

Friday 18th December 2020

# Newsletter



This week has been another busy week in school with preparations for Christmas and the end of a very different Autumn Term.

In the few moments I have had to reflect, I have felt nothing but pride for the way in which our school community has responded to the challenges of returning to school following a disrupted and uncertain Summer Term. The Manston St James response to the global pandemic and the associated restrictions has been one of resourcefulness and hope; resulting in new and different ways of doing things. Some of these 'new ways' will certainly become a part of life at Manston St James when Covid-19 no longer dominates our thoughts and actions. We have all found new ways to communicate and keep in touch and this has certainly been evident in school with the introduction of Seesaw, Zoom meetings, class emails and footage of school events such as the Remembrance Service and the live-streamed Reception nativity. I hope you have enjoyed our Nativity windows and Christmas films on the school Facebook page; please stay tuned, there are a few more to come!

There have been some sad moments, mostly linked to children self-isolating, which were necessary to keep everyone safe and well. Last week Year 1 and some Year 6 pupils were missing from school and this week our Reception Classes have not been with us, in person, to end the term. These children have been in our thoughts and prayers; especially the Reception pupils as they weren't able to attend our Christmas church service yesterday. It is also disappointing that we haven't been able to have our usual parent events in school. Whilst it's been lovely seeing parents at the start and end of the school day, I have missed welcoming you into school for celebration worship on a Friday, parent information sessions, PTFA events and, of course, our annual nativities.

End of term often brings change. This term we are sorry to be saying goodbye to Mrs Perry, our speech and language therapist and Mrs Newborn one of our teaching assistants. Mrs Perry and Mrs Newborn will be missed and I am sure you will join me in wishing them well in their new ventures. Additionally, Mr O'Dwyer has some exciting changes happening over the Christmas break as he is getting married on Sunday; we wish Mr O'Dwyer lots of love and happiness on Sunday and in the months and years to come.

As we look to the new year, I am painfully aware that the challenges we face have not yet receded. We know we will continue to face uncertainty and challenge when we return to school in January, albeit with the promise of a vaccine now on the horizon; however, I am confident that our school community will continue to work together to navigate these challenges. I am thankful for a dedicated team of staff and wonderfully supportive parents. Thank you!

Wishing you a wonderful Christmas – filled with love and joy.

Stay safe everyone.  
Ashleigh Dunn  
Headteacher



## Attendance

**Well done** to the following classes with the best attendance for week 14.12.20—18.12.20

5GO—96.6%

1H—95.4%

6S—95.2%

## Notices

**Covid-19**—if anyone in your household is symptomatic and goes for a Covid-19 test then the whole household must isolate. School **MUST** be notified once the test results are known. If the result is negative then your child can return to school.

### Contact tracing over the Christmas break

If you or your child are unlucky enough to receive a positive test after school breaks up could you please email the school at [msj-alert@manstonstjames.co.uk](mailto:msj-alert@manstonstjames.co.uk) with the following information:

1. The date symptoms first appeared
2. The name of the child/adult with symptoms and their year group
3. The date the test results were received

**Please DO NOT email information about positive test results to the info@ email address as this will not be checked during the Christmas break.**

**Uniform**— We pride ourselves on having high expectations at Manston St James. As we are now wearing our winter uniform please could I remind you that this is a white shirt (with collar) and a tie. Ties are available from the school office at a cost of £3.00. If you have any issues or concerns about uniform, please contact Mrs Spofforth ([pastoral@manstonstjames.co.uk](mailto:pastoral@manstonstjames.co.uk)) or your class teacher in the first instance.

**PE Kit**—We are excited to announce that 'The Uniform shop' will be stocking our PE kit with the new school logo embroidered on from January. They will be stocking navy blue joggers priced at £9.99 and coloured t-shirts at £4.99. They have shops in Meanwood and Harehills. Thank you Erin for modelling the new kit, you can see how smart it looks on! We also have some fabulous PE hoodies that will be ready after Christmas, look out for staff modelling them soon.

**Poppy Appeal**— (on behalf of The Royal British Legion) Thank you very much for helping with our appeal. Manston St James Primary Academy raised an amazing £444.60. The local branch of The Royal British Legion have named us as their star school, thank you and well done everyone!

**Christmas Lunch**—if your child is in years 3—6 then please ensure Christmas Lunch is paid for on Parentpay. Log in and look for the item 'Dinner Money for Manston St James Primary Academy'. The cost of the meal is £2.40.



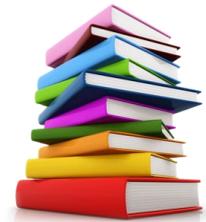
## Accelerated Reader

At Manston St James, we want every child to love and cherish reading. As we continue to drive our school approach to reading forward, we wanted to take this opportunity to highlight Accelerated Reader. During the past year, parents have fed back that AR has been an invaluable tool for supporting home reading and we want to continue to utilise this provision within school and at home. This week, we have re-shared all children's log on details with class teachers to ensure that every child has the opportunity to access Accelerated Reader and Star Reader tests at home as part of our home learning package.

Children can access Accelerated Reader using our school link below. Please could we ask that children read regularly with an adult at home (AR book, books from home, newspapers, comics or anything!) and that this is recorded in their reading record/planner. In addition, when children complete a book (AR or a book from home), Star Reader tests will be available for them to complete online as during lockdown.

<https://ukhosted93.renlearn.co.uk/6711267/>

I hope this message brings clarity and enthusiasm for reading at home – we are excited to see our children's fluency developing over time.



## This week

This is the wonderful Winter Wonderland made by year 4 as part of their DT project.



This week we have had a socially distanced visit from Father Christmas, enjoyed our Christmas Lunch and held our class parties. It was lovely to see so many children in their Christmas jumpers!



This week



Our amazing kitchen team served over 350 Christmas meals!



## *Celebrating Christmas*

We shall be sharing & celebrating the light & hope of the Christmas Story @ St James in the following ways. **Please note** that all of these services must be booked for in order to oversee numbers attending & to keep everyone safe.

There are still spaces available at our Services, however **you must contact the relevant person (names against each service)** to enquire. If there are still spaces we will then need to know exactly how many of you are attending ('bubbles' only – and of a certain size - can be seated together) and we shall require contact details for 'test & trace' purposes.

### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December

4.00pm – Christmas Readings, Music & Prayer

*Please contact Ann Hemsworth, to see if there are Spaces (Tel: 293 7494)*

### Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

5.00pm, 5.45pm & 6.30pm – Christmas Story Time

for the Young & the Young at Heart

**(NB This will be a short telling of the story in candlelight. Most of our chairs will have been removed so that family groups can stand in the semi-darkness to hear the Christmas Story)**

*Please contact Irene Parker by 12 noon on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec,  
to see if there are Spaces at one of these services (Tel: 260 4480 )*

### Christmas Eve – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December

7.00pm & 11.15pm – Eucharist / Midnight Mass (*said*)

### Christmas Day – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December

10.00am – Christmas Eucharist (*said*)

*If you wish to attend the Eucharist on either Christmas Eve  
or Christmas Morning, please ring / email the Parish Office  
by 12 noon on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec.*

*(Tel: 264 5530 / [church983@btinternet.com](mailto:church983@btinternet.com) )*

**If you come to any of our Services**, you will be required to wear a face covering whilst in church and to adhere to our sanitising of hands and social distancing protocols as well being asked to sit in the seats designated. There will be people there to welcome and guide you through.

*We Wish you All a Peaceful & Safe Christmas*

*With Love & Prayers*

*Reverend Carolyn*

[carolyn.james117@btinternet.com](mailto:carolyn.james117@btinternet.com) Tel: 264 2685

Further, and updated, info available via

Web: [www.stjamesmanston.church](http://www.stjamesmanston.church) or



St James the Great Manston

## PTFA

Your Parent, Teachers and Friends Association would like to thank all of our volunteers for your ideas and support during 2020.

A big **Thank You** to everyone who has donated prizes and parted with money in our virtual world of fundraising.

Wishing everyone in our school community:



## Christian Value

### Christian Value for this Term: *Perseverance*

'Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up'

Galatians 6:9



At Manston St James we show Perseverance by:

- Overcoming challenges
- Believing in ourselves
- Not giving up and showing resilience
- Working hard and keeping practising
- Encouraging and supporting our friends

## Dates for your Diary

**Monday 4th January**—school re-opens

**Tuesday 19th January**—PTFA meeting 7pm via Zoom

## 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 Mr O'Dwyer***