

Friday 29th January 2021

Newsletter



On Wednesday, the prime minister addressed the House of Commons to confirm that pupils will not return to school immediately after the February half term break. Mr Johnson *'hopes it will be safe to reopen schools in England from the 8th March'* however there has been no information to indicate exactly when, or how, children will return to school. It appears that 8th March will be the earliest date by which the government would allow children to begin returning to school but this is dependent upon a number of variables.

This is disappointing news for parents and school staff alike; we all want our children at school learning alongside their friends, however we must be guided by the government and scientists in relation to when and how this can be safely achieved. I understand that the prospect of at least another four weeks of remote learning will be disheartening for many parents. We are continually reviewing our remote learning offer to make it as accessible as possible to all families. We are in regular communication with families to enable us to offer additional pastoral support, where needed. Please ensure you keep communicating with us; we want to do all we can to support you and your family to remain safe and happy – and to keep learning.

Those classes who have not yet been invited to a 'live lesson' will be receiving their invitation early next week. It would be lovely to see lots of children in attendance, as so far these sessions have been very successful. Following the trial, we will review if, how and when we can build some live lessons into our weekly remote learning timetable.

In addition to the trailing of live lessons, there will be another slight change to remote learning next week. Wednesday afternoons will become a 'screen break' time when pupils will be provided with a menu of activities to choose from – none of which involve a computer, laptop, iPad or X-box! There are a variety of creative, physical and mental challenges which we will encourage children to get involved in over the coming weeks. This will be shared via Tapestry and Seesaw, or through remote learning paper packs, early next week.

I hope you have a lovely weekend and enjoy some time in the fresh air, whatever the weather.

Mrs Dunn
Headteacher

Latest Work



Year 3 have been creating Stone Age Cave Paintings



The Year 1 children in school have been learning some new Yoga poses in PE



Year 2 have been learning about equal and un-equal groups and creating road safety posters



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.

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.

Emergency Contact Details— Please remember to notify the office if your emergency contact details change. It is very important that we always have your most up to date mobile and email address.

Parentpay— We use Parentpay as our main way of communicating with you. If you have not yet activated your account or need help with Parentpay then please contact the school office on info@manstonstjames.co.uk

Printing — Manning Stainton estate agents have kindly offered to assist parents with printing off home learning. Just pop in to any branch.

PTFA

We are feeling very thankful that our members are looking for ways to continue to raise money this year. It's only the end of January too!

Louise Brook - Thank you so much for the application you completed to Lloyds Banking Group match funding team. We have received confirmation that we have been successful and will be awarded £500.



Mr Toulson - The school's early years teacher is pretty handy with a sewing machine and has handmade and sold beautiful patterned face coverings to teachers within school. He has donated 100% of money raised to the PTFA which totals £54.

Thank you and stay safe.

Church News

[St James the Great, Manston – The Parish Church for Manston & Cross Gates](#)

Following the most recent national lockdown and over-riding message that people should wherever possible '**Stay at Home**' & '**Stay Safe**' our Parochial Church Council met ('virtually') to decide what course of action we should take at this time. Our discussions took into account:-

- the heightened risks associated with the new and more contagious strain of the virus
- the safety of those who regularly worship with us (many of whom are within one of the more vulnerable categories),
- the wellbeing of those who generously volunteer to assist with our opening and the welcoming of others (a number of whom have indicated their own heightened concern and cautiousness).

As a result - it is with a heavy, but we believe also a pastoral, heart that we have made the decision to cease to open the church for public or private prayer at this time. In order to protect worshippers, volunteers and the wider community we consider this to be the responsible and caring course of action for the time being. We will, of course, keep our decision under review.

Funerals will still be held within the church building, as requested, following all necessary restrictions and guidelines.

In addition, we continue to communicate, share news, and send out resources for weekly prayer and worship as has been our practice now for the last 10 months. Please email if you would like to receive these weekly communications. We have also begun to offer a Sunday morning on-line 'Zoom' worship experience – using the Sunday resources we send out by email, but allowing people to feel 'connected / engaged' in a different, and more physical way. If you think this is something you would like to engage with please let me know and I can send out the appropriate 'Zoom invitation / links' as needed.

I am aware that the decisions we have felt it right to make, may cause some to feel once again more isolated or anxious. If you, or someone you know is in need of some further support, a friendly chat, or some assistance, please do get in touch.

With Love & Prayers

Rev'd Carolyn

Email :- carolyn.james117@btinternet.com **Tel**:- 0113 264 2685

Christian Value

Christian Value for this Term: Thankfulness

We show thankfulness at Manson St James Primary School by:

- Showing appreciation for pupil's achievements through certificates, stickers and our behaviour chart.
- Know that having lovely things is a blessing and not a right.
- Support to charities that help others who are less fortunate than us.
- Thanking God through our hymns and our prayers.
- Learning to be thankful for our skills and the skills of others.
- Thanking people in our community who visit and help us.
- Saying thank you to each other and being polite.



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**