

Manor Road Round-up

Welcome to our December 2023 Round Up!

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the latest edition of the Manor Road Round Up and our last one for 2023. It doesn't seem five minutes since we were returning back after the summer and now we seem to be in the grips of winter! Looking back on all the activities and achievements that the children have been involved in, it has been another very busy term!

This year, children in Foundation Stage and Key Stage One have enjoyed an outing to the pantomime to watch *Beauty and the Beast*. It was a super show, with both children and adults alike enjoying every minute of the performance. Our Foundation Stage and Year One and Two children have also performed their own superb productions reminding us of what Christmas is all about.

In addition to the pantomime, children have enjoyed experience sessions in Back Lane Woods, taken part in willow weaving workshops, tried out yoga and also been on several visits outside of school. All the children have taken part in a Multi-Faith week, where we were very fortunate to have visiting guest come into school to talk about a range of faiths.

Children have taken part in a range of sporting events over the term, from athletics, football, gymnastics to Boccia. All the children have represented school fantastically well, even winning the Sportsmanship award for the dodgeball tournament.

Over this term, we have also been busy raising money for charity and the school. We had a very successful McMillan coffee morning which Year Six organised. We also had great fun raising money for Children In Need. Our annual Colour Stalls were again very popular with children bringing and buying gifts for family members. The PTFA have also been busy raising money. Thank you to everyone for their support!

As this year comes to a close, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all staff, governors, parents and volunteers for their continued support that they give the school. It is very much appreciated.

I wish everyone a very happy and relaxing Christmas and look forward to what the new year ahead will bring.



Ash Class

What a fabulous and busy first term Ash Class have had! The class have worked so hard this term and lots of lovely friendships have been made along the way!

In September, we arrived at school after meeting each other on the induction days in June. Friendships and families was our initial focus and it was lovely to see the bonds developing and the confidence growing. We all brought in photos of our families and we all enjoyed starting to do 'Show and Tell' where we grew in confidence and listened well to others.

We have been having so much fun in the role play areas at school. Santa's workshop has been a real favourite! The children also enjoyed having a classroom where they taught each other phonics and maths.



We have been very lucky to have a new outdoor little classroom outside in the playground and this has been very popular with different role play scenarios! The outdoor role play shed has been a great addition to the outdoor area with Mrs Mason changing the theme every few weeks to keep children interested in their imaginative play.



We have read many, many stories since starting school to widen children's vocabulary. A favourite of the class was Goldilocks. We made bear themed toast and used our phonics to write about our favourite characters. We are extremely proud of all the hard work the children are putting in. Their reading has blown us away with many of the children reading Phase 3 books and increasing their fluency. The children have also been working really hard on their cursive handwriting and trying 'fancy' ways of writing.

Maths has been focusing on a range of areas with numbers all around being popular. We have been working on knowing numbers to 10 and recognising them in different scenarios.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas! Have a wonderful break!

**Merry
Christmas**

The word 'Christmas' is written in large, colorful, 3D-style letters. The 'C' is red, 'h' is green, 'r' is red, 'i' is green, 's' is red, 'm' is green, 'a' is red, and 's' is green. A green Christmas ornament is above the 'i', and a red and white striped candy cane is above the 'a'.

Elm Class

What a marvelous and busy first term Elm Class have had! The children have worked so hard this term and have grown up so much in such a short amount of time!

In September, the children kicked off the year with their first English unit – ‘One stop on Market Street’. The children learnt how to sentence stack and explored new vocabulary to make their writing even better. In the second half term, we launched our second English unit – A Trip to the Woods by having a fun filled experience day exploring Back Lane Woods where the children enjoyed an autumn colour hunt, built dens and finished with a delicious hot chocolate. The children learnt all the different parts of a recount in this non-fiction unit. The children finished the unit by writing their own recount of their walk to the woods and the fun activities they did along the way.



In maths, the children have been learning how to read and write the number names to 20. They have been finding more and less than a number up to 20, exploring number bonds to 10 and have practised applying their skills taught to complete challenges.

During our Science lessons, we grouped and classified animals, focussing on the five main animal groups. The children also sorted animals by their diet and learnt new scientific vocabulary such as, herbivore, omnivore and carnivore. We have also been exploring the seasons in our unit all about seasonal change. The children have been spotting the changes and looking for signs of Autumn and Winter with Mrs Smith.

In Geography, the children learnt about the seven continents of the world and which animals live there. They explored maps, globes and atlases and looked at different animals that live on different continents. They also learnt a catchy song that I'm sure all the parents are still singing!

After half term, our Great Fire of London topic captured the imagination of the children, as they investigated historical sources of information. The children enjoyed a fun filled workshop run by the Lancashire heritage where they learnt and performed a timeline of events. Our show case morning, where parents, carers and relatives helped the children to make amazing model Tudor style houses using recycled materials, was a huge success and enjoyed by all!



In our DT unit, the children explored the moving mechanisms – ‘sliders’ and ‘pivots’. The children looked at books with moving parts and then had a go at making pictures with moving parts. They developed their skills in problem solving, as they designed and created moving pictures with moving mechanisms to share with Pre-School. They also had a go at evaluating their work.

In Art, the children looked at animal patterns and created their own printing blocks using cardboard and string to create animal patterns of their own.



This last fortnight we have had a big push on handwriting and the children have done fantastically well, practising their cursive handwriting every day. They have been joining digraphs together and hopefully they will be able to have a go at this in their independent writing in the new year. The children have made lots of progress in their writing and we are really proud of all of them.

Elm Class have enjoyed ‘Bob the Elf’ being in class. Each morning the children have been excitedly waiting to see what he has been up to! The build up to Christmas has been magical and the children did a superb job in our Christmas sing-a-long (so did the parents/carers aunts uncles and grandparents who also sang beautifully!).

Oak Class

What a busy term Oak Class have had so far this year.

As we continued The Write Stuff, the children have increased their vocabulary and their stamina for writing. In Autumn 1 our first unit took us on a bus ride to The Last Stop on Market Street which was a little boy's adventure on a bus with his Grandma off the help at a soup kitchen.

Our Geography unit gave the children the opportunity to use globes, atlases and maps to locate the Equator and they are beginning to understand the difference between climate and weather and how and why this changes across the world. The children used maps to locate animals that live in different climates and researched what the different habitats were like, this linked nicely to Science.

In Science we studied animal groups looking at similarities and differences and the key features to recognise and group mammals, fish, birds, amphibians and reptiles.

We had an extremely busy Art Week as we looked at the animal patterns, this linked nicely to our animal theme and continents theme. We used patterns to show different animal colouring and patterns, using different printing styles and techniques. We did rubbings, printed with natural and man-made objects and made our own printing blocks with cardboard and string. We created a pattern using both printing blocks.



In Autumn 2, we moved onto a non-fiction unit all about A Woodland Adventure which meant we could investigate the local area at Bluebell Woods and use our amazing outdoor area and woods. We spent experience days outside exploring the woods, colour hunting, building a woodland den and enjoyed a delicious hot chocolate to complete our days. We played in the leaves and collected a variety items from around the grounds. We then completed our next piece of independent writing.

In Science, the class began to look at seasons in more detail. We also studied months of the year and how these fit into the seasons, the changes in the environment around us and how the weather changes as the seasons change.

We have spent a lot of time working on our Year 1 Non-Negotiables which are the key foundations for fabulous writing. The children have definitely made lots of progress this term and I am proud to say they are beginning to listen to the advice and help to make their work, writing and presentation better.

We have taken some time in history to learn about the soldiers in World War One and why we remember. The children listened to the story "Where Poppies Now Grow", a story of friendship and war.

We are currently working on sliders and leavers in Design Technology to create a moving Christmas card and nativity scene.

Wow! What a fabulous term, the class have worked so hard and we have had so much fun. What a term we've had!



Yew Class

What a whirlwind of a first term in Year 2 we've had! It feels like no time at all since we returned to school in scorching temperatures and now, here we are, freezing our toes off and heading rapidly towards Christmas!

In our English lessons so far this year, we have covered a native American traditional folk tale in the form of 'The Crow's Tale' in our first half-term, moving on to learning how to write instructions in our non-fiction work, and now we are reading and writing about Plop, the baby owl, who was afraid of the dark.



Maths No Problem has so far covered 3 of the 4 key operations: adding and subtracting, including using renaming where necessary, and multiplying. In each area, we have also begun to learn how to apply our knowledge to solving word problems. We have also worked hard on our mental maths through our Daily Ten activities on number bonds and times tables.

In Science this term, we have learned about Animals, including Humans, where we found out that we are mammals who give birth to live babies, which then grow to adulthood in a life cycle. We were very lucky to have a live baby visiting us- Olivia Hennerly's baby sister, Harriet, who helped us to put our learning into context. We then found out about other life-cycles, including those with a metamorphosis, such as caterpillar to butterfly, and tadpole to frog. We have also learnt about Living Things, recognising the distinction between things that are alive, those that were once alive, and those which have never been alive at all. We have discovered that all living things, including plants, can grow, take on nutrients, produce waste and respire, amongst other things.

We have enjoyed doing some explorify 'odd one out' activities to consolidate our learning. Both our Geography and History units this term have focussed on our local area, looking at maps, past and present, comparing buildings, facilities and landscape over time. We were interested to find out that on the site of the Lidl there was once The Pines Hotel which had previously been a privately-owned home. We also found out that the Ley Inn had been a farm until the 1970's! As part of our History work, we've also been learning some traditional playground games from the past, such as Donkey and In and Out the Dusty Bluebells.



In Computing, we learned about the role of technology around school, looking at inputs and outputs from devices. We have also begun to work on our typing skills using the Typing Club programme to help us to navigate our way quickly round a 'Querty' keyboard.

In PE, we have enjoyed developing our gymnastic skills with Mrs Rothwell from CSSP, using travels and balances to create short sequences of movement, moving on this term to working on our under-arm throwing and catching techniques.

We have also been very lucky to have a fantastic student with us since October, Miss Irving, who has taught a cross-section of lessons, and who will remain with us until February.

In the run-up to Christmas, we enjoyed a fun trip to the pantomime to see 'Beauty and the Beast' and we loved our Christmas craft morning, making decorations for the classroom and to take home later. Additionally, we had a cold but fabulous trip to Back Lane Woods for a crafting and campfire afternoon.



We also had a brilliant time preparing and presenting our lovely Christmas Concert, full of fabulous singing and musical instrument-playing! Finally, during our last week of term, we are having great fun enjoying our party days and our Christmas dinner, as well as singing in our end of term Carol Concert.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and all the very best for the New Year!

Year 3

Y3 has had a very busy term.

In English, we have read and written comedies and stories and are currently working on persuasive brochures for our winter wonderlands. Many of us have been working very hard to learn our times tables in maths and are expanding our calculation skills to include three-digit numbers and beyond.



For our first half term's Geography topic, we learnt about national parks and made 3D maps of hills and valleys like those in the Lake District. We used Digimaps to look more closely at tourist attractions around Windermere and OS symbols and learnt about the Countryside Code. We enjoyed looking at Andy Goldsworthy's natural sculptures in Art and created our own masterpieces.

In Science, we investigated and compared different skeletons, making up our own weird and wonderful vertebrates and playing skull detective.

After half term, we learnt about different food groups, healthy diets and food labelling. In design technology, we went on to design healthy 'balanced' sandwiches for our friends, who were happy with our efforts.

This half term in History, we have been discovering how Stone Age people lived and studied the Neolithic settlement at Skara Brae.



We have been learning how to email each other kind messages and have been interested to find out what is inside a computer and how it all works, or what might be happening when computers seem slow. We had our first opportunity to run stalls raising money for Children in Need and had plenty of fun in the process.

More recently, we enjoyed a trip to Back Lane Woods, where we braved the cold to make dens for local wildlife and sang Christmas songs as we toasted marshmallows on a campfire.



Although we are looking forward to a well-earned break, we will carry on reading and continuing our TTRS journeys to Rock Stardom so that we will be ready for the new year.



We wish you all a merry Christmas!

Year 4

Year 4 have had an amazing term with so many highlights and great learning that we want to share with you.

The children's fantastic acting skills were developed in English as they wrote their own scripts on The Plague at Eyam. George Viccars, Lizzie and John (characters in the play) became regular members of our class and the children's work transported us back in time.

Our history lessons further enhanced this learning as we studied sources from the Eyam Museum and found out interesting facts about the Plague Doctor and the impacts of the Plague. The knowledge the children can now share about this time period is excellent. Handwriting and presentation have, and will continue to be, a key focus and the children have loved improving their work. Well done to the children and thank you to our families for supporting them with this.

In our Maths lessons the children have worked hard and are really pleased with how their times tables are improving each week. TTRS has been a great help with this and if you get a chance in the busy holiday period, keep using TTRS to get them ready for Rock Star and beyond!



We studied rivers in Geography and all children presented high quality work to each other. They loved sharing their research and these were so creative. Our music lessons linked well with this learning as we learned the folk song 'The River is Flowing' using a canon to sing, creating a more complex melody.

We have a class of very creative and talented performers and artists, and this was also seen in our PE lessons this term with fabulous rhythm, movement and balance shown in Dance and Gymnastics and our creativity in Art lessons when learning about Picasso.

The children created electrical circuits in Science and learned all about sound and the incredible inner ear. They enjoyed testing out vibrations by creating experiments that used a range of musical instruments and their podcasts and 'Science shows' to share this information were outstanding. We will be taking our knowledge from the circuits into our DT lessons in the last week of term.

Wow, it has been a busy and enjoyable term. The children have worked so hard and thoroughly deserve their rest!

The Year 4 team wish you a wonderful Christmas holiday and our best wishes for the New Year where we are looking forward to more fabulous learning with your children.

Merry Christmas!



We have started the year by reading lots of short stories and comprehensions to widen our knowledge of different text types – we've learnt lots of things in the process!

In English, we watched 'One Small Step' which was all about a space-loving girl named Luna. When we had finished, we wrote a story from her Dad's perspective. It was a great starting point for writing in Year 5. We then moved onto 'The Nowhere Emporium' which was extremely mysterious and led us to writing an amazing description and diary entry!

In Maths, we've covered place value, multiplication and division and addition and subtraction and we're progressing well with our mental maths/arithmetic. We've been trying really hard with TTRS and it's paying off! We've made so much progress since the start of the year and it's helping in our maths lessons massively.

In Geography, we revised the countries within the UK as well as looking at an in-depth study of a European country of our choice. We also looked at the diversity of the climate and landscape in North America.

In History, we've been learning all about the Ancient Greeks. We have looked at the origins of the Olympic Games; the differences in living in Athens and Sparta (and held a debate about which was the best place to live!); Alexander the Great and the types of food and homes in Ancient Greece as well as how the men, women and children lived. Studying Ancient Greece led us nicely into our DT topic for this half term which was Greek food. We created a Greek feast of a lunch featuring hummus, flatbread and Greek salad!

In Science, we have studied properties of materials. We conducted our own experiment testing how thermal different materials are, as well as designing a lunch box using the most appropriate materials. In our living things and their habitats topic, we looked at how plants and animals reproduce and ended the topic by visiting Blackpool Zoo. This helped us choose an animal to write about for our English topic of non-chronological reports.

In RE, we started the year by doing a Christianity unit. The focus of this unit was 'forgiveness' were we enjoyed learning about the Christian story of creation through drama. Our next unit was Islam were we looked at how important The Qur'an is to a Muslim as a source of guidance. We were fortunate to have Anne Walmsley, the Buddhist Chaplain at UCLAN, visit our class to talk to us about Buddhism during Inter-Faith Week. During the session, everyone made prayer flags.

In PE, we have enjoyed developing our netball skills and applying them in a game situation. As part of our dance unit, we worked in groups to devise a dance all about planets and worked on different types of balances in gymnastics. We have also trained as Playground Pals so we can play games with the younger children at lunch time and have had the opportunity to do Bikeability.

In PSHE, our first focus was 'managing friendships and peer influence'. Next, we moved on to 'physical contact and feeling safe' followed by 'respecting ourselves and others' and learnt about different types of discrimination and potential impacts. We then went on to think about how people are bullied online. Everyone demonstrated a mature attitude to all the work covered in PSHE and offered thoughtful contributions to the topics discussed.

During our Art Week, we looked at the work of the collage artist Robin Brooks. We practised collage techniques, used by Brooks, including tearing, layering, and cutting which we then applied to create our end of unit collage. Our artwork has been displayed on the Year 5 corridor - we are incredibly proud of our pop-up gallery.

In Music, we have enjoyed learning about Blues music. We concentrated on the performance aspect of music by learning the song 'The Moanin' Lisa Blues'. We had great fun practising this song to improve our performance of it over time.

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

Year 6

Year Six have been an absolute pleasure this term. What a wonderful class they are! We have been very busy covering lots of different topics.

In English, we have completed four units of work and we have thoroughly enjoyed each one: a traditional tale based on Hansel and Gretel; a story based on *The Journey* by Francesca Sanna which follows a refugee family; *Varmints* by Marc Craste; before Christmas, we wrote a persuasive letter to Mr Scrooge.



In Mathematics, we have completed chapters of work on place value to 10 million; we revised addition, subtraction, multiplication and division; we completed a long chapter on fractions and started looking at decimals. Each week, we have been completing mini arithmetic tests to help us to build up our arithmetic scores so that we can aim to get full marks on the arithmetic paper in May.

In October, the parents came into school for a bread making showcase. We looked at all of the added ingredients which are put in bread we regularly buy from the supermarket and discussed that we only need four main ingredients to make a fresh loaf of bread. Here are some of our star bakes.



In the first-half of the Autumn Term, in Science, we looked at evolution and inheritance. The class really enjoyed the camel rap. Remember, you can always find this on YouTube to listen to it again. We looked at how camels are adapted to survive in the desert and how polar bears are adapted to survive harsh conditions. In the second-half, we looked at living things and their habitats. We learned about the classification system of plants and animals. We have taken part in lots of investigations in Science this term.

In guided reading, we have enjoyed reading a book called *There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom*. This follows Bradley Chalkers. "Give me a dollar or I'll spit on you." That's Bradley Chalkers for you. He is the oldest child in the class. He tells enormous lies. He picks fights with girls, and the teachers say he has "serious behaviour problems." No one likes him - except Carla, the new school counsellor. She thinks Bradley is sensitive and generous, and she even enjoys his far-fetched stories. Carla knows that Bradley could change, if only he weren't afraid to try. Sometimes the hardest thing in the world is believing in yourself.

The children have enjoyed their first instalment of debt awareness. This has kindly been paid for by school. The gentleman who delivered it, Mr Alker, is a children's author from Adlington, who is also known as Lord Chilli of Chorley. I know that some dads are attempting to enter the Chorley Chilli Championships.

I have absolutely loved my time at Manor Road; the past six years has flown by. Thank you to all of the parents for being so involved and supportive with your child's education. It has been a pleasure working with you. I hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

PTFA Newsletter



Registered Charity Number 1107072

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

Profits from events

£2514.28

Events held this term

- Pre-loved Sales
- Spooky Disco
- Colour Stalls
- Nativity Refreshments
- Easy Fundraising

Gift Amnesty

If anyone wishes to donate unwanted gifts towards raffle prizes at future events, this would be very much appreciated. There will be a box in the school reception from 8th-12th January for any donations.

Thank you

A big thank you to the PTFA team and helpers, a lot of hard work goes in to planning, organising and running the events, none of which could be done without you.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the PTFA Team.
See you next term!

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/>

