

Welcome back everyone!

It has been wonderful to see ALL children in years 1 to 6 return to school this week. Our children have returned with a positive attitude and have taken the new arrangements in their stride. It has been wonderful to see classrooms filled with pupils ready to learn - and looking extremely smart in their school uniform! Children joining our reception classes have also been welcomed into school to visit their new classes and meet their new teacher this week. We were blown away by how they all said goodbye to their parents at the gate and skipped through the playground to their new classrooms! Next week our reception children will start their phased transition into school. We will then have our whole school community back in school for the first time since March!

New routines

Throughout the summer, schools across the country have been grappling with their risk assessments. We have worked hard to ensure we provide the safest possible environment for our families. Thank you to the huge number of families who have followed the guidance (to the letter!). Thank you also for the words of appreciation, kindness and encouragement.

I understand that some of the arrangements that have been necessary to put into place may be frustrating and inconvenient to parents. I apologise for this. However, these routines are not negotiable. They are in place to keep our children, staff, parents and families safe. Our behaviour, including in the school car park and playground, impact not only upon ourselves, but also upon our elderly relatives and loved ones with underlying health conditions. Whilst you personally may be fit and well, please can I ask that you are mindful of how your actions impact upon others. We need everyone to adhere to the guidance. To clarify:

- We cannot have all 430 pupils arrive at school and enter the school gates at the same time – this is not safe (regardless of the weather). A staggered start is necessary to get everyone safely onto the site as we only have one main entrance for pupils.
- We have asked that you **arrive at school at the designated time – not too early**. This is to reduce the number of adults waiting outside. If you do arrive slightly early we have asked that you line up between the coloured spots whilst maintaining social distancing. This IS safe if everyone follows this guidance. Please be considerate of others, regardless of your personal views relating to transmission of and risk from the virus. **If there is a long queue when you arrive please walk around the parish centre to the back rather than down the middle of the two lines**. Again this is you keep everyone safe.
- We have asked that **children are dropped off at the school gate** to minimise unnecessary contact between adults on the school site.
- We have asked that **unnecessary items (e.g. rucksacks) are left at home** as the new layout in the classrooms cannot accommodate additional bags and also increases the risk of the virus moving between home and school.
- We have asked that you **do not wait inside the school grounds once you have collected your child**. If you need to speak to the teacher, please arrange a telephone conversation or use the year group email. If you have another child in school to collect at a slightly later time, please go outside and re-enter school otherwise this creates congestion and is particularly problematic for children and staff exiting school.



We have all been through an incredibly difficult six months. Please understand that we care deeply about you - our children and families. We do not want to make things any more challenging than they already are. Despite careful planning, our new routines may not run perfectly from the first day – it will take time (and maybe a few small changes) to get everything working as we would like it to. Patience and consideration is going to be key to working together to achieve the best outcome for everyone. Therefore, I ask that over the coming days and weeks we work together, showing kindness, filling each other's buckets, remembering that we are all members of the family of Manston St James', 'rooted and grounded in love'.

Communication

Although we are unable to have face-to-face conversations at the moment, we aim to maintain a high standard of communication between home and school. **Please use our school email or phone the office if you have any queries** and the relevant member of staff will get back to you as soon as possible. Additionally, if you have a message you need to pass on to the class teacher you can contact them through the year group email address e.g. year4@manstonstjames.co.uk; reception@manstonstjames.co.uk. Teachers will check this email account once, just before the start of the day, and again at the end of the day. Where a response is needed they will aim to reply within 48 hours.

Please could I also ask that you ensure we have up to date contact details including an up to date email address. Additionally, please could you **check your ParentPay account to ensure the email address contained here is accurate.**

Letters will be sent to you by email; if your address is incorrect you will miss key information. We often receive communication from parents stating that they have not been sent information only to find the email address which has been provided is incorrect. ParentPay information can only be added/amended by parents and carers.

PE

PE will resume next week for pupils in years 1 to 6. Please remember to send your child to school wearing their PE kit on the designated day. This should be in accordance with the PE uniform policy. PE days are detailed below .

PE Information

PE Day

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Year 1 Year 4	Year 2	Year 3 Year 5	

Year 6 with EITHER be Monday or Friday depending on the week.

PE Day

Week	Monday	Friday
w/c 07.09.2020	NO PE	NO PE
w/c 14.09.2020	6S, 6W	6G
w/c 21.09.2020	6G, 6W	6S
w/c 28.09.2020	6G, 6S	6W
w/c 05.10.2020	6S, 6W	6G
w/c 12.10.2020	6G, 6W	6S
w/c 19.10.2020	6G, 6S	6W

PE Kit

Children should come to school in their PE kit on their PE day.

Indoor PE Kit

- Navy shorts & t-shirt* in the pupil's house colour
- Trainers

Outdoor PE Kit

- Navy jogging bottoms, plain t-shirt* in house colour & navy sweatshirt*
- Trainers

*t-shirts and sweatshirts should be plain i.e. no images/text (with the exception of the school logo)

The majority of PE lessons will take place outdoors.

I hope you have a lovely weekend. The weather forecast looks fabulous!

With all good wishes,

Ashleigh Dunn
Headteacher

This Weekend

Welcome to England's largest festival of history and culture!

Every September thousands of volunteers across England organise events to celebrate our fantastic history and culture. It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences – all of which are FREE to explore.

Looking for something to do this weekend? Mr Gatman, our History expert, recommends taking a look at the Heritage Open Days website. This will signpost you to lots of free events around Leeds and West Yorkshire. Click on the image above for more information.

Phone: 0113 8592073 email: info@manstonstjames.co.uk
Absence reporting number 0113 8592081 Website: www.manstonstjames.co.uk

Notices

Year 1—please return any reading books that were sent home during the last school year. Thank you

Whole School—please make sure your child has a clearly named water bottle with them every day.

School Meals—please note that if your child is now in year 3, school meals must be paid for. The cost is £2.40 per day.

Our Latest Work

Year 6 have been out digging holes to begin to experience what their class novel of 'Holes' might be about. They then came back into class and compared their experiences with the characters in the book.



The Loveday Garden



Over the course of the last year, we have been working hard, with the support of our fantastic PTFA, to transform our school pond area. This brilliant resource had become rather overgrown over the years however, we are pleased to say that we are now in a position to begin using the garden with children again for outdoor learning! We have been thinking of an appropriate way to relaunch our pond and nature garden and have settled on

something we think is really special, and in keeping with the rich and storied history of Manston St James!

Many of you in the school community will know and love Peter Loveday. Over the years he has contributed significantly to the culture and history of the school throughout his teaching career and beyond; supporting us with site gardening and by supporting the Christian ethos of our school. We have decided, that to celebrate Peter's 70th birthday – we are going to re-Christen our pond and nature garden as, simply, The Loveday Garden. We are hoping that Mr Loveday will visit the site as soon as he can do so safely to have an official opening ceremony. Until then, here is a sneak peak of the new sign we have had made as well as a fun pic of Mrs Dunn clearing the pond (just before she fell in!)



PTFA



Welcome back - we are raring to go this year and we hope you can help us in continuing to raise very important funds.

Do you work for Lloyds Banking Group or can share the message?

Community Fund Application—We have submitted a funding application for an outdoor classroom within the grounds of the schools nature reserve and have got through to the voting stage. If you work for the group (which includes Halifax and Lloyds) please vote for us or share our post on our Facebook page with your friends.

It's easy, search in Hive for Yorkshire Humber Community Fund, under Poll 8 titled Manston St James. Any problems our parent contact within the bank is Louise Brook. The voting finishes at the end of September.

Follow us on Facebook - Manston St James PTFA

Christian Value—Service

Christian Value for this Term: *Service*

'Serve one another in love.' Galatians 5.13

Words relating to 'servant' or 'service' are central to our Christian Value this term. Jesus washed the feet of his disciples at the Last Supper; this turned upside down the normal relationship between master and disciple, leader and follower. This half term we will be discovering what this symbolises and how Jesus set an example to his followers and wished for everyone else to do the same. Serving God means serving others. The children will be thinking about how we can serve each other and how serving others makes us humble.

“For it is
in
giving
that
we
receive.”
- St. Francis of Assisi

Safety

We take safety very seriously at our school. If you have any concerns or observations regarding health and safety please contact: ***Mrs Dunn or Mrs Cockerham.***

If you have any concerns or questions regarding Child Protection issues contact: ***Mrs Spofforth or Mrs Blackmore***