



What's been happening in school?

It was lovely to welcome you all into school this week for parents' evenings. We have been asked about having the meetings in classrooms rather than the hall and I think it worked well for everyone. It was great to have external support here for families too with the dental team, the Mental Health Support Team and Early Years attending.

Teachers have taken children from Year 4 and Year 5 on visits to the Islamic Centre in Ilford and the Synagogue in Gants Hill. The children showed great interest in learning about the faith of others or sharing information about their own faith.

We've had some noisy events in the hall recently too. The children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 enjoyed a road safety workshop and Toyshop workshop too. Year 2 - Year 6 pupils were treated to a performance by a string quartet last week. They asked some really insightful questions of



the musicians. Since then, a number of children have said they would like to learn to play an instrument. **Focus Music** are excellent teachers who work with us at Manford. You can find out more about the instrument tuition they offer [here](#).

Safer internet day was marked in school this week, please do refer to the page in the 'Parents' section of our website where there is lots of information about online safety and parental settings for different apps and sites.

This week the 'Lunchtime' action group met with Michelle from our catering company, ISS. The children were keen to tell her what they enjoy about school meals and what they would like to have on the menu when it changes after Easter. They asked for some healthy choices, such as grated carrot on the salad bar, as well as requesting chocolate ice-cream every day!

Well done to the reception children who did a great valentine assembly about 'love' and belonging linked with Valentines Day. It's hard to believe that they have only been in school a few months.

School Lunches

Can we please ask all parents to cancel their child`s school lunch if they have booked one in advance but give their child a packed lunch on the same day. Also, if your child is absent from school, the school lunch that has been ordered needs to be cancelled also. The school kitchen has thrown away lots of lunches this week due to children`s lunches not being cancelled. Thank you.

Half Term Club

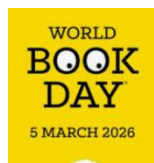
Yesterday, Sporting4Schools reported that they still had a small number of spaces available for the half term childcare club. If you wish to book a place you can visit their website [here](#).



Their after-school clubs will be continuing after half term so visit their website to book spaces on these enrichment opportunities too.

Book Week

You will be getting detailed information about book week 2026 shortly. On Thursday 5th March children can dress up to come into school. Last year some of our older pupils explained that they felt the dress up as a book character was more suitable for younger children. Therefore, this year all children can choose to come as a book character or as a word. For example, were your sequins and come as 'sparkly' or wear your PJ's and come as 'sleepy'. I'm sure it will be great fun trying to guess the words people have chosen!



Once again, we are having the book fair in the lead up to Book Week. You should have had an email asking for some parent volunteers to help run the book fair. The children will all get their £1 book voucher, the bookfair will be **cash only**.

If you have any spare costumes at home that you no longer need, please consider donating them to the school office.

School Review

Last week the Headteachers from Fairlop, William Torbitt and Coppice primary schools spent a day at Manford carrying out a review for us - we are always evaluating our school and looking at ways we can be even better. The team were very impressed with our curriculum offer as well as the standards of children's writing. They commented on how calm and purposeful the atmosphere is around the school as well as how inclusive we are. As a result of their visit, we are refining our approach to Zones of Regulation and classroom environments, particularly displays.

Opportunities and Support for you

Recently we have hosted coffee mornings for a number of services. If ever you would like to get in touch with a service but you can't attend the coffee morning, please let us know and we'll share your details with the providers.

If you would like advice about benefits, please click below to fill out the Google Form so that we can pass your details to the benefits consultant so that they can arrange a 1:1 meeting with you on March 11th.

<https://forms.gle/ZqG6vsFwwgsGH4J5A>



'Colours of Redbridge' have done a few projects with us at Manford and have asked me to let you know about some opportunities to work with them. The roles are 'community producers', Volunteer event assistants. You can find out more on their [website here](#).

Dates for your diary

Monday 16th February - Friday 20th - FEBRUARY HALF TERM

Tuesday 17th February - Start of Ramadan

Monday 23rd February - The Brilliant Club visiting Cambridge University

Wednesday 25th February - Book Fair starts (cash only)

Wednesday 25th February - Parent Forum 9am

Thursday 26th February - Year 2 Fire of London workshop

Tuesday 3rd March - Phonics Parents Meeting

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day dress up

Tuesday 10th March - Coffee morning with Sarah Knarr Extremism/Radicalisation

Wednesday 11th March - Redbridge Benefits Consultant meetings

Tuesday 17th March - Year 5 Eid assembly for parents

Friday 20th March - End of Ramadan

Thursday 26th March - Easter Egg Raffle Draw

Thursday 26th March - Y3 Easter Assembly for parents

Friday 27th March - End of Spring Term - School Closes at 2pm. NO AFTER SCHOOL CARE CLUB

Monday 13th April - Summer Term begins

Monday 13th April - Ducks arrive in school

Tuesday 14th April - 'Little City' visit Reception classes

Friday 24th April - Year 1 Animal Experience Day

Friday 1st May - 11+ registration opens for Year 5

Thursday 7th May - Polling Day SCHOOL CLOSED except for Preschool, Year 6 & Hatton

Monday 11th May - Thursday 14th May - Year 6 SATs Exams

Thursday 21st May - Reception Zoo Trip

Friday 22nd May - Last day of school

Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May - MAY HALF TERM