



# Manorcroft Primary School

## March Newsletter 2023-24

### End of Term:

As we approach the end of the Spring Term, there have been many opportunities for parents and carers to join us in school to celebrate with the children. Every year group has held their 'book look' session allowing the children to share their work with you. Following on from these sessions we hope that everyone was able to meet with the teachers for Parents Evening.

Y3 and YR have helped us to celebrate the festival of Easter this week by working hard to put on a performance - the Easter celebration and the Easter Bonnet Parade respectively. Both provided an opportunity for parents to come into school to watch their child's year group perform; we hope that everyone enjoyed the events. Throughout the course of the academic year, each year group has the chance to perform on stage: Y5 - Harvest, Y4 - Carol Concert, Y1 & Y2 - Christmas Play, culminating with Y6 leading the summer production in July.

Finally, class assemblies have also continued throughout the term and Y1, Y2, Y3 and Y6 classes have now all had the opportunity to share their learning with you. The assemblies are often linked to the most recent curriculum project and the children thoroughly enjoy writing and presenting their learning to the audience and the parallel class. Still to come in the summer term will be the YR, Y4 and Y5 classes - look out for the dates.

We wish everyone a restful and healthy Easter holidays and look forward to the children returning to school on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

### Staff Update:

At the end of this term we will be saying a temporary goodbye to Mrs Woodin and Mrs Whittingham, as both teachers will be absent from school for a short period due to planned operations. We wish both of them well and look forward to seeing them return at some point after May half term.

Finally, after Easter, we will be welcoming Miss Ollington to Manorcroft as she joins our Learning Support Team.

### World Book Day:

At the beginning of March we celebrated World Book Day by inviting Paul Geraghty into school to work with the children. He led different workshops across the school amazing the children, not only with his storytelling, but also with his artistic talent. Thank you to the PTA who funded the visit for the school. Without their financial support, we would be unable to host these special days in the curriculum.

Later on in the week saw our dressing up day. This is something that we try to do every other year to keep ideas fresh. There were some amazing costumes to be seen - a huge thank you to parents and carers for all your hard work. There were also lots of dalmatians around the school, and rumour has it that Cruella de Vil was somewhere to be seen...

### Virtual Exhibits:

Across the course of the academic year, each year group is taking it in turns to produce a digital presentation that can be shared with parents. This half term it is the turn of Y1 and Y5 - their presentations will be emailed out to parents today. If you would be interested in seeing what other year groups have been learning about, then please follow the links on the [school website](#).

## Jumpstart Jonny:



At the start of this week we were incredibly lucky to have Jumpstart Jonny visit the school with his roadshow. For those not in the know(!) Jumpstart Jonny is on a mission to get children fit - he has a [website](#) and YouTube channel full of workouts and short burst exercises for everyone to join in with. As a school, we subscribe to his platform and often use the resources with the children as warm ups and cool downs.

The morning was great fun, as he got the whole school (children and staff!) up and active - there was a huge amount of excitement coming from the Hall!

WHOOOPA!



## Y2 Swimming:

Next term it is the turn of Y2 children to be able to take part in a 10 week block of swimming lessons at Egham Orbit. This is a fantastic opportunity for the children to receive high quality swimming tuition using the great facilities just on our doorstep. At the end of the term, the children will be assessed and we will award certificates in assembly. The cost of the sessions is highly subsidised and we hope everyone makes the most of the opportunity.

Already this academic year we have been able to offer swimming lessons to Y4 and Y6, meaning that by July three year groups will have had the opportunity to swim. We're planning that this model will continue into 2024-25 too, meaning that far more children will get the opportunity to take part than previously.

## Curriculum Update:

Thinking ahead to after Easter, every year group will be starting their new cross-curricular project. The school website will be updated shortly with all the information for Summer Term 1 - Knowledge Organisers, Book Lists and Home Learning ideas. We will also email these resources out to you as well.

We would love it if the children would like to do some research or read ahead about what they might be learning.

**School Website:** Learning / [Year Groups](#)

**School Website:** Learning / [Home Learning](#)

Book list

| Title                                            | Author                                | ISBN          |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Hansel and Gretel                                | Ladybird Read It Yourself Level 2     | 9781290522720 |
| Freddie and the Fairy                            | Julia Donaldson                       | 9780380511186 |
| The Dawn Chorus                                  | Suzanne Barton                        | 9781406839225 |
| Stick Man                                        | Julia Donaldson                       | 9781407173718 |
| The Gruffalo                                     | Julia Donaldson                       | 9781300804757 |
| Welcome to the Woodland                          | Ruth Owen                             | 9781910249759 |
| Deep in the Woods                                | Christopher Corr                      | 9781847807274 |
| Woodland (Fact Cat: Habitat)                     | Izzy Howell                           | 9780750294737 |
| British Wild Flowers (Nature Detective)          | Victoria Brooker                      | 9780750292764 |
| Trees (Nature Trail)                             | Laura Howell                          | 9781474903207 |
| Popp Inside a Fairy Tale: Little Red Riding Hood | Anna Milbourne                        | 9781409599128 |
| What's Hidden in the Woods                       | Alina Bestard                         | 9780900650530 |
| Illustrated Grimm's Fairy Tales                  | Ruth Brocklehurst                     | 9780746095447 |
| Tidy                                             | Emily Gravett                         | 9781447273981 |
| The Little Book of Woodland Bird Songs           | Cat Buckingham and Andrea Pirbrighton | 9781300849289 |

Recommended in the IUP

Home learning ideas

### What will you choose to do?

- Look at a striking urban landmark building such as the Gherkin or the Shard in London, or the Flat Iron building in New York. Make a collection of images you like in a sketchbook.
- Imagine you have been asked to design a new building to inspire the residents of your town or city. Design your architectural masterpiece and perhaps make a model of it!
- Photograph examples of graffiti – decide if you think it is art or vandalism.
- Sign your name graffiti-style – on paper that is! There are online 'graffiti creators' which will convert your name into graffiti-style lettering. Print your design idea and bring it to school.
- Look at structures in your nearest town or city such as bridges, towers or tunnels. Which is the oldest structure? Which is the newest?
- Go graffiti spotting! Look up in church yards and see if you are being watched by a stone gargoyles. Take photographs and then try to recreate a 3-D replica of the strange creatures at home, using modeling materials.
- Follow the path of a river through a town. The river is maybe the starting point for the building of a city. Look for early bridges – maybe the name of the city includes the river!
- Upload an image of a prominent city centre building to a drawing program. Crop the picture so that only half of it remains. Use your drawing skills to recreate the other half of the picture, adding colour and tone.
- Have a magical, mystery transport tour! With an adult, take a bus ride across a city to the terminus! Find out where the numbered route starts and ends. Pick up a timetable to plan your journey times.
- With an adult, go on a walking tour of a city taking photographs of favourite buildings and places. Describe your route, using a map, to another person so they could make the same journey.
- Take a virtual tour of cities around the world, exploring images online. Compile a list of places you would like to visit.
- What makes a great city? Is it the parks and water features, the friendly people or the clean, litter-free streets? Decide what is important to you in a city.
- Find out about animals that live in the city, such as fowls, peregrine falcons and pigeons. Make a list of animals you have spotted and find out about their habitat and how they survive in an urban environment.
- Imagine you have to entertain a visitor from another country. You want to impress them with your home town. Where would you take them for a day trip? Plan an itinerary showing them the best of your local area.

Home learning ideas

### I am Warrior

**Life as a Celt**

**Celtic warriors**

**Roman warriors**

**Life as a Roman**

**Queen Boudicca**

**Gladiators**

**Spartacus**

The new Summer Term 1 projects will be:

- |                            |                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| YR: Sunshine & Flowers     | Y2: Wiggle & Crawl                    |
| Y1: Paws, Claws & Whiskers | Y4: Ancient Civilisations             |
| Y3: Urban Pioneers         | Y6: Frozen Kingdom <i>(continued)</i> |
| Y5: Sow, Grow & Farm       |                                       |

Lots of exciting launch activities have been planned, and the first few weeks of term see a variety of workshops and off-site visits taking place.

### KS2 Stationery Restock:

If your child is in KS2 (Y3 to Y6) then they need to bring their own pencil case to school; these need to be small and only contain the necessary items. Please check the pencil cases ready for the start of the new term and restock any used/broken items.

All children need the following:

- HB pencil (and spare) ✓
- Blue fibre tip handwriting pen (once they have their pen licence)
- Small selection of colouring pencils
- Whiteboard pen
- Pritt Stick
- 15cm ruler
- Eraser
- Small pencil sharpener

Not needed:

- Felt tip pens ✗
- Sharpie pens
- Gel pens
- Ink eraser
- Scissors
- Compass / set square



### Woodland Skills:

This half term our focus across the school has been 'Fire Lighting'. Every year group has spent time outside around the campfire, toasting marshmallows, singing songs and sharing stories, and in some years even undertaking making and cooking pizzas. Children have been taught the skills of fire lighting and have really enjoyed the experience. Next half term the focus will be using tools - please look out for the letter after Easter, which will be sent home with the dates for each class.



### Diary Dates:

The latest 'Diary Dates' are now available. All dates are also published on the website - please see the [Calendar](#) to stay up-to-date. Alternatively, please see the [Term Dates](#) section where you can find the dates for the year plus the latest detailed/printable overview.



The [2024-25](#) term dates are now available too.

### Earrings:

Jewellery is not allowed in school (rings, bracelets, necklaces, etc.) and ideally, we would like children not to wear earrings. However, we understand that sometimes this is not practical. If they are worn, then the following rules must be adhered to:

- They must be small, plain silver/gold studs - no hoops, diamante/fashion or drop earrings are allowed
- Earrings are **not allowed** to be worn for any PE lesson, therefore children must be able to take them out independently (taping of ears is not an option)
- Please avoid having ears pierced during term time, as children end up missing several weeks of PE whilst they heal - PE is a statutory part of the curriculum

### Parking:

Parking around the school site is incredibly tricky. In order to help with the situation, we need all parents and carers who drive at drop-off and pick-up to support us.

#### Please do not:

- Drive recklessly
- Speed
- Block the roundabout near the Nursery pedestrian gate
- Park illegally, including blocking the driveways of local residents
- Park in Egham Bowls Club - this is private property and has an ANPR system in operation

#### Please do:

- Keep the slip road up to the main school gates completely clear at all times - it is narrow and is used as a pedestrian walkway

We have an agreement in place with Egham Orbit Sports Centre, who will allow parents to park in their car park at school drop-off and pick-up times, meaning that you can walk very quickly through to the school gates. Please can we ask that parents use this facility.

The local police and Runnymede Borough Council are aware of the parking situation and are supporting as necessary.

### Egham Bowls Club Car Park:

A reminder that Egham Bowls Club car park is a private car park and should only be used by members and visitors of the club. It is not open to parents to use at drop-off / pick-up time.

They have an ANPR (automatic number plate recognition) system installed and all unauthorised vehicles using the car park will be subject to a parking enforcement fine. The fines are advertised on the notices displayed around the car park - £100 parking charge reduced to £60 if paid within 14 days.

### PTA Update:

Thank you to everyone who has supported this term with the disco, Mother's Day Room and second hand uniform sales.

#### Coming up:

- May Disco Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024
- Father's Day Room Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024
- Summer Fair Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2024



If you're interested, there are also several ongoing ways to support the school online:

- **PTA Lottery** - weekly tickets cost £1 and one lucky person wins a cash prize each week - [Your School Lottery](#)
- **The Giving Machine** - when shopping online, if you go through the [Giving Machine](#) website first, the PTA will receive on average 3% of your total spend.
- **Easy2Name** - everything in school needs naming, and if you use this company, the PTA receive 20% from each order.

Further information can be found on the school [website](#).

### Follow us on X (formally Twitter):

Keep up-to-date by regularly checking the school website and following us on X!



@Manorcroft



*Respect Responsibility Resilience*



# EGHAM CC EASTER CRICKET CAMP

We are delighted to share that we are taking bookings for our Easter camp. The camp is suitable for players of all abilities from 6-14 years old and will be led by experienced level 2 coaches who are DBS checked and first aid trained.

Dates & timings:

Tuesday 2nd April to Friday 5th April  
9am-3pm everyday

Venue:

Egham Cricket club  
Vicarage road  
Egham  
TW20 8NP

Cost: £35 per day, discounts available for block booking and siblings.

What to bring: Lunch, drinks & bundles of energy!

To book your child's place please fill in the Google form via the QR code or for more information contact Joel on 07741319292 or email [Joel\\_miah@outlook.com](mailto:Joel_miah@outlook.com).