

Manor Road Round-up

Welcome to our December 2024 Round Up!

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the last edition of the Manor Road Round Up for 2024! It doesn't seem five minutes since we were returning to school after the summer! Looking back, it has been an action-packed term!

As a school, we have taken part in many sporting events and competitions, reaching the finals in both our boys and girls football leagues and the football Skeet Cup. We have had a range of sports coaches in school and we have also taken part in lots of out of school events, allowing children to learn and develop skills. These have included ten pin bowling, athletics, dance, dodgeball and gymnastics.

As usual, we have been involved in our own charity events including MacMillan and Children In Need. These events have been amazing and thanks to your support and the children's efforts we have raised lots of money again for worthy causes.

Again, this year, we have had several out of school visits. These have included making the most of our local environment by visiting Cuerden Valley and Back Lane Woods. Our Y6 children have visited Astley Hall and we have had our annual outing to the pantomime. The infants have also visited Chester Zoo. All of these have been fantastic experiences with children and adults alike enjoying every minute.

Our Foundation Stage and Year One and Two children have performed their own superb productions reminding us of what Christmas is all about. It has been so lovely to see all the children singing, narrating and acting – what a lovely way to get into the festive spirit!

As this year comes to a close, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all staff, governors and parents for the continued support that they give the school. Without such a dedicated team, Manor Road would not be the school that it is!

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



Pre-School

This first term of the year has been a very special one in Pre-School.

From our first days, back in September, until now, our children have grown in so many ways. They have become confident at coming to school and saying goodbye to their carers without any tears. They have become independent and responsible for their own belongings and have learned how to adjust to our routines. They have engaged in circle times, been independent learners and have completed lots of learning tasks in class. That's a lot to accomplish when you're only 3! Not only that but they have learned to make new relationships with other children and adults, and friendships have blossomed. We have become a little family!



The next two weeks are sure to be filled with lots of fun as we prepare for Christmas and celebrate all our achievements so far and bring this long term to a fabulous end.

We look forward to the Spring term to see our youngest members of school continue to grow and flourish and work towards getting "school ready". We are also very excited to welcome our 'new recruits'! In January, we are being joined by Esme, Georgia, Huw and Tommy. There's so much to look forward to!

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas! Have fun!

Mrs Maloney, Miss Bickerstaff, Miss Carter and Mrs Kerfoot



Ash Class

Ash Class Autumn Term

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. Lidl was definitely a hit! The children loved buying pretend bakery items using real money and then going to Lidl on a little trip to buy a real bakery item! Santa's workshop has been a hit too! The children have enjoyed wrapping presents and posting them in the Post Office role play area! The class love playing teachers using my 'special big whiteboard' and this has really helped their fine motor skills develop.



The outdoors has been used well all term with the dressing up shed being the most popular. The children really enjoy getting into character and dressing up. Superheroes and princesses have been the most popular with the children.



We have read many, many stories since starting school to widen children's vocabulary. A favourite of the class was Supertato. We all searched for The Evil Pea and helped to find him by making Wanted posters. 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. We thank all of the parents for the super home reading.

Maths has been focussing 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 have enjoyed having our 'Bookvent' this term and reading lots of different stories each day. The countdown to Christmas has been a fabulous one filled with Christmas shows, Pantomimes, parties, cheeky elves and Christmas jumpers!

Wishing 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 red, 'a' is green, and 's' is red. A candy cane is integrated into the letter 'i', and a Christmas tree is integrated into the letter 's'.

Elm Class

What an awesome autumn term!

In **Phonics and Reading**, the children have been reading and spelling longer words writing the phase 3 digraphs in cursive. Our focus this half term has been handwriting and the children have been learning how to form single letters and digraphs in cursive. The children have 'wowed' us this term with their reading and it has been lovely to see them grow and read with much more confidence, fluency and speed.

This term we have been really looking at our purpose and our audience when writing and the children started this term writing their own version of Jack and the Jelly Beanstalk stories to share with Ash Class. The children loved sharing their stories and the Ash Class children loved listening! The children have written letters to Year 6 and after Hayley from Bluebell Woods wrote us a letter to invite us to down for some forest school fun, the children wrote thank you letters back. The children also learnt how to create a poster and made a checklist to remember. Using this they created bonfire night safety posters for Yew Class, Ash Class and Year 3. Each group presented their poster to their chosen class who then displayed them on their walls. The children also learnt how to spot the features on a non-fiction text which they will use in spring term when they create their own class non-fiction book.

In **Maths**, the children have been busy learning number bonds and using them to create addition and subtraction number sentences. They have also been learning how to find answers to addition and subtraction problems and number stories. They had to apply the skills they have learnt to solve each problem. The children have been completing their daily fluent in 5 challenge and are getting quicker at working answers out and showing their working out.

In **Science**, the children have been learning all about animal groups and their diets and looking at seasonal changes focussing on changes all around us. We also have some class buff tip moths that we are keeping an eye on until they hatch in March time.

In **History**, the children had fun learning all about, 'The Great Fire of London'. They have been amazing at recalling facts from that time and have thoroughly enjoyed the unit. They were amazing historians in our artefact session, looking at different artefacts from 1666 and discussing what they might be and what they might have been used for. We had some great and funny ideas!

In **Geography**, the children learnt about the seven continents of the world, their oceans and famous/important landmarks in each one. The children learnt how to use an atlas and explored different maps and globes. What great geographers!

In **Art**, the children made their own spider web printing squares to create some Halloween art and in **DT** they made front covers for their stories with moving pictures.

In **Music**, the children learnt how to play a simple song on the glockenspiels and in **PE** the children had a fun time learning some core skills like, throwing and catching with Mrs Rothwell.

In **Computing**, the children have been learning how to log onto the laptops and access a program as well as practising they click and drag skills using two hands. They children created their own pictures using different shapes.

The children in Elm class have had an excellent start to the year and have worked their socks off! They can now enjoy a well-deserved break and an exciting visit from Santa over the holidays!



Oak Class

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

As we continued to focus on the children's writing they have increased their vocabulary and their stamina for writing. In Autumn, 1 we wrote our own version of Jack and the Jelly beanstalk, created our own version and presented it in a book to read to the pre-school children. It was nice to see Jack and the Beanstalk in Pantomime too.

In Science, the children look at the different animal groups- reptiles, amphibians, mammals, fish and birds. We looked at their characteristics and where they would live around the world. When we go to the zoo we aim to locate more animals and link this to our current Geography unit and our next English unit.



The Geography unit gave the children the opportunity to use globes, atlases and maps to locate the equator, seven continents and five oceans. The children are beginning to understand the difference between the continents and recognise some natural and manmade landmarks from around the world.

We had an extremely busy Art week as we looked at patterns, this linked nicely to our Science and Geography. We did rubbings, printed with natural and man-made objects and made our own printing blocks with cardboard and string. We created a spider web pattern using the printing blocks.

In Autumn 2, in English, 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 received a lovely letter from Hayley inviting us to visit the woods. We spent some days outside exploring the woods, colour hunting, building animal homes and making natural art in the woods. We then completed our next piece of independent writing which was a thank you letter to Hayley.

In Science, the class began to look at Seasons in more detail, the 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 season 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.

In the very busy build up to Christmas we have been working on sliders and leavers in Design Technology to create a moving picture to use to retell the story of Edgar and Ava.

In English the children have enjoyed looking at the characters Ava and Edgar that are in the John Lewis Advert. They have done character profiles and story writing. Wow!

What a fabulous term the class have worked so hard and we have had so much fun.



Yew Class

As we draw closer to Christmas, it's time to reflect on the first term in Year 2- and what a busy one it's been!

In our English lessons so far this year, we have read a native American traditional folk tale in the form of 'The Crow's Tale' in our first half-term, leading to writing some great new versions of the story to share with siblings and others in Year 6. We then enjoyed the adventures of Plop, the baby owl, in 'The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark' and wrote some new stories to share with the pre-school children. Our latest writing venture has been to create programmes for the Key Stage 1 Christmas Celebration.



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 on our mental maths through our Daily Ten activities on number bonds, times tables and other quick-fire calculations.

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- Luca's baby sister, Lara, 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.

Our Geography unit this term has focussed on our local area, looking at human and physical geographical features and learning how maps can help us to find out more about where we live. We have also begun learning how to show features on a map using simple symbols and a key.



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, finding shortcuts to help us to navigate our way quickly round a 'Querty' keyboard.

In PE, we have enjoyed developing our throwing and catching skills with Mrs Rothwell from CSSP, using under-arm techniques in games and team activities. In addition to this, we enjoyed a dance unit, exploring movements based on transport and putting together short dance routines based on these movements. As well as this, we have run our weekly mile whenever the weather has permitted.

We have also been very lucky to have a fantastic student with us since October, Miss Datiles, who has taught a cross-section of lessons, and who will remain with us until the 3rd week in January.

In the run-up to Christmas, we enjoyed a fun trip to the pantomime to see 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and we have been getting into the Christmas spirit with colourings, crafting and other festive activities.

We also had a brilliant time preparing and presenting our lively Christmas Concert, full of fabulous singing and musical instrument-playing! During our last couple of weeks of term, we are having great fun enjoying our party days and our Christmas dinner, walking to Back Lane Woods and an exciting trip to Chester Zoo.



Finally, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Year 4

During Autumn Term, our lead subject has been Science. For the first half term, we learnt all about electricity and how to create circuits. We carried out research using materials to decide which were insulators and which were conductors. In the second, half term our unit was sound. We carried out investigations to decide what sound was. We learnt that sound is an energy that causes vibrations. We enjoyed this unit as we were able to use the instruments and go outside working together.

In Music, we have been very lucky this term as we have had a brass teacher, Gareth come into Manor Road to help us play a variety of instruments. He allowed us to take the instruments home for practice and will continue to teach us after Christmas and we will take part in a performance.



In order to help us gain confidence with our reading, we have carried out lots of whole class guided reading sessions using Max and the Millions whilst also completing a variety of reading comprehension papers. When reading to one another, When reading aloud, we use expression and intonation and ensure that we are listening carefully to others at all times. We have now come to the end of Max and the Millions and have completed in-depth book reviews in class.



In English, we have written our very own traditional stories, play scripts and newspapers. We have looked at a variety of examples in each unit and agreed together success criteria for our own. We performed our play scripts to one another and plan to share our newspapers with KS1 after Christmas.

We have been lucky enough to have Miss Crook, our student teacher, join us during Autumn term. She has taught us for some English and Maths lessons and has developed a lovely relationship with all children and staff.

We enjoy Thursday afternoons and Fridays as we have Mrs Lewis teach us. She covers PE, PSHE, Computing and Maths. We work hard all week in order to receive a short, additional play time on Friday before our assembly.

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



What a busy first term in Year 5!

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 letter, in role as Luna's dad, telling her how proud he is of her. It was a great starting point for writing in Year 5. Our class novel is 'The Nowhere Emporium' which is extremely mysterious and led us to writing an amazing description and diary entry! We will continue reading this after Christmas.

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 the Costa Brava and compare this coastal locality to the town of Chorley.



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 have written non-chronological reports, in English, about elephants, giraffes and tigers. These reports will be delivered to Blackpool Zoo in the Spring term.

In RE, we started the year by doing a Christianity unit. The focus of this unit was 'forgiveness'. We enjoyed learning about the Christian story of creation. Our next unit was Islam. We looked at how important The Qur'an is to a Muslim as a source of guidance on how to lead a good life.

In PE, we have enjoyed developing our netball skills and applying them in a game situation. 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'. We looked at a range of friendship issues and thought about what we could do in similar situations in terms of support and advice. Diane from Key Charity came in to work with on these topics. Next, we moved on to 'physical contact and feeling safe' which we linked to the NSPCC PANTS rule. During Anti-Bullying week, we focused on Cyberbullying and produced posters to warn of the risks of being online. These posters are now displayed in our classroom.

During our Art Week, we looked at the work of the collage artist Robin Brooks. We discussed and reviewed her work and practised collage techniques, used by Brooks, including tearing, layering, and cutting. Having developed our skills, we applied what we had learnt when creating our end of unit collage. Our artwork has been displayed on the Year 5 corridor - we are incredibly proud of our pop-up gallery.

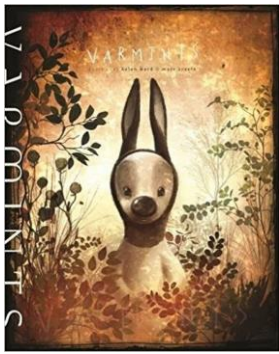


We've worked so hard this term and we're looking forward to a well-deserved break over Christmas - enjoy everyone!

Year 6

Wow! What a start to Year 6 – the children have worked extremely hard this term and enjoyed lots of different activities across the curriculum.

Autumn term plays host to many exciting events here at Manor Road from Macmillan coffee morning, to Children in Need, to the Christmas Colour Stalls. It has been a hive of excitement and community spirit at each of these events and it has been lovely to watch the children's enthusiasm and generosity.



In English, we started the year with a narrative unit based on the book 'The Varmints'. This book took us on a journey with a little mole whose home had been destroyed by other creatures putting up buildings and creating a city. The children wrote their own stories from a different character's perspective using imaginative descriptions of both settings and characters. Giving the children a real purpose for their writing, we decided to share our stories with Year 2, holding a reading café in the hall which the children really enjoyed. We have also completed a newspaper unit where children wrote newspaper articles about sporting events that some of our children have been involved in this year. After this unit, we started a newspaper club and children are currently working on their first edition which will hopefully be ready to send out before Christmas. For our last writing unit this term, we have used the book 'Letters from the Lighthouse' to influence our historical story writing. We're all so excited to take our writing down to Clayton Green library to display it for others to enjoy.

The children have shown great resilience in Maths lessons, working through some tricky areas of Maths including place value, fractions and decimals. In every lesson, the children have developed new strategies and improved their problem solving skills, while working collaboratively and supporting each other.

Year 6 have particularly enjoyed finding out about both World War I and World War II during our History lessons this term. We had a really interesting trip to Astley Hall where we learnt about the Chorley Pals and how our local area was heavily affected by WWI. Moving onto WWII, we have developed our historical enquiry skills by looking at different artefacts and answering questions in detail to act like historians. We have also completed some striking art work based on the Blitz which we will be taking to the library to display with our English stories.



I thoroughly enjoyed our Science lessons based on Evolution and Inheritance. It was lovely to see so many family pictures which the children loved sharing with their class mates. As part of this unit, we enjoyed an interactive online workshop with The Natural History Museum, in which we learnt more about evolution and how things have changed over time. We also enjoyed digging for fossils towards the end of this unit. However, I don't think the cleaners enjoyed the mess we made.

To end this busy term, children will be completing an exciting project in our DT lessons where they will design and make a moving Christmas fairground. They will be using coding and computing equipment called crumbles to make their rides move independently.



Well done Year 6 – you've all worked so hard this term! I hope you all enjoy a happy, enjoyable and restful Christmas break 😊



PTFA Newsletter



Registered Charity Number 1107072

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

Profits from events

£2413.85

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 6th-10th 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/>

