

Manor Road Round-up

Welcome to our April 2025 Manor Road Round Up!

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

Our children have again taken part in a whole host of extra-curricular activities and competitions from dance to football, cross country to choir. Thank you to all the staff and parents who have attended events.

As we head towards the end of the term, our school grounds are again beginning to come to life. Our bees have started to fly again and the chickens have been busy laying eggs which we have then used in school for cookery.

We are currently putting plans together to revamp our allotment area but in the meantime, we have planted potatoes and also other vegetables. We are hoping to run our own 'pop-up farmers' market' again this year with more home grown produce.

We have had a range of curriculum themed weeks over the term. These have included: Book Week, where we took part in a range of activities linked to books and British Science Week, where children conducted a range of brilliant science experiments.

Over the term the PTFA have been very active organising events and fundraising. This term money has been given to buy new home reading books which should arrive for children to use after Easter.

As the term comes to a close, we would like to send Miss Otto our very best wishes as she starts her maternity leave. We are very much looking forward to seeing Miss Otto and her new baby soon. Mrs Newton will be covering Year 6 until the end of the summer.

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.



Pre-School

Our return to school in January welcomed the arrival of some new children to Pre School – Huw, Esme, Tommy and Georgia joined our little family to take our numbers to a high. These children settled in so well and we look forward to watching them grow as they will be with us until July 2026! This week, we have welcomed Marley who turned 3 just at the end of March and who will also be with us until next summer.

Our “old timers” continued to flourish and develop. Confidences soared, friendships blossomed, and we all seemed to have grown an inch or two! We enjoyed learning about winter, polar regions around the world, and people who help us. We loved having a visit from PC Brown and his police dogs Rufus and Buddy and enjoyed learning how clever they are in helping the police with their work.



We also enjoyed our sessions with Mrs Rothwell from CSSP who has taught us lots of skills, including how to travel in various ways, how to balance and how to catch and throw as well as introducing us to some new games.



Thanks to our new improved outside play area, we have been able to get our wet suits and boots on and get out in most weathers this term. However, the strong winds we experienced back in January, were a little scary and not only did they blow some of our pre-schoolers over, they blew our shed down completely! Thanks to Mrs Marshall and Mrs Davis, we now have a sturdier wooden shed to store all our things which Mr Bradley is very kindly going to build for us (Thanks very much too to Mr and Mrs Kerfoot who have supplied the flags free of charge for the shed to stand on).

This spring term was brought to a lovely end by our Mother’s Day assembly – it was a really great occasion and we thank Mrs Foulds for organising it. In pre-school, we enjoyed a successful Stay and Play session this last week and all 18 children were able to attend.

We hope you all have a lovely Easter break and we can’t wait to find out what the summer term will have in store for us when we return.



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 and story time is always really special in Ash Class, as the children are always so engaged. They love using their imagination and letting it run away with them! The children are blowing us away with their fluency and, now the children are reading every book three times, they are really enjoying and understanding their stories. The children have been getting raffle tickets every time they read three times or more which is really helping with progress. We have read many exciting stories including a mixture of fiction and non-fiction. One of our favourite stories was Jack and the Beanstalk. The Giant came and took the class fairy, Arabella. We even had some of the Year 3 girls helping us look for her! During Book Week we did lots of poetry and read many books by Julia Donaldson. We really enjoyed acting out some of the stories.

Children's mental health week was a lovely opportunity for us to hold a spa day for the children. The children relaxed and spent the day having treatments and relaxing in their pjs!



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 skills by playing on Hit the Button and also Numbots. We have been really impressed by how quickly some of the children can recall their passport facts.

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 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and then growing our own magic beans in the playground area. Another fun activity was making stir fry for Chinese New Year and then dancing with the Chinese Dragon!

We have enjoyed completing lots of Easter themed activities this week and trying our skills on the balance bikes!

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



Elm & Oak Class

What a term we have had! The children have been working so hard and have grown up so much since the Autumn term.

The children have been partitioning, solving problems and learning number names for numbers up to 40. They have been measuring objects using standard and non-standard units in forest school.

In English, the children have been very busy, writing their own stories for the pre-school children, creating non-fiction animal fact files using the animals they saw at Chester zoo. They also enjoyed a wonderful day out at the zoo to collect all the information they would need to create their fact files in December. It was a little cold but all the animals were out to see. The children also enjoyed celebrating pancake day and made yummy delicious pancakes and then wrote instructions for Zog to follow to make some for his friends at dragon school.

The children had lots of fun in Book Week, making a 'story in a box' for our competition, listening to lots of Julia Donaldson stories and dressing up as different characters from her books. The outfits were great!

We have been focusing on reading as often as we can to build up our fluency and speed and we are so proud of all the reading that is being done at home.

Handwriting has been a focus and the children have made such huge progress and have worked so hard in forming all their letters correctly.

In Forest School, the children have enjoyed making bird feeders, exploring fun maths activities, making a trap for a leprechaun on St Patrick's Day and have planted 3 new trees in outdoor area.

In Science, the children have explored the seasons, weather and materials and using their knowledge of materials will be designing and making a scarf for King Charles to wear on his important visits in DT.

In Geography, the children have been learning all about the UK and its countries and capital cities and for science week they became weather reporters having a go at doing their own weather reports for the UK.

In History, the children learnt all about the life of Queen Elizabeth II and King Charles III. They remembered so many fun facts. We were all very impressed!

In Computing, the children have been using their click and drag skills to create digital art as well as having a go at programming our bee bots to move around an obstacle course. Next term, they will be having a go at coding.

In RE, the children learnt about and celebrated Chinese New Year, the festival of HOLI and learnt about Baptism. We walked to St Bede's Church, where Father Mark very kindly showed us around and talked about what happens during a baptism. The children enjoyed talking about and sharing their own baptism photographs. In PHSE, the children have been looking at friendships and people who are important to them and have participated in some fun Happy Mind sessions.

In PE, the children loved their dance unit from Chorley Sports Partnership and created a fantastic dance all about The Great Fire of London.



Yew Class

What a whirlwind of a term this has been, full of extra-curricular excitement as well as a packed curriculum!

In our English lessons this term, we have been busy linking our science work on plants with writing a set of instructions for growing sunflower seeds. We have also been practising our grammar skills including adjectives, subordinating conjunctions, imperative verbs and time adverbials.



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

Maths No Problem this term has focused on money, learning about the different denominations, counting and adding amounts of money and solving word problems to find change. We have now moved on to 2 and 3D shapes, identifying, sorting, moving and turning them.

In Science this term, we loved linking our History work about the UK's space history with our DT unit on designing and building a lunar buggy. We received a letter from Major Tim Peake, who mentioned astronauts' difficulties with their 'astronappies' 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 for future nappies.

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 British space adventurer, Major Tim Peake.

Our second Science unit has focused on plants and we have been putting our Biology skills into practice, dissecting fruits to find their seeds, observing the inside of runner beans closely, and germinating our own sunflower seeds in on our classroom windowsill. We have also investigated what seeds need to grow and stay healthy besides water by placing some in a cupboard to see if they need light.



British Science Week with the theme of 'Change and Adapt' was a great success in Yew Class, as we enjoyed taking part in the Primary Engineer initiative 'If you were an engineer, what would you do?'. We entered our engineering designs into their competition and we will all hear back from individual engineers with a grade in due course.

We also loved celebrating Book Week in Yew Class, having great fun reading and performing a wonderful range of poetry, holding a book swap and a Reading Café for families, dressing in our Julia Donaldson outfits and making wooden spoon characters.

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 coding lessons.

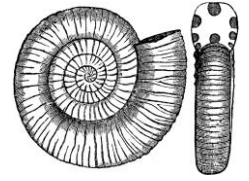
In our P.E. this term, we have made progress with our tennis skills, learning how to travel in a side-step and start in the ready position, in addition to enjoying some finer weather for our mile runs.

I hope you will all enjoy a lovely, relaxing break over the Easter period and look forward to welcoming you all back for our final term in Year 2!

Year 3

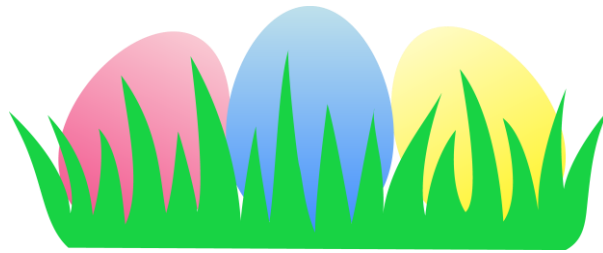
During the spring term, we wrote our own twisted fairy tales inspired by "The True Story of the Three Little Pigs", wrote reports on the Iron Age and volcanoes, and enjoyed writing and performing nonsense verse. In Maths, our main foci were multiplication, division, measures and fractions and we have been continuing to learn our times tables, with ten of us "going green" on TTRS.

For Science, we carried out various investigations into forces and magnetism. In the second half term, we explored how different types of rocks are formed, making our own out of chewy sweets, and also learnt about fossilisation. Linked to this, we found out about volcanoes and earthquakes and asked why anyone would want to live near the Ring of Fire. During Science Week, we made our own seismographs to measure earthquakes and finished the term rather messily by making our own fossil print designs in art.



We jumped from the Stone into the Iron Age in History and explored what life was like for the Celts ready for the arrival of the Romans next term. During D.T. week, we investigated how different products use air pressure to make them work. Using tubing, bottles, balloons and syringes, we made our own pneumatic mechanisms and then created monster models to entertain pre-school and the infants.

In P.E, we have been improving our dodging and marking skills and our ability to work as a team.



Year 4

During Spring Term, our lead subjects have been Science and History. For the first half term, we learnt all about human and animal teeth. We looked at the digestive system and described the function of it's basic parts. We carried out an investigation using tights, bowls, liquids and cereal to represent the digestive system and how it works. We also carried out an investigation using boiled eggs and various drinks to see how they impact on our teeth.

Alongside our Science lessons, we also took part in a competition that was all about how things need to adapt to survive. This was very useful as it linked to our non-chronological reports unit in English. Emy won the competition for Year 4 and she completed her poster on the 'Wood frog'.

In History, we have learnt all about the Egyptians. This has been one of our favourite units so far and the children learnt some amazing facts.

In English, we have written our very own adventure stories, non-chronological reports and focused heavily on GPS. We linked our reports to our learning in History. We looked at creating our own interesting introductions and created paragraphs providing information on various important aspects of 'Ancient Egyptian' life.

Our adventures stories have been really enjoyable for Mrs Lawrenson to read. We have been reading the BFG and have created our very own 'The Great Plan' chapters to decide how to stop the giants eating innocent children.

We have been lucky enough to have Mrs Lewis teach us for quite a lot of our Maths as she has been completing her final placement with us before graduating as a teacher this year. This has been lots of fun and Mrs Lewis has worked very hard to ensure we understand everything she has taught. We continue to enjoy our Thursday afternoons and Fridays, as we have Mrs Lewis teach us. She covers PE, PSHE, Computing and Maths. Next half term, she is going to be helping us with our Geography as well.

In D&T we made our very own nightlights. We created these for Mrs Lawrenson's baby, William, in order to give us a real purpose. Miss Read, our D&T coordinator, was very impressed with our work and said she couldn't make any changes to them.

In Art, we created paintings including textures. We used household items such as shaving foam, couscous, coffee and many more to add interesting textures to our landscape paintings.

We used photographs taken by Mrs Lawrenson on some of her walks to the Lake District, Abbey Village and Grassington.

We contacted a local artist called Robert Miller via his Instagram page and created our work in his style. We sent him photographs of our final pieces and asked him questions we would be interested in finding out.

As our behaviour continues to be positive, we often receive a short break time on a Thursday as a treat for the week.

We have had a very successful term and look forward to Summer.

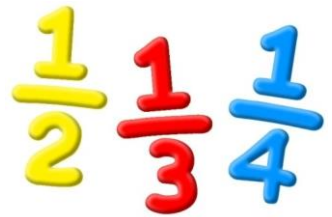


Year 5

We don't know where this term has gone – we seem to have done so much in Year 5 in Spring Term!

In English, we have read 'Ice Palace' as a class and used the text as a basis for our writing. The children enjoyed creating and performing poetry as well as writing narrative descriptions, diary entries and debates. It provided lots of opportunities for drama based lessons which Year 5 love! We also spent a week looking at 'The Magic Box' by Kit Wright. The children used this poem as inspiration to write their own version with fantastic results. During Book Week, Year 5 looked at a number of stories by Julia Donaldson, beginning the week by learning the words to 'Room on the Broom' in the form of a rap. They then performed this to Reception Class and Year 4. They ended the week by writing instructions following a lesson designing Gruffalo biscuits and created a 'Wanted' poster for The Highway Rat. This led nicely to us starting our narrative poetry unit on 'The Highwayman' which has provided some fantastic opportunities for writing.

In Maths, we've been working on fractions and decimals for most of the term. We have really been trying to make sure we log in on TTRS each week! We have also loved doing Fluent in 5 every day, which is 5 arithmetic questions which we answer in 5 minutes. We are seeing so much progress with these questions!



In Geography, we have been looking at the UK's energy sources, comparing different ways of obtaining energy as well as investigating renewable energy and calculating food miles too.



In Science, we have finished our topic on 'Changing materials' and did a lot of work on reversible and irreversible changes. This involved the class organising lots of their own experiments and carrying them out independently which was great to see. We then moved on to our next topic of 'Animals including humans' and have nearly finished this unit. We have been looking at how humans develop from embryo to birth and throughout their life. It has been a really interesting topic and the children have learnt a lot!

A highlight of the term, linking to our Science unit, was a trip to Blackpool Zoo. The class had an educational session as well as a full day exploring the zoo. We saw the sea lion show and had a chance to look at artefacts from around the zoo, including elephant dung and animal hair.

In Art, we created and explored the life and work of the artist Georgia O'Keefe. Throughout the unit of work, we had the opportunity to develop our art skills, with a focus on the use of oil pastels. For our final piece of work, we produced a piece of floral art inspired by Georgia O'Keefe. Our work is displayed in our 'Art Gallery', up the stairs to Year 5.

At the start of the term, our RE unit was Hindu Dharma. As a class, we enjoyed reading and exploring stories with morals from Hindu scriptures. We learnt about the Hindu festival of Holi and the symbolism of the colours involved in this religious festival. We then moved on to learning about the miracles Jesus performed and discussed if something must be seen to be believed. The engagement from the class for both RE units was brilliant.



In PE, Chorley Sport Partnership came into school and worked with us to develop our dance skills. Alongside this, we got the opportunity to develop our skills in hockey with a focus on communication and teamwork. After the half-term break, we were able to apply the skills we have learnt so far this year to create our own invasion games.

We've worked so hard this term and we're looking forward to a well-deserved break over Easter - enjoy everyone!

What a busy Spring Term we've had in Year 6. A massive well done to all the children for working so hard and completing their 'mock SATs' tests – they showed great resilience and determination and made us all very proud.

Year 6

In Science, I think we all thoroughly enjoyed (and were equally grossed out by) our topic all about the human circulatory system. We had so much fun making models of the blood and dissecting hearts. To end the topic, children enjoyed a workshop which was led by Liam from UCLAN in which they investigated numerous scientific models as well as carrying out an investigation based on heart rate.

As well as our story writing based on the short Disney film 'Paperman', Year 6 have completed some great non-fiction writing with a real life purpose. We wrote persuasive letters to the PTFA and governors asking for a donation to purchase new bins for our playground to hopefully improve the amount of litter on our school grounds – we're still waiting for a reply.

In guided reading sessions, we have continued to work hard using short extracts to improve our comprehension skills, using SATs style questions to show our understanding of different texts. We have also been reading the book Wonder for pleasure in class which the children have really engaged in.

The children have shown great resilience in Maths lessons, working through some tricky areas of Maths including percentages, ratio and algebra. In every lesson, the children have developed new strategies and improved their problem solving skills, while working collaboratively and supporting each other. As a class, the children have massively improved their Arithmetic skills around this term, which was evident during the recent mock SATs week.

Year 6 **LOVE** PE lessons. During our dance lessons with CSSP, the children showcased some brilliant skills learning dance moves based on the music from World War II. All children worked hard and joined in well. We also loved our gymnastic unit where children improved and extended their gymnastic routines, introducing a variety of apparatus. During our outdoor lessons, we have been developing our orienteering skills, using maps and following routes with greater accuracy.

Spring Term plays host to 'Book Week' here at Manor Road. During the week, we spent some time reading books to our buddies in Ash Class, which everyone really enjoyed. Our English lessons were based around poetry; our focus poem was 'What I Love About School'. The children enjoyed the playfulness of this poem and wrote their own versions using the ideas from the poem.

Linked to our History topic of Baghdad, we were very lucky to have a visit from Kathryn from LCC who hosted an interactive and informative workshop in which the children learnt many new facts about the rise and fall of Baghdad.

To end this term, children have been working hard on their DT project which they have self-titled 'The Great Year 6 Cook Off'. The children have worked well in teams to plan a meal from their designated country and we look forward to tasting all the different meals cooked and prepared by our little Year 6 chefs.

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy Easter break and a massive thank you to all the children in the class and to all the parents for a great term. I will miss each and every one of the children but I will be visiting lots in the summer term before the children finish their Manor Road journey.



PTFA Newsletter

Registered Charity Number 1107072



Thanks to your generous support we have had a really successful Spring term.

Money raised for the school, from January to March:

£2153.89

We will publish the Easter Bingo total next term.
We have loved seeing the children having so much fun,
whilst raising money for school.

Events held this term

- Gift amnesty
- Break the Rules Day
- Pre loved uniform sale
- Neon Disco
- Mother's Day Pop Up Shop
- Easter Bingo

Please get in touch if you would like to join the team as we get ready for the summer term events, including Beach Disco, Father's Day, Summer Fairs and Sports Day refreshments.

If you would like to join the PTFA 24-25 volunteer WhatsApp group please follow the link.

<https://bit.ly/ManorRoadPTFA>

Volunteers that can offer any level of support during the school year are very welcome.

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/>

