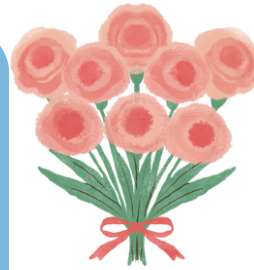


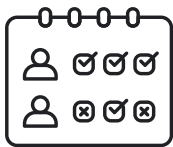
13 March 2026

Headteacher's Message: Mrs Marks

This week during our assemblies, we focused on the theme of 'Ambition.' The children connected this concept to our learning toolkit and school values, sharing numerous examples of how we can strive for success and work towards our dreams and goals. On Tuesday morning, we welcomed the Youth Dreams Project (YDP), who informed us about the exciting Half Term Clubs they will be offering to children and families this Easter. Everyone had a fantastic time at the school discos this week. Thank you to all staff that supported at this event and to Miss Parker for organising the discos. It is greatly appreciated. Wishing all our wonderful Mum's a happy Mothers Day!



HAPPY
Mothers
DAY



Class Attendance

The class with this week's highest attendance is:



Bears Class
87.4%



Emus Class
96.3%



Raccoons Class
96.4%



Penguins Class
93.5%



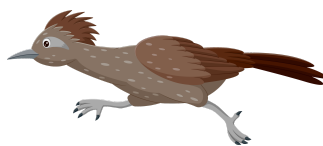
Elephants Class
88.2%



Yaks Class
98.8%



Geckos Class
95.9%



Roadrunners Class
96.3%



Macaws Class
87.2%



Hummingbirds Class
96.3%

Stars of the Week

Reception

Kitty Brown

Key Stage One

Rio Beenu

Lower Key Stage Two

Amir Derbas

Upper Key Stage Two

Amelia Stahlke

Kevin Zitkauskas

Zohra Oppong

Kenan Ali

Polina Golubjeva

Muhammed Mikael
Khuram

Theodore Lovelock



Dates for your Diary

School Events

Year 3 & 4 Educational Visit
Birmingham Think Tank
Friday 20th March
Children to arrive at school for 8.00am, return to school at 5.00pm

Whole School Book Buzz
End of day Stories
Monday 23rd March
3.00 - 3.15pm

Parents invited
Please enter the classrooms via the playground, sign in sheets to be completed in each class.

Geckos Class Assembly
Thursday 26th March
2.30 - 3.00pm
Parents - by invitation only

Term Dates

End of Spring Term
Friday 27th March

Summer One Term

Training Day
Monday 13th April
(no school)

School Opens
Tuesday 14 April

Bank Holiday
(no school)
Monday 4th May

Half Term Break
25th May - 29th May

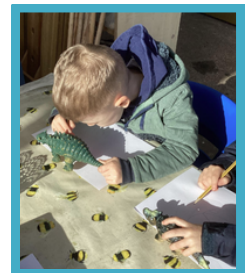
RED NOSE DAY **COMIC RELIEF**



Children are invited to wear something 'red' or non-uniform to raise money for Comic Relief.

Red Nose Day 2026 will take place on **Friday, March 20**

£1 contribution via MCAS please



Enriching Curriculum

Nursery Team

The sunshine and warmer weather has enabled the children to explore our Springtime focus in so many activities. Outside, the children had great fun drawing around the dinosaur's shadows and watching how the shapes changed as the sun moved. As the children have been learning about plants, seeds and bulbs and what they need to grow, planting bedding plants together was an opportunity to put their knowledge into practice and created a lovely plant display at our Nursery entrance. Over the coming weeks we will watch them grow and learn how to care for them to keep them healthy. It has been lovely to enjoy picnic snacks outside too and we loved sitting together in the warmth of the sun. The children have begun preparing some surprises for Mother's Day, beautiful watercolour paintings and decorating plant pots for their special gifts.

Reception Team

Reception have had a great week learning all about wild animals. We have read Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne and learnt about all the different animals that are in the book. The children have continued to work on their phonics and apply it to write a simple sentence. In Maths, continued to practise subitising numbers up to 6 as well as looking at different ways we can make the number 7. In the creative area, we have been looking at patterns and seeing if we can recreate these on different crafts. The children have amazed us with the different animal prints they made in the painting area. Outside, the children have been using their threading skills to make necklaces out of pasta. We have also seen some lovely role play in the mud kitchen!

Key Stage One Team

This week, in Key Stage One, the children have been completing their non-fiction final write for their current writing focus book. Year One have been making leaflets about how to care for the world and Year Two have been making leaflets about protecting endangered animals. In Maths, Year Two have started a new unit looking at shape focusing on polygons and Year One have been exploring doubling in halving. In PSHRE, the children have been thinking about the difference between needs and wants and in RE Year Two have been making Torah Scrolls and Year One have been thinking about the importance of the Christian Easter Story.

Lower Key Stage Two Team

In Year Three Writing, we have written our own modern narrative versions of Cinderella of the Nile, showing creativity and imagination in adapting a traditional tale. In Maths, we have been exploring a variety of methods to subtract to and from 10, representing our thinking in different ways. In Design Technology lessons, LKS2 have designed and created catapults and had great fun testing how far our paper balls could travel. In Year Four Writing, we are continuing our work based on the book The Baker by the Sea by Paula White, and the children have written poems inspired by the story. In Maths, we have been learning about multiples of 10 and developing our understanding of place value.

Upper Key Stage Two Team

The children have begun writing a prequel to 'The Lost Happy Endings' by Carol Ann Duffy, imagining why the witch became so twisted and cruel. The children have shown great creativity as they explore character backstory and motivation through their writing. In Science, we have been learning about the phases of the Moon, exploring the lunar cycle and investigating how our view of the Moon changes over the course of a lunar month. In DT, the children had great fun demonstrating their culinary skills while making their own naan bread.



Wednesday 11th March was Young Carers Day, where young carers are recognised in schools. At Manor Drive Primary Academy, we believe our young carers deserve recognition and support every day of the year.

Our young carers meet weekly to spend time together, take part in fun activities, and enjoy some well-deserved time with their peers.

If you would like to find out more about how we support young carers at our school, please feel free to speak to Mrs Kitching or Ms Pearson.