



Newsletter Date

December 2013

Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Colleagues,

This is my fourth year of having the privilege to write the Headteacher's foreword to our wonderful Christmas Newsletter.

The newsletter gives us all a chance to pause and glance back at the previous four months of school life, showing the wonderful journey our students and staff have travelled together.

I hope, like me, you find it a fantastic reflection of the outstanding work taking place every day at Manor Green School!

It is with heartfelt gratitude and professional pride that I say "thank you" to my team for the hard work in 2013 – we have worked hard and had fun, too, haven't we?

It is now time to slow down, rest, relax and spend some quality time with our nearest and dearest, rejoicing in the end of year celebrations and New Year's resolutions.

May I take this opportunity to wish all students, their families and all the staff a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year – may it be the best one yet!

Kind regards

Ania Hildrey
Headteacher

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New Term Dates	

Special points of interest:

- On page 22- Key Stage Two Tag Rugby Competition
- Would you like to be part of the PTA? - See pages 24 and 25



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY—TERM 3



Saturday 4th January

29th Annual Swimarathon at Magnet Leisure Centre

Monday 6th January

Staff Training Day

Tuesday 7th January

Start of Term

w/c 13th January (2 weeks)

Peer observation cycle begins

Thursday 16th January

7pm: Governors' SBS committee meeting

Friday 17th January

9.15am: Governors' ACE committee meeting

w/c 20th January

Mid-year Performance Management reviews for Teachers

Thursday 30th January

7pm: Full Governing Body meeting

Friday 31st January

Fundraising Day (charity to be confirmed)

w/c 3rd February

Key Stage Leaders' graded observations

Monday 3rd February

KS4/KS5/AP data and moderation day

Tuesday 4th February

KS3 data and moderation day

Wednesday 5th February

KS1/KS2 data and moderation day

Wednesday 12th February

Key Stage Leaders' Progress Reviews

Friday 14th February

3.15pm: End of Term – Valentine's Day!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY—TERM 4



Monday 24th February

w/c 3rd March

Thursday 6th March

Friday 7th March

w/c 10th March

w/c 17th March

Friday 21st March

Monday 24th March

Tuesday 25th March

Wednesday 26th March

Thursday 27th March

Tuesday 1st April

Thursday 3rd April

Friday 4th April

Start of Term

INSTED (internal MGS inspection)

7pm: Governors' SBS committee meeting

9.15am: Governors ACE committee

INSTED moderation and results

Parental consultations

'Governors into School' Day

Sports' Relief Fundraising Day

10am: Primary Easter Parade

KS1/KS2 data and moderation day

9.45am: Easter Production

9.45am: Easter Production

Key Stage Leaders' Progress Reviews

KS4/KS5/AP data and moderation day

KS3 data and moderation day

10am: Secondary End of Term Assembly

11am: Primary End of Term Assembly

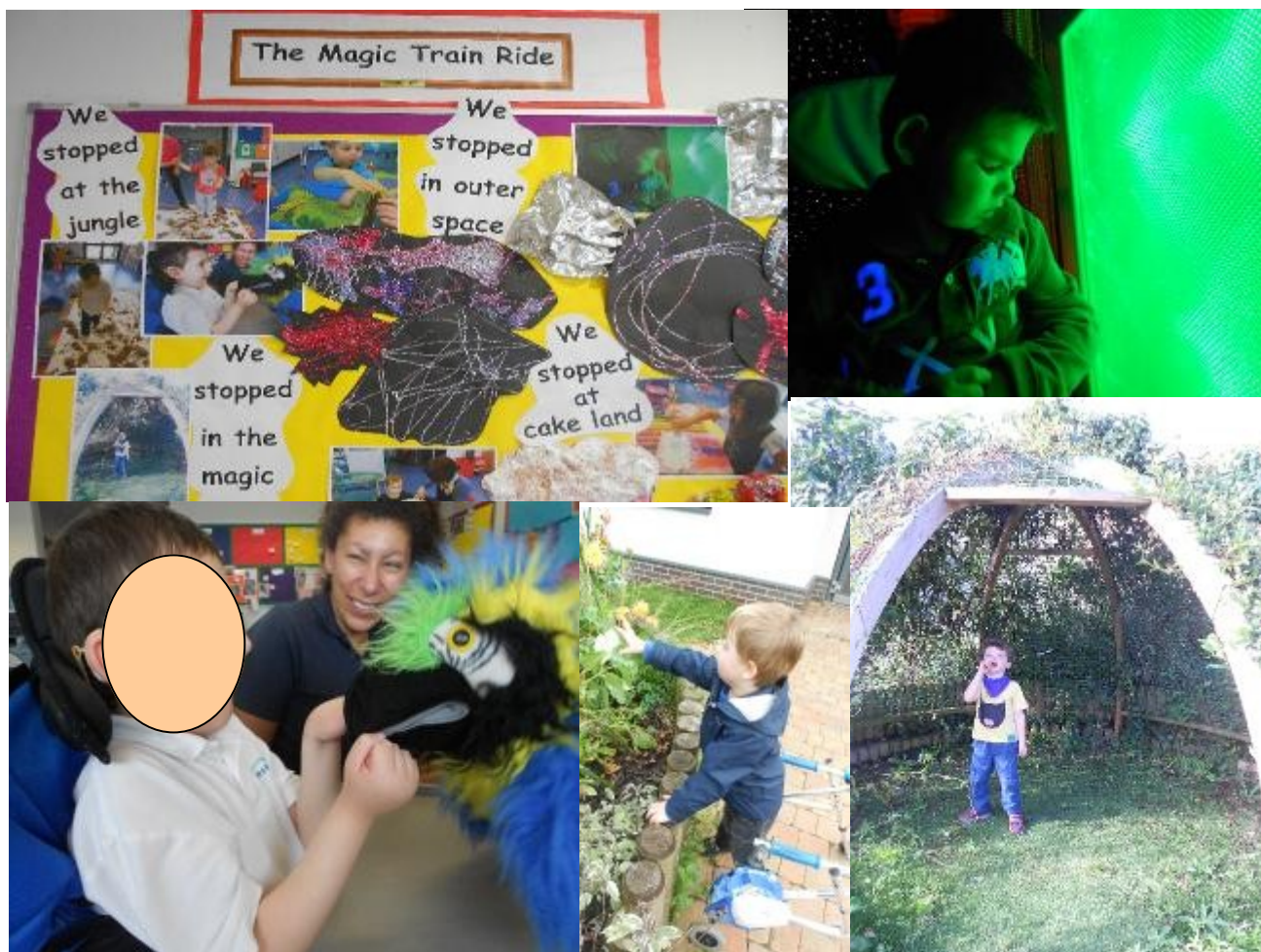
1.30pm: Term ends

OXENBURY—THE MAGIC TRAIN RIDE

In Term 1, we read a story called “The Magic Train Ride”.

Each week we stopped at one of the “magic stops” to play. We stopped at the “magic wood”, where we blew lots of bubbles, made bubble paint pictures and went to the sensory garden. We stopped at “the jungle”, where we met lots of jungle animals, made big animal footprints and sang songs. We stopped in “outer space”, where we made huge star pictures and went to the dark sensory room. Finally, we went to “cake land”, where we made lots of cakes and puddings and decorated a giant cupcake together!

We all learned the “Magic Train Ride” song too!



OXENBURY—FUN WITH COLOUR



This term we have been learning about colour.

We have had a different colour each week to learn about through lots of exciting activities. For red we painted pasta red and tasted tomatoes. For yellow we counted yellow ducks and tasted bananas. For pink we made some strawberry angel delight and painted pigs. For green we counted frogs, tasted cucumber and visited the sensory garden, and for orange we made pumpkin and orange prints. We also use the week day wheel to learn about colours. We now know all the Makaton signs for the colours of the rainbow. Each week the photos taken in our colour sessions have been put up in the corridor to make a huge rainbow display.

ANDREA—ME AND MY FEELINGS

We had a great start to the year. In term 1 we looked at “Me and My Feelings”, exploring how we feel and how feelings are expressed.

During PE we moved our bodies in a variety of ways. We then looked at sad and happy flashcards to help us identify feelings and matched them to different music and movements.

During our expressive arts afternoons we used different body parts to create pictures, experience a variety of textures, trying to express how they make us feel. We tried lots of different foods some of which we were not so keen on!! We also all enjoyed joining in with a variety of role play themes; dressing up, looking after the dolls and hiding in tents and boxes.

We also worked very hard around communicating how we are feeling. Angie our speech and language assistant has helped us all with a choosing board that has different feelings for us to point to during our afternoon Circle Times.



ANDREAE—LIGHT AND DARK

This has been an exciting term exploring Light and Dark, looking at sources of light and what we can see in the light and the dark.

Miss Thomas's favourite activity has been taking groups into the sensory room using torches and glow sticks to explore. Then on the wall creating shadow puppets.

The children all loved our stories focusing on the dark. We have read and experienced 'Whatever Next', 'The owl that's scared of the dark' and 'Owl Babies'. We used these stories to then create beautiful art work from messy bubble wrap firework pictures and fluffy owls to big papier mache light bulbs. We then used these pieces of artwork to create two brilliant displays.

At the end of the term we have also spent a lot of time practising for our special Christmas production. We Three Kings (well it was ten actually!!) all played their parts and were little super stars.



ROSEN—MAKING MASKS



Rosen class have been learning about 'Ourselves'. For our Design and Technology work in Term 1, we learned about making masks. We talked about what masks are and when they are used. The children had fun trying different masks on and acting in role! They then made their own masks - some of them are very creative (and sparkly!) The children modelled their own masks for photos and then made a matching photo frame that is being displayed alongside their mask in the Key Stage One cabinet in the entrance area of the school. Come along and see them, we are very proud of ourselves!

ROSEN—THE GREAT BRITISH BAKE OFF!

In preparation for the Primary Christmas Production, where Rosen class acted out scenes from 'The Great British Bake Off', we turned our role play area into a bakery/cafe. We made our own play produce to 'sell', including cookies, cupcakes, jam tarts, buns and loaves of bread. We also made some of the 'real things' in our cooking lessons... they were yummy! The children enjoyed playing and acting out scenarios that happen in a bakery/cafe. As a result of this, communication and language have really developed for many of our class this term, as well as imaginative play. We hope you enjoyed our performance in the Primary Christmas Production and recognised our very own Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood!



HARGREAVES—DOING THEIR BEST



Hargreaves did an assembly to all Primary pupils about `doing our best`. Each pupil was able to show what they have tried their best on this term. Gurshan has tried his best while experimenting with finger paints; one student has done his best in maths during which he completed several sudoku puzzles; Leo has done his best during literacy working on his sounds and blending; Auron has done his best to settle into a new class which he has accomplished; Hafsah has been trying her best during rebound sessions; Brandon has been doing his best to learn to write his name; Moya has been doing her best to complete her OT tasks; another student has done her best to make circular marks on paper with a range of tools; Tyler has been doing his best to stay on task during maths; and Liam has done his best while learning about electricity.

Hargreaves class are continuing to try their best with all activities and are succeeding - well done Hargreaves!



HARGREAVES—DIWALI, THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

In term two Hargreaves class learned about Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights. We looked at why and how people may celebrate Diwali and made our own religious decorations. The pupils in Hargreaves had Mendhi patterns drawn on their hands with henna and then drew their own patterns on hand templates using photographs as a reference. Hindu's light divas to light the way for Rama and Sita, and the pupils in Hargreaves made their own divas which are currently on display in the entrance.

Once we had looked at the festival of lights we moved on to the topic of shadow. The pupils got to experience what it is like to live in the dark using our dark den. We used torches to show how light travels and how shadows are made, we were able to use this knowledge to make silhouettes of the pupils in Hargreaves.



DONALDSON—AT THE LOOK OUT

As part of our science topic this term we went on a trip to 'The Look Out Discovery Centre'. The children really enjoyed exploring all of the different zones and taking part in the interactive science activities.

In the light and colour zone we explored how shadows are made and followed the colour patterns. One student loved making the steam swirl in the tunnel, Ethan made the sounds change by moving on the coloured steps and Maisie and Bobby enjoyed changing the light and watching its effect in the two way mirror.

The water zone was enjoyed by everyone, we changed the flow of the water and also tested which items sank and which floated. We used different equipment to splash in the water and explored the different uses of water. Harry and Zayn both loved the water tube and watched as their friends made the water swirl.

The forces and movement zone was lots of fun. We took part in lots of fun experiments, one student loved making the hot air balloon take off and Liam really enjoyed the marble run. In the body and perception zone we looked at different body parts and learnt about healthy eating.

In the build- it zone we all dressed up as builders with high visibility jackets and hard hats. We looked at the plans and used the trucks to move the bricks around. Alex and Reuben worked together to move the bricks on the conveyer belt and we built parts of the house, - it looked great!

After lunch and a play in the park we went to the woodland zone. We all loved our walk into the woodland and explored the wood huts, we looked at the different trees and kept an eye out for animals. We ended up seeing some squirrels, birds, an ape and a bear! (luckily the ape and the bear were not real!).

We had a fun packed day and learnt lots of new things. Here are some photos and we have lots more photos of our trip on display in school.

DONALDSON—AT THE LOOK OUT



DONALDSON—VISIT SANTA

In Donaldson Class, we are all getting very excited that it's nearly Christmas! The children all thought hard about the presents that they would like and wrote their letters to Santa; Liam said 'batman' for the first time when he found a picture of the toy he would like and Alex very thoughtfully wrote to Santa to tell him what everyone in his family would like and not just himself.

We went on our school bus to World's End Garden centre, hoping to see Santa there in his winter wonderland grotto. Zayn loved the bus journey and Reuben spotted all kinds of wildlife on the way.

We walked through the Christmas displays at the garden centre, one student was amazed by all of the Christmas trees and the different coloured lights; another student loved the displays that moved and turned and Ethan liked watching the train move around the track.

At the Winter Wonderland we were met by a toy soldier who was one of Santa's helpers, he told us we would have to make our way through the winter wonderland before we would find Santa in his grotto!



DONALDSON—VISIT SANTA CONT.

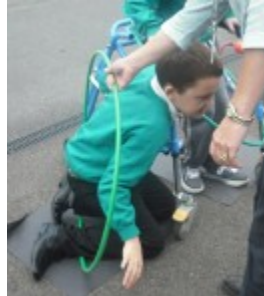


We all thought the Winter Wonderland was magical, we saw polar bears, penguins, characters from our favourite books and TV shows and lots and lots of snow, Maisie was hoping for some real snow to build a snowman. Then we met an elf who told us we were very close to finding Santa, Bobby was very excited at this point and made sure everyone had their letters to give to Santa. We finally found Santa, he was very friendly and we took it in turns to give him our letter, have a photo and to pick a special present.

After the excitement of seeing Santa we had lunch and a play in the soft play area. Before going back to school we had a go on the teacup rides, Harry loved spinning around and around and had a final look at all of the wonderful decorations.

The children were all so well behaved that Santa wrote back to them, thanking them for their letters, not many days to go now!!!

BROWNE—PRESENT FANTASTIC MR FOX



In Term 1 we read *Fantastic Mr Fox* by Roald Dahl. We have really enjoyed the story, and for our assembly we did some role play. Farmers Boggis, Bunce and Bean were digging down to reach the foxes, while the foxes had to work together to dig to safety! We acted out digging a long tunnel, with the farmers chasing us. We then shared our ideas on how to solve problems by working together.



In cooking, Browne class have been busy baking biscuits. They particularly enjoyed the shared tasting and smelling sessions the following day!

We also enjoyed our history topic on World War Two. We looked at some objects from the past and learned about evacuation and rationing, and then we went on our own evacuee experience to Marlow on the train!



BROWNE—FOCUS ON MONEY AND ELECTRICITY

This term, we have focused on learning about money and coin value in maths. Some of us have been using coins to practise counting skills, whilst others loved the role play shopping activities, buying items of food and working out how to pay for them and find the correct change. We have learnt about electricity in Science. We had lots of fun operating electrical devices with switches and making simple circuits.



KING-SMITH—ENJOYING ALL LESSONS!!

We had a very busy first term in King-Smith, learning about Time and Shapes in Maths. We began by searching the school and grounds for shapes. We discovered a shape house outside our door and enjoyed investigating the different sizes and shapes. We began "Read Write Inc" in our English lessons; this intensive phonic based scheme has had a huge impact in our classroom with many of the pupils now stating that English is their favourite lesson!

Through our PSHE lessons, we have studied the celebrations of different cultures. The pupils loved tasting the various celebratory foods and re-creating the celebrations through drama. The favourite lesson had to be the recreation of the Holi festival where all pupils covered up in art overalls then took part in a giant paint throwing celebration. We have also been studying World War 2, and this topic has been a favourite with all the pupils, many of whom have found out about relatives who served the war effort. We looked at the impacts the war had at home, with children being evacuated and the effects of rationing. The pupils recreated an evacuation and packed their bags with special belongings, and set off for the train station. There they caught the train to Marlow and enjoyed a picnic in the park.



KING-SMITH—CHRISTMAS TREAT AT TVAP



The final part of our term in King-Smith has been filled with Christmas fun! The children have loved decorating our classroom, baking festive cakes and writing their lists to Father Christmas. They have been practising hard for the Christmas show and I am proud to say that all the members of the class can perform a terrifying Hakka!

We have been working so hard on our listening skills. The children lined up on the playground as soon as they were asked, and as a reward, were given the treat of having a day at TVAP. A fantastic fun filled day for all so close to Christmas, and all the children loved their day out!



CHILD—EVACUATE TO MARLOW!

In Term 1 we learned all about World War II in our History lessons. We explored different artefacts and photographs as well as videos documenting the World War II, particularly the Evacuation, and what the children of the time had to experience.

We spent an afternoon role playing an Evacuation – the children packed their suitcases, filled with their handmade ration books, passports and gas masks – said goodbye to their families and got the train to their new homes in order to be safe. The pupils all got involved and discussed how the children of the time may have felt.

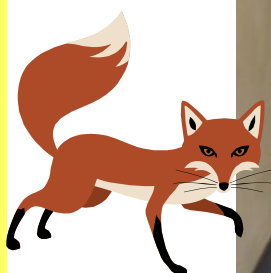


The following week the pupils in Child class joined King-Smith and Browne classes to re-enact an Evacuation from Manor Green School. We arrived at the train station and the pupils all sang songs together before getting the train from Maidenhead to Marlow. Upon arrival the pupils sat together in the park eating their “rations” (packed lunches) before enjoying some time playing together in the park. The pupils enjoyed their time on the train and mixing with other classes. We pretended to wave goodbye through the windows as we took off to our “unknown destination”!

CHILD—WHAT DOES THE FOX SAY???

In Child Class we have had lots of fun over the Christmas period. The pupils in particular enjoyed choosing “Ylvis – What does the fox say?” as their song of choice! After lots of practising and team work they had mastered the dance routine as well as the lyrics. Amongst all this, Child class thought it would be a great idea to make their own fox – on stage! They have had so much fun getting messy and creative.

The children have done so well learning all the different Makaton signs for the animals, choosing and wearing their costumes, showing off their dance moves and using their best singing voices. Most importantly, they have all worked together and given each other support throughout their performances!



KEY STAGE TWO—TAG RUGBY

As part of Ascot & Maidenhead School Sport Partnership (in conjunction with Maidenhead Rugby Club) a group of pupils from Key Stage 2 formed a Tag Rugby Team to enter the first Interschool competition of the year. On Tuesday 22nd October the weather was on our side and a team made up of; Reuben, Maisie, Bobby, Gabby, Nathan, James, and Brannon played against teams from other schools in the area. After two matches, the final scores were - Oldfield 9 v Manor Green 3 and Furze Platt 6 v Manor Green 1. Fantastic teamwork led to Brannon and another student scoring well-deserved tries. During the competition the pupils worked tirelessly throughout the matches, and showed a huge amount of team spirit. The teams enthusiasm and effort throughout the day was noted by those running and helping out at the event. A huge well done to the team and a big thank you to Chrissie and Vicky for training the team and transporting them to the competition.



FOR FAMILIES—DIARY DATES

Speakers on the following topics have confirmed dates for these coffee mornings next term:

24th January: Anne Gilbert, Youth Service Project Officer for the Borough, is coming to talk about her role. What can the Service offer the young people of Manor Green School?

31st January: Drop-in clinic with Tim Lister (Educational Psychologist). General discussion or your questions answered. For individual appointments please contact Sharon Carrigan.

7th March: Drop-in clinic with Tim Lister (Educational Psychologist). As above.

14th March: Always a popular visitor, Indy Malhi, Health Promotion Co-ordinator, will be here to promote discussion and answer any questions concerning Relationships and Sex Education.

28th March: Anne Gilbert will be delivering a Triple P Teen Seminar. More details to follow.

4th April: End of term brunch (11am-1.30pm). Everyone welcome; please bring along a plate of something to share – sweet or savoury, we're not choosy!

Meet up for coffee and chat on other Friday dates during term time.

This information will be available on the **Notices** page of the school's website, but I will put a note in the Head's weekly newsletter as a reminder and also text everyone nearer the time.

Sharon Carrigan
Family Adviser

MANOR GREEN—FORM A PTA

You may have read from a previous Head's weekly newsletter that Manor Green School has decided to set up its very own PTA! Of course we would like it to be the best that it can be, so before we really get started on any big plans for the future, I would like to know how much support there is out there ...

What is a PTA?

The PTA is a great way to bring together parents, teachers, family and friends as a group to raise money to support the school, to take part in open discussions that involve our children's welfare and to make a real difference for our children.

It may also provide support for school trips and outings and other special events.



How can I get involved?

There are many different ways you can get involved whether you have a little or a lot of time to offer. Attend PTA meetings that inform parents about education issues, especially when changes are taking place. Help to run social events for parents and children; providing an opportunity for people to meet and get to know each other and have some fun.

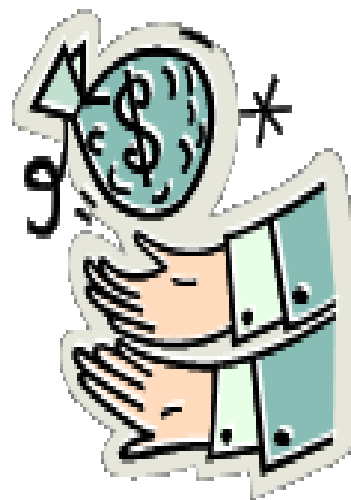
Raise funds to help the school provide extra resources for the pupils.

Of course you can always support the PTA events just by "being there".

MANOR GREEN—FORM A PTA CONT.

How is the money spent?

Funds raised by the PTA are used to provide 'extras' not already provided by the school's main income – often 'fun things' that make learning more interesting and exciting. These could include, for example touch computers, playground equipment, a new school minibus or smaller purchases such as presents for Father Christmas to distribute or lights for a Diwali celebration.



This won't be any ordinary PTA this will be a Manor Green School PTA!

If you would like to get involved get in touch today—the sooner we start the better! You can call either;



Sharon Carrigan,
Family Adviser
01628 513800

or



Michelle O'Sullivan,
Mum to Ethan Year 1
student 07966
467856

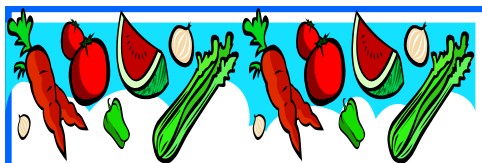
MORPURGO—IN THE ALLOTMENT



Over the past two terms Morpurgo has enjoyed working outside in the allotment and cooking a variety of foods to practise our practical skills. In the garden we like to use different tools to dig, weed, pull, collect and carry. Tara is excellent at transferring the weeds to the wheelbarrow and another student loves to push the wheelbarrow. Ben and another focused on the tough job of digging with spades!



MORPURGO—CHOP CHOP CHOP



In the cooking room, Imogen and Xander have been experiencing different smells and textures and making clear choices. As a group we have all grated, stirred, poured, weighed, boiled and chopped ingredients. Well done Morpurgo for a lovely two terms - we can't wait for next term's adventures!



BLYTON—HOUSES AND HOMES

This term KS 3 have been thinking about houses and homes.

Blyton have been reading 'The Three Little Pigs' and discussing the emotions felt in the story. We have all enjoyed using the puppets to re-create the story and becoming the characters though instruments in music. We then wrote our own version of the story and made our own characters, thinking of other silly houses that they could make which we tried to destroy in science using heat, water and air.

It's been a very creative term. In Art we have made 3D self portraits, each one inside a front door and displayed on a house. In DT we have made our very own class dolls' house out of shoe boxes! The term has ended in a spooky maths' Halloween competition, who will design the best 2D shape Jack'o Lantern face and take home the class pumpkin?



BLYTON—EARTH AND BEYOND

Term two in Blyton has been about 'Earth and Beyond'.

To best understand the sun and its effects on Earth we have been reading 'Night Monkey, Day Monkey' which led us onto all sorts of interesting facts about the things that we can see, hear and do at night verses the day – for example, we decided that watching fireworks is best done at night! It also encouraged us to think about opposites. In Maths we packed shopping bags to distinguish heavy from light, full from empty and big from small and in Science we looked at shadows and learnt about the effects of blocking light to make darkness. We then went on to read 'Owl Babies' as we explored the emotions of being in the dark and being alone, we also thought about all of the nocturnal animals that we might see if we were awake at night and what features they have to help them survive in the dark and cold.

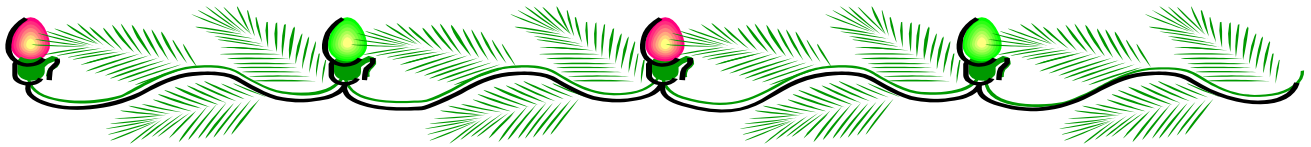
Amongst all of this we have been very excited about preparing for Christmas. Our class assembly fell on December 2nd which allowed us to show off our Christmas tree. We also learnt a song all about advent and played the tune live on the glockenspiels!

We have had a wonderful first two terms of school and Miss Jago would like to thank her fantastic team for all of their hard work and dedication!

Fireworks



BLUME—PERFORM AT FOUNDATION PARK



We have been in the festive spirit in Blume class! Our SSA Hannah Ashwell organised a fantastic carol concert which Blume and Wilson class performed locally at Foundation Park. The spectators were quoted in the Maidenhead Advertiser as saying, "The children gave a wonderful, enthusiastic performance and it was a pleasure having them here again to add some real Christmas spirit to the event." They made us very proud.



We've also been very busy putting together a wonderful Christmas display which all our students contributed to, showing off their amazing artistic skills. You might recognise some of the animals from the lovely John Lewis advert showing on television at the moment!

We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

ZEPHANIAH—SHAPES AND SELF-PORTRAITS

This term, Zephaniah combined shapes and self-portraits to make pumpkin faces in Art. We have spent time this term learning the names and properties of shapes as well as developing our own self-portraits.

Here are our Shape Faces.



Halloween came a little early in Zephaniah! Shapes and Symmetry formed the basis of our symmetrical name skeletons.

With their symmetrical names provided as the body, the children had to design a face, arms and legs using symmetrical shapes.

WILSON—BUILD TEEPEES



Wilson have been working really hard to build and paint their own Teepees. The ever resourceful Heather Hague ran an afternoon session building the Teepees from scratch which all of Wilson class participated in and enjoyed.

The pupils used toothpicks to hold sheets of material together and bamboo to form the frame of the teepees, before tying together with string and of course painting their own fabulous designs on them.



SHAKESPEARE—OFF TO THE THEATRE

On Friday, 13 December students from Key Stage Four attended the pantomime at South Hill Park. This year it is the pantomime Snow White. Unfortunately Walt Disney seems to have hijacked the story with the addition of the seven dwarfs. He also holds the copyright for this story and therefore it was not the tale we were expecting. The story was a little more complex. However, we had been fortunate to watch the live streaming of the pantomime the day before so that the students were well aware of the story prior to our visit. It was an exciting trip and a valuable experience for all our young people to see live theatre. The pleasure of sitting in a dark theatre waiting with eager anticipation for the actors to begin to entertain you is a great feeling and I'm glad we had the opportunity to share this tradition with Key Stage Four students.

The usual audience participation kept us on our toes and the booing was definitely the loudest onstage right where we were sitting ! We enjoyed ice cream in the interval and got to meet the cast as you can see from the photographs.

The pantomime runs at South Hill Park, Bracknell, until the beginning of January and is great fun for all the family and highly recommended by Manor Green students.



DAHL—GARDENING AND COOKING

The first term back after an extended summer holiday saw Dahl class diving straight into the “swishwiffling” world of Roald Dahl. We visited the Roald Dahl Museum in Buckinghamshire and were able to take inspiration from his and other authors’ work. His writing chair was available to try out and proved a hit with most of the children, as did the gift shop. Wonka bars sold out quicker than “Golden Tickets”!

We also took up the challenge of clearing some of the allotment area ready for re-planting.

We are hoping to have an early crop of broad beans, carrots and rocket.

Continuing with the vegetable theme we have been cooking with vegetables and made a tomato and basil ragu reduction to use as a pizza sauce. The children have also planned their own two course meal using the skills learnt this term with great success.

In English our focus has been reading for pleasure and the children have found: poems, song lyrics, reviews and books they liked from various sources including a trip to Maidenhead library.

It's been a good half term with some great learning happening. We're sure this will continue into Term Two.



DAHL—KEEPING YOU UPDATED

This term always seems to fly by, as everyone is building up to the festive season. We have been very focused on our academic learning this term and have covered some very tricky maths, even venturing into averages and analysing the works of The Beatles.



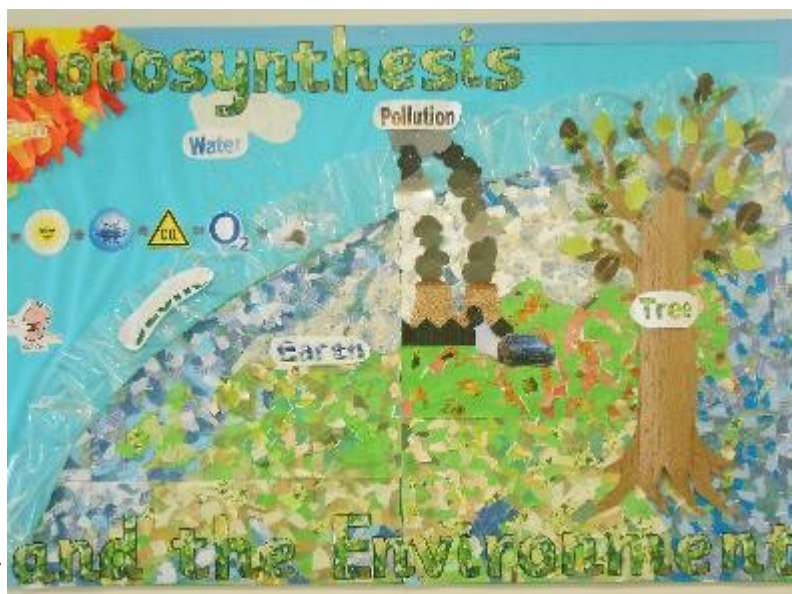
Our writing this term has been all about leisure and how tourists are persuaded to visit different attractions. We visited Windsor Leisure Pool, looked at different castles around the United Kingdom and even investigated the use of formal language when wishing to hire a bouncy castle.

We continue to tend to four plots in the allotment area which have already been planted with broad beans, rocket and carrots. The latter have been thinned and are expected to give a bumper crop in late spring. We have some more plants that need to be sown indoors after the Christmas break but the earliest seeds to be planted outside are the oriental salad leaves and they go out in March.



Our science has been focused on materials from our earth and our environment. We have learnt about atoms, elements and compounds. We have then used this knowledge to mix two elements together and make a new compound and turn one compound into a different one by using acid and salt. We also looked at photosynthesis and saw which elements and compounds were created through photosynthesis.

In design and technology we have been using our metal work skills to create some Christmas gifts. Because of this we can't say much more, else it might spoil the surprise. What can be said is that everyone has produced some excellent pieces of work and we're sure they will be treasured possessions for years to come.



The class had a problem solving morning, towards the end of term and had to work as team

to produce a roller coaster for a marble and a protective case for an egg.

We wish you all a happy, healthy festive time and look forward to more learning in the New Year.

HANDLER—MECHANICS OF THE FUTURE?



Congratulations went to Daniel Hing and another student for their outstanding efforts at PitStop, the local project which aims to give young people experience in motor mechanics.

They attend PitStop every week together with Hayden Carr and Jordan Clark. The students were recognised in October at an awards ceremony which presented each of them with an ABC Level One award in Motor Vehicle Studies.

In addition to this accolade, they also won an award for the Motor Vehicle Group of the year – the staff at PitStop wanted to reward the boys from Manor Green School for their desire to do well, their enthusiasm and their ability to work independently.

Well done to each of them!

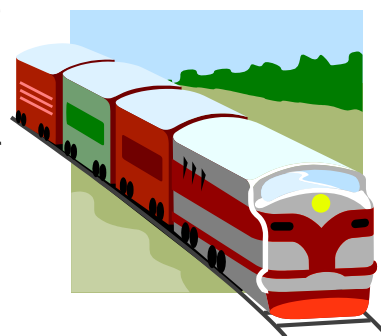


HANDLER—JOURNEY BY TRAIN

In October Handler class took the train from Twyford to Henley and enjoyed a picnic lunch by the river.

The students looked up the times of the trains in a timetable and bought their tickets checking there was a suitable train to come back on.

They enjoyed a relaxing lunch by the river before catching the train and returning to school.



ROWLING—BUSY BUSY BUSY!

Rowling class have been very busy this term. In maths, they have been practising their counting skills, and working on addition and subtraction. Here children are counting out the number of cubes or pegs needed to represent their number. Pupils have also been working on money and had to find the correct amount of money to buy their toys. They have been rolling out play doh into sausages, estimating how long they are, and then using a string of beads to measure them.



Rowling class have been doing lots of cooking this term and going out to Asda to buy the ingredients. Here are some photos showing Rowling class busy in the kitchen!



In Art, Rowling class have been learning about Picasso and created some Picasso inspired portraits, using papier mache. They covered a balloon in papier mache, cut it in half, then used tissue paper and paint to decorate them. The results were amazing!

ROWLING—AT BCA



Every Friday, Rowling class have been visiting BCA College to learn different skills, such as farming, gardening and even hairdressing! They have enjoyed feeding the chickens and collecting some eggs; digging and raking to make a clearing in the woods, followed by a rest in the café! Pupils also had an opportunity to visit the hair salon at BCA and learnt how to wash and blow dry hair. The clients were pleased with their washed and blow dried hair!



KEY STAGE FIVE—CAKE SALE



In the first term this year, Key Stage Five held their second coffee morning, with the help of a lot of other people too of course. We had a huge donation of cakes to sell and Hopgood class also made some and went out with a trolley to sell them around the school. We had a lot of fun as well as raising more than last year, we raised over one hundred pounds!

Thank you to everybody who made and bought our cakes.

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

KEY STAGE FIVE—ASDAN



Hopgood class recently went to Hare Hatch Garden Centre to see the Christmas display.

Rebecca discovered these lovely creatures in the snow. We think that she was looking for a penguin which happens to be her favourite animal.

We have a trip out every Wednesday afternoon when we visit local parks, cafés and garden centres.

These trips are organised for a qualification in personal progress (ASDAN-Interact with People) and for a bit of fun of course!



KEY STAGE FIVE—CRITICAL CONSUMERS

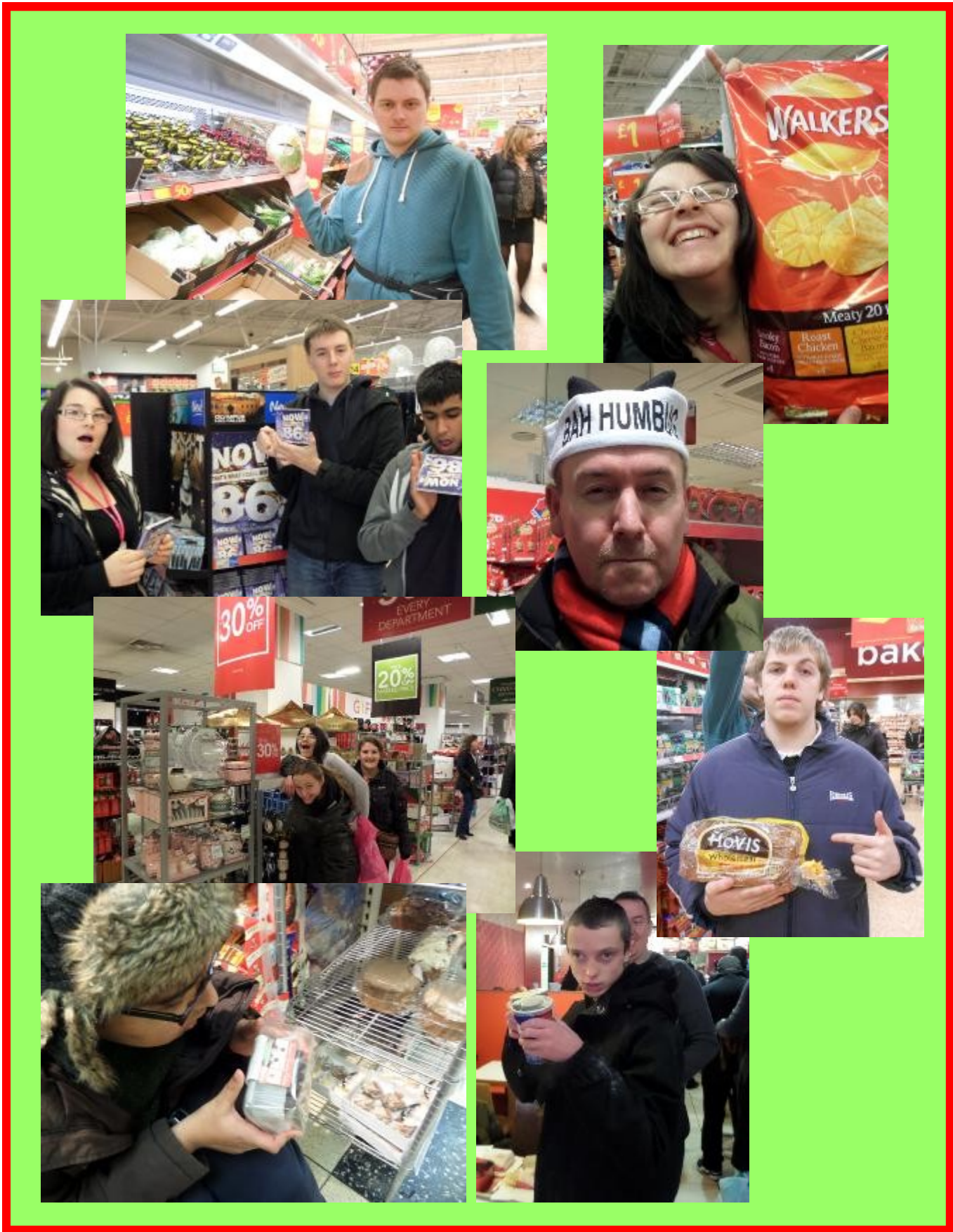
This term, Lee Class have been working towards their PSE unit on being a Critical Consumer. We have had a number of trips out to supermarkets and local shops, looking at what makes a good deal or bargain. We've also looked at ways shops make us buy things we don't want, or 'impulse purchases'.

To round things off, we had a special Christmas shopping trip to Slough, where we made decisions about spending our own money on gifts for others, and making our own decisions about our lunches. We had a great time, and really enjoyed the burgers!!

Happy holidays from all of us in Lee Class and we'll see you in the January sales!!



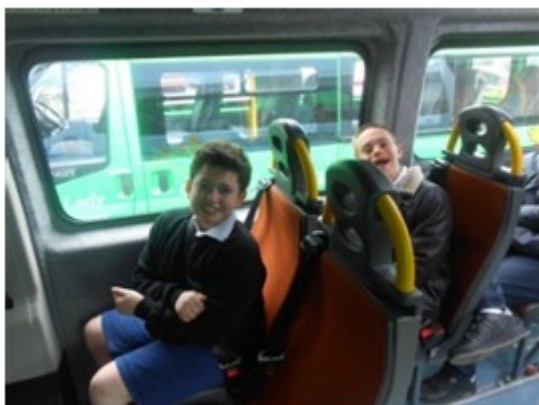
KEY STAGE FIVE—CRITICAL CONSUMERS CONT.



KEY STAGE FIVE—ENTERPRISE



Hopgood class have been busy this term with their Life Skills and Enterprise Studies. Every Monday Hopgood class head off to Maidenhead town centre/ High Wycombe as part of their life skills' lesson. When shopping, students use their knowledge of money and their keen eye to purchase various art and craft materials. Once back at school, students get busy making up their craft products, packaging and labelling. The finished products are then sold to staff, parents and students every Friday morning as part of their Enterprise learning. This term the theme for the Enterprise lessons has been Christmas decorations.



MANOR GREEN WORK EXPERIENCE PROJECT

The objective of the project is to help prepare students for working life after they leave Manor Green School. I am focusing on a group of Key Stage Five pupils in Lee Class to identify, source and support employment opportunities during the year (and relevant courses) so that these lead to **real** employment opportunities in the future.

These students are being given support to develop a vocational plan, try a range of work experience opportunities to **match** their skills/aspirations and carry out independent travel skills where relevant. The work experience sessions themselves are supported by me in the work place so students learn what a job really involves, how to behave and how to develop.

In reality it was a very busy summer break for many of the students who continued their work experience placements through the holiday. Over and above this several attended a Kitchen Taster day at the Rendezvous Cafe which incorporated some Food Hygiene training: two students had a day's paid work delivering leaflets: one of our students was paid for some seasonal work at her work experience placement.

The new term brought us some new students and a couple of these students are already out on work placements in a variety of roles namely admin, a local cafe and volunteering as a swimming coach's assistant. Students from last year continue developing in some of the positions started towards the end of the last academic year, including one new position as a garden centre assistant for two days per week. One other student has now started her paid part time position with the Toffee Group as a peer mentor.

Over and above this, one student is currently attending a hairdressing course and three other students, a travel training course. We have also visited a major IT company in Bracknell and teamed up with an international pharmaceutical company on their volunteering day at Longridge in Marlow.

Continued overleaf.....

MANOR GREEN WORK EXPERIENCE PROJECT

Work experience placements are now being tracked and recorded in such a way that they can be reflected upon back in the classroom and used as evidence towards gaining an accreditation - the ASDAN Employability, Learning through Work Experience module at Entry Level One. I am in the process of developing our own travel training course which will incorporate personalised student trips – this will start next term.

Debbie Burnett
Job Coach

Can you help?

Can your employer (or your friends' or relatives' employers) offer work experience or job opportunities? We deal with employers all the time, informing and persuading them of the merits (and there are many) of offering work experience and job opportunities to people with a disability.

If you think your employer may be able to support us or if you feel you could talk about a particular job in school, drop me an email on burnd054@rbwm.org or call me on my mobile 07920 831511 to have a chat about it.



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



I hope that you all enjoy reading this Christmas Edition 2013 of our School Newsletter.

If there is anything else that you would like to see featured in future editions, please contact me on the school telephone number 01628 513800 ext 6005 or by email browk011@rbwm.org

Have a great Christmas break

Kathleen Brown



To visit our website go to:
www.manorgreenschool.rbwm.org



New Term Dates Spring 2014 - Term 3

Staff Training: Monday 6 January 2014

Term Starts: Tuesday 7 January 2014

Term Ends: Friday 14 February 2014

February Holiday:

Monday 17 February—Friday 21 February 2014

Term 4

Term Starts: Monday 24 February 2014

Term Ends: Friday 4 April 2014 note 1.30 finish

Spring Holiday

Monday 7 April 2014—Monday 21 April 2014

(Good Friday—18 April 2014; Easter Monday—21 April 2014)