



# Curriculum Newsletter

## Year R Term 5 2023/24

Welcome to Term 5 everyone! We look forward to a brilliant first summer term with you all. This newsletter will give you a brief overview of what your child will be learning about until the half term break. If you have any questions please speak with any member of the Senior Leadership Team in the morning or see your child's teacher at the end of the school day. If you think your conversation will require more time, please arrange a meeting with the teacher via the class email account.

As always, please email the main school account – [manorprimary@gmail.org.uk](mailto:manorprimary@gmail.org.uk) for any urgent matters or issues relating to attendance, school dinners, FOMS events etc. The class email is not read throughout the day as teachers are teaching and managing the class.

We would also like to remind our families that we are a nut-free school. Some of our children suffer with various allergies and so in order to keep everyone safe, we ask that you do not include food items containing nuts in your child's lunch box or as a break time snack. We would also like to reiterate that as your child is in KS1, they receive a healthy snack provided by school. We therefore ask that all children in KS1 (Year R – 2) **do not** bring in an additional snack. We also ask that no sweets, such as Haribo, are brought in at all. Thank you.

We ask that children come to school in their full school uniform. Please refer to our school website for further information on this - <https://www.themanorcofeprimary.org.uk/school-uniform>. Please also note our expectations on P.E kits – we have a supply of spare tops and jogging bottoms to lend to children if they are unable to wear the correct kit to school.

If you have any questions, please do get in touch.

## Literacy

We will continue to explore stories, this time with a focus on Eric Carle stories (please see learning overview).

We will also continue to write non-fiction text about insects and distinguish the difference between fiction and non-fiction books. We will also look at the illustrations of Eric Carle books and replicate this ourselves.



## Maths

In Maths this term we will continue to develop our sense of number and will be moving on to amounts larger than 10. We will be exploring the pattern in number as we go into the 'teens'.

How can you support your child with their maths at home?

- ✓ Help them to learn some double facts off by heart (up to double 5)
- ✓ Help them to remember the number pairs that add up to 5 and if they are secure with this, try those which add up to 10
- ✓ Help your child count confidently to 20 and then back to 0

## Topic

This term we are going to be learning about '**minibeasts**' with an emphasis on honeybees, spiders and butterflies. We will follow the children's interests and if they decide they have particular interests of their own, we will also find time to explore this further. If anyone keeps bees, please let us know; we would love to invite you to share your knowledge.

We will specifically explore habitats, features of the insect's body, learn what it eats, how it moves and what its lifecycle entails.



Your child will continue to take part in P.E on **Thursdays**.

We ask that children come to school dressed in their P.E kits on the days that they have P.E. We would like to remind our families that this involves wearing a gold P.E top and black shorts or black jogging bottoms and white/black trainers/daps. Usual school sweatshirt/ cardigan can be worn with this – no other sweatshirts to be worn please.



## Home learning Expectations

Many thanks for a wonderful start to the new home learning books (yellow sentence writing). The children took on this challenge well and we were really impressed by the standard of handwriting and attention to care. Some of you asked for clarification with the way the children spell words; should you intervene and help them? Should you correct them? Should you tell them when they have

made a spelling mistake and write it out for them to copy? Please ask your child to use their sound mat and use their 'phoneme fingers' to break down the sounds that they can hear in the words. If they choose a long word with several syllables, you may have to help them hear the sounds. They can spell any word using the sounds they have been taught and this is okay, even if it is spelt incorrectly. Please do not write the sentence out for them to copy because then they are just practising their handwriting skills.

Writing check list



Capital letter



Finger spaces



Use my sounds



Full stop



Please ensure your child has a bottle of water at school every day. Also please make sure that their belongings including school uniform, PE kit, book bags, lunch boxes and water bottles are all clearly labelled with your child's name and class. Un-named uniform will be taken to the main entrance and put into lost property to be collected.



Please ensure your child has an 'all day' sun protection applied before they come to school as the weather warms up. We like to make the most of any dry weather and it is important that the children are protected from sun and heat as much as possible so please also start bringing in sun hats.



Whilst the weather is warming, we still expect children to have a coat in school every day due to an unpredictable British weather! We ask children not to bring toys or items from home into school unless invited to do so by their class teacher.



Finally, we have started sharing Roald Dahl stories with the class and dedicate two parts of the day to story-telling. The children love to immerse themselves in these stories and now that we have chosen books without pictures, they are starting to use their imaginations and create their own interpretations of what is happening in the stories. So far we have shared Esio Trot, The Magic Finger and this term we have started The Giraffe, Pelly and Me.

Year R Term 5 Key dates:

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May (am only) – Antarctica class trip to Pizza Express for pizza making workshop.

# Question Prompts to use when reading with your child



## The Book Introduction

Relate the story to the children's own experience (fiction)

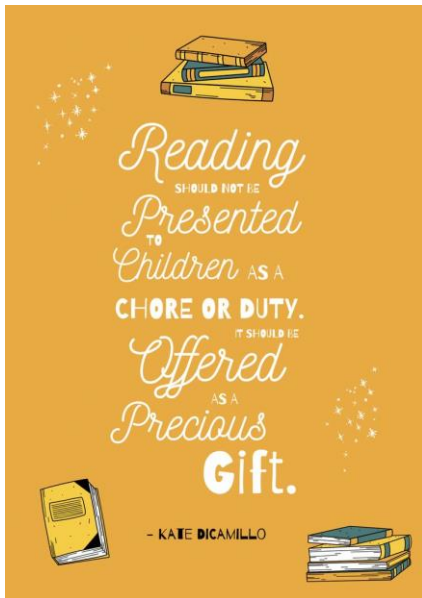
Tap into the children's prior knowledge of the subject (non-fiction)

Very brief overview of the story without revealing too much

Look at front cover and encourage prediction - Who? Where? What?

Look at back cover and blurb

Look at illustrations



## Recall Questions

Where does the story take place?

When did the story take place?

What did he/she look like?

Who was he/she?

Where did he/she live?

Who are the characters in the book?

Where in the book would you find ...?

## **Simple Comprehension Questions**

What do you think is happening here?

What happened in the story?

What might this mean?

Through whose eyes is the story told?

Which part of the story best describes the setting?

What words and/or phrases do this?

What part of the story do you like best?



## **Investigative Questions**

What makes you think that?

What words give you that impression?

How do you feel about...?

Can you explain why ...?

I wonder what the writer intended?

I wonder why the writer decided to...?

What do these words mean and why do you think the author chose them?

Has the author used adjectives to make this character funny?

Why did the author choose this setting?

