

What's been happening in school?

The Playground Action Group have met with one of the companies who are quoting for the work and were very impressed with the plans so far. We are waiting for two more quotations, fingers crossed they come soon so that we can try and get the work done during the Easter break.

The children in the Brilliant Club have submitted their assignments and are awaiting their results, their graduation in Cambridge is taking place on Monday 23rd February.

In school we marked World Religion Day on Monday 19th January with special lessons in class. We have also had a special assembly to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day.

Last week all of our teachers were involved in moderation exercises with most of the local schools. This was an after-school event and teachers compared children's work, making sure standards are accurate in our area of the Borough. The event was very positive, it was a great opportunity to celebrate the achievements of children at Manford and to see what great work is going on in local schools.

Children's Mental Health week-9th February 2026

Every year at Manford we mark this special week with reminders about wellbeing, managing feelings and emotions and how to get help. We have organised to launch the week with a coffee morning hosted by the Mental Health Support Team on Monday 9th February. This year we are including online safety-which is very relevant as device use by children has been in the news recently. Here are a couple of news articles which you may find interesting: [Sky News](#) and [BBC](#), including a report on a current UK consultation to ban under 16's from having social media accounts.



Safer Internet Day Tuesday 10th February



Safety in the online world is always on our agenda at Manford. This year we have arranged for Sarah Knarr from London Borough of Redbridge to hold a parent information session about the dangers for children online and how these can be managed at home. This has been arranged for Tuesday 10th February at 9am - meet on the playground after drop off. We have arranged for Sarah to spend some time in school and hold workshops for our older children as part of our online safety work.

Half Term Club

Our after-school clubs' provider, Sporting4schools, has agreed to trial a holiday club for Manford's children. This is something that a number of you have asked about. The full details are on the flyer at the end of this newsletter or visit their [website](#) and scroll down to 'Manford'.



Coming Soon!

The school's leaders are starting 'conferencing' with some children in Years 3-6 to accelerate their progress in reading, writing and maths. Part of the focus might be attendance if your child is regularly late or misses school. If your child comes home saying they've been working with someone other than their usual teacher it's probably because they are having some conferencing.

Parents Evenings

Bookings are currently open for appointments with teachers on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th February, bookings close 3 days before. I ask you all to sign up for an appointment to find out how well your child is doing in school, discuss next steps and how we can work together to support your children to achieve their best. Please note, if your child has an EHC you will have a meeting with the SENCO and class teacher and won't need another appointment on parents' evening. I am also hoping that the Mental Health Team from Redbridge will be able to attend so that you can seek support if you wish to.

Book Week

Book week is also coming up at the start of March. If you have any dressing up costumes that your child no longer uses, please consider donating them to school so that we can make sure every child can dress up if they want to.



We have also booked the Travelling Book Fair for the end of February to link with book week, children will have their £1 to spend.

Rights Respecting Schools Award

I am continuing to work with the Rights Respecting Action Group to make staff and children more aware of the UNICEF Rights Respecting award and to use the articles around the schools and during lessons. I was in a Year 5 class this week and the children had applied some of the rights to actions of characters in their English text - so great work which really brings children's rights to life.



Adult College-an opportunity

The 'Keeping up with the kids-English course is well underway and the feedback is really positive from participants. The staff at the Adult College have asked me to share with you an employability course which will run from Hainault Library. There is a flyer attached with this newsletter.

Benefits advice and support

We have arranged for a benefits consultant from Redbridge to come in and hold 1:1 meetings with parents to help them find out what they are entitled to and how to apply. A google form will be sent out to parents next week so we gauge how many parents are interested.

Dates for your diary

Monday 2nd February - 9am Coffee morning re nappies and toilet training, hosted by the Early Years Service

Tuesday 3rd February - Education Welfare Officer in to check attendance registers and punctuality

Tuesday 3rd February - 4M Synagogue visit

Wednesday 4th February - Dental team in school to see Preschool, Reception and Year 1 pupils

Wednesday 4th February - Phonics Year 1 parents meeting at 9am

Wednesday 4th February - 4K Synagogue visit

Thursday 5th February - Dental team in school to see some Reception and Year 1 pupils

Thursday 5th February - Road Safety Show for EYFS and Years 1 and 2

Friday 6th February - Toyshop workshop EYFS and Early Years 1 and 2

Monday 9th February - Children's Mental Health Week (Right to be safe week)

Monday 9th February – Year 5 Ilford Islamic Centre Trip

Monday 9th February - Coffee Morning- Mental Health Team presenting

Tuesday 10th February - Safer Internet Day (inc 9am coffee morning for parents)

Wednesday 11th February - Parents Evening 3.30pm - 6.30pm

Thursday 12th February - Parents Evening 3.30pm - 5.30pm

Friday 13th February - Reception classes - Valentines Assembly

Monday 16th to Friday 20th February Half Term

Monday 23rd February – The Brilliant Club visiting Cambridge University

Wednesday 25th February - Book Fair starts

Wednesday 25th February - Parent Forum 9am

Thursday 26th February - Year 2 Fire of London workshop

Friday 27th March - End of Spring Term- **School Closes at 2pm.**