



Mansel Messenger

Perserverance ~ Determination ~ Positivity ~ Resillience

Mansel Park Primary School, Culver Close, Southampton. S016 9HZ

Date

Dear Families

I can hardly believe it is June already. What a busy Summer Term we have had with celebrations, gardening and some very impressive Eco work from our children's Eco Warrior group. School Council are finalising their "Pupil Experience Passport" to share with all children and families – more news on that when they have finalised it. City Athletics was a triumph and I was incredibly proud of all of our competitors from across the Partnership. What a talented bunch! It has been an amazing half term and I am so glad to see lovely bright and sunny days as we move towards the summer holidays. Our new staff have had a full induction week and our children have really enjoyed meeting their new teacher!

Big Gardening day

At Mansel Park we are very lucky to have so much lovely outdoor space. Throughout the year, lots of work is undertaken to ensure our gardens are well maintained by staff members and the children to keep our school grounds looking beautiful.



During the 'Big Gardening Day' all the children partook in a variety of activities around our gardens, including planting, maintenance and creating informative resources about the plants and wildlife within our school. In a bid to welcome our families in to school more often, we opened our doors to everyone to share on the lovely outdoor work. It was so lovely to hear of parents enjoying our outdoor space for the 'Big Gardening Event 2023'. We had a wonderful time seeing so many of you looking around, enjoying our grounds and seeing all of the hard work our children have undertaken.

Book fair



This month we held a book fair in our hall, from Tuesday 6th to Tuesday 13th June. The children had so much fun browsing and picking out books to take home with them. Thank you so much to so many of you for attending. We love to encourage children to read at home and the book fair is a perfect opportunity to stock up on books to read.

Year 1 and 2 phonics checks

We are beyond proud of the Year 1 and Year 2 children who participated in their phonics checks this month; they handled it so well and did amazingly well. Thank you to those who supported them at home with practising their phonics skills. Pip and Pap phonics has been extremely well received and the impact is astounding!

Coffee morning

Thank you to all of you who have attended our coffee mornings. Mr Lodge is really looking forwards to seeing you on the next one - Thursday, 6th July - it will be held outside at the front of the school. We hope this will be another way to drop in and have an informal chat and cup of coffee or tea with a member of the senior team.



We also have our uniform swap shop so please come on down and take a look for some great condition uniform.

Hot weather

Now that the weather is getting hotter, please bring your children in wearing suncream and with sun hats.

As per our letter, suncream will also be kept in classrooms in case a child requires a 'top-up' throughout the day. Please do not send your child in with suncream as we have many allergies to manage and our suncream is hypoallergenic and fully recommended by dermatologists. We have been taking extra precautions to make sure the children are safe when outside, we have plenty of water on hand throughout the day, PE is planned for shade breaks and calm exercise. Additionally lunch and play take place in the shade.



City Athletics 2023

Children from Key stage 2 represented Mansel Park at the Southampton City Athletics event on Tuesday 13th June, where they competed against 17 other schools in the following events: long jump, triple jump, girls relay, boys relay, rounders ball throw and long distance running.

Even though it was an incredibly hot day, all the pupils that attended the event were outstanding in their attitudes and efforts in every single event.

Everyone at Mansel Park was so proud of every pupil that participated. We were very pleased with our boys and girls relay teams.

P.E reminder

Just as a reminder to all parents , that having kit in school on the correct day is essential...We wanted to let you know the days for your child's P.E afternoon so you are able to bring in P.E kits on these days:



- Monday - Year 1
- Tuesday - Year 2
- Wednesday - Year 3 and Year 4
- Thursday - Year 5
- Friday - Year 6 and Year R

Curriculum and enrichment

Year R

During this term, Year R has been exploring the life cycles of different animals. In science, we enjoyed looking at different eggs and using our predicting skills to make a clever guess as to which animal might hatch from the different eggs. In writing, we have been deepening our knowledge of non-fiction books to write a recount of the different stages of our favourite animal's life cycle. In maths, we are deepening our understanding of numbers. We have explored new ways of counting in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10 using resources to work out the best ways of counting them.

Year 1

Our Year 1 children have been enjoying many new learning opportunities and challenges this half term so far!

We were challenged to enter a competition like no other ... to compete and win the title of the BEST super vegetable in Mansel Park School. We took on the challenge and designed our own powerful super vegetable. We then developed our persuasive techniques to give us the best chance of being a successful competition winner. Look out ... we are now experts in the art of persuasion! In DT, we have been using our History knowledge of the features of castles. This helped us to design and create a protective castle within our groups. We worked hard to plan and think about what materials and joining mechanisms would be suitable for each feature to ensure the structure was strong and sturdy. We were very successful!

Year 2

This term in Year 2, the children have been immersed in exciting and creative learning experiences. They have embarked on a captivating journey by recreating their own letters inspired by "The Day the Crayons Quit," using imaginative expanding noun phrases and effective subordinating conjunctions. The children have become history detectives and have been exploring the gripping events of the Great Fire of London and its historical timeline. With great enthusiasm, they took on the role of reporters and crafted their own newspaper reports, transporting themselves back in time to witness and report on this significant event. Their dedication and hard work were truly commendable. Additionally, in

Maths, the children have been exploring measurements such as mass and height. Through engaging activities, they have developed their understanding of these concepts, allowing them to confidently compare and measure objects. It has been an enriching and successful term of learning for Year 2!

Year 3

Year 3 has been working really hard on the Big Help Out, which was part of our learning for the King's Coronation. We focused on recycling and we had monitors to check that every class in the school was putting appropriate items into the recycling bin. We made posters for the bins to ensure that the teachers and children knew which items can be recycled. We are excited to continue with this throughout the year and help our planet as much as possible! We have also had lots of fun in Science learning all about plants. We have learned about what plants need to survive. We set up an experiment where we had a control plant, a plant with no water and a plant with no sunlight. We observed that the leaves on the plant with no water were brown and dry because they did not have enough water to help them grow!

Year 4

In English, Year 4 are writing diary entries to tell a 'rags to riches' story, inspired by magical plots such as Matilda, Cinderella and Aladdin. We will also be writing explanation texts for inventions inspired by Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at the end of term. In Maths, we are covering reading clocks and calculating time durations, before moving on to statistics (bar charts and pictograms) and consolidating content from the year. Our Science topic builds on skills for working scientifically and designing our own experiments, whilst in Geography we are looking at water use and treatment - from Roman aqueducts, to Victorian engineering, to modern day water facilities. We are also looking forward to designing and building our bug hotels in DT!

Year 5

The Year 5's have been working so hard this term! In Writing, the children have been creating their own spy narrative based on the book 'Stormbreaker' by Anthony Horowitz. Previously, the children have invented their own spy gadgets and wrote an informative and persuasive piece of writing all about it! Shhhhh... It's confidential! Soon, they will be incorporating their gadget within their spy story.

In Geography, we have started our new topic all about maps. The children have discovered just how many different types of maps there really are! By the end of the topic, the children will be able to give directions using compass directions and grid references to help someone stranded on a mountain.

Meanwhile, in Science, the children continue to explore how to carry out a fair test, this includes planning for the independent, dependent and control variables. So far we have tested which substances dissolve in water but there is much more to come!

Year 6

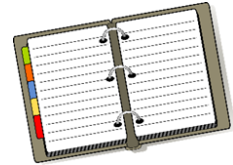
It's been a busy half-term for our Year 6s who have been writing speeches and non chronological reports about a topic that's important to them. Some of the topics have included racism, gender inequality and climate change. The children completed research and thought carefully about how to

create impact through their language choices and sentence construction. The final products were both informative and persuasive. Well done Year 6!

In Science, the children have learnt about microorganisms and have even been growing some of their own - who knew mould can grow into such a variety of colours! We've also dived deep into the work of the 18th century scientist, Carl Linnaeus, and discovered the work he developed on identifying, naming and classifying organisms. We even had a go at creating some classification diagrams of our own using liquorice allsorts - yum!

Key dates for your diary

- WB 3rd July – Year 6 Bikeability Week
- Thursday 6th July- Coffee Morning
- Thursday 6th July from 3:30 - £5 Challenge School Fete - (50p admission)
- Monday 10th July - Friday 14th July - Year 6 Skern Residential Trip
- Monday 3rd July 3:30pm - 4:14pm - Key Stage 1 Disco (Year 1 and 2)
- Tuesday 4th July 3:30pm – 4:15pm - Lower Key Stage 2 Disco (Year 3 and 4)
- Tuesday 4th July 5pm – 6:15pm - Upper Key Stage 2 Disco (Year 5 and 6)
- Friday 21st July - Final Day of Term
- Monday 4th September - Inset Day
- Tuesday 5th September - First Day Back at School



Thank you so much for your continued support, I am sure that together we can make it a wonderful end to the year.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerida Montague". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gerida Montague

Executive head teacher