledge and complexity.
- Christmas plays in KS1 help children develop their listening and speaking skills.
- Children are given many opportunities to listen to one another as well as to speak and be heard. The councils are a good example of this at our school. Children's voices are heard in all subjects and the ambassadors ensure that they have a say in what goes on.

Speaking and

and Language

- Children use drama in English lessons to express themselves. Poetry week is time when children perform in English to one another.
- Stay and play sessions and parent workshops continue to be a success and encourage good links and language development.









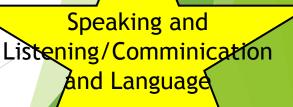








- Continue to prioritise speaking and listening in all classes.
- Continue to meet with the subject ambassadors to maintain the good level of pupil voice at our school.
- Continue with PSHE sessions on what listening looks likes as well as being respectful.



#### **Strengths in handwriting at Manor Road**

- At Manor Road, we all do cursive handwriting where the letters start on the line and join.
- Children in the EYFS learn both print and cursive when ready.
- Children are taught from Reception to hold their pencil effectively and do cursive if they are ready- this helps with transition to Year 1.
- All children try really hard with their handwriting and the two week handwriting focus has really helped at a whole school level in improving presentation. Children's cognitive overload when writing meant that handwriting was sometimes an after thought but going back and re-teaching it has made a big difference.
- The cursive print is on all the laptops and computers so the children can use the print if they are struggling with pencil and paper.
- We have recently signed up to letter-join which is a whole school handwriting scheme.

Handwriting\_



- Have a handwriting fortnight every year to re teach handwriting without all the other added pressures of SPAG, sentence structure etc.
- Continue to monitor the presentation in books as well as with the English ambassadors.

