

Wembley Manor Autumn Newsletter 2024



Head teacher's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the Autumn term, we want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful achievements and experiences we have shared. This term has been a testament to the resilience, creativity, and determination of our students, staff, and families.

Our school community continues to shine, and we are immensely proud of the progress all our students have made. From mastering new skills to developing confidence and independence, each milestone has been a celebration of hard work and perseverance.

Highlights of the term include all students settling into the school or returning successfully for a new academic year. Students have attended many trips into the local community and beyond, developing key life skills in the process. One particular highlight, was our whole school virtual reality session where we were able to transport our students to exotic and exciting locations! These moments have brought joy and a sense of togetherness, reminding us all of the unique and diverse talents within our school.

As the holidays approach, I encourage you to take time to rest and enjoy special moments with your loved ones. For those who celebrate, I wish you a very Merry Christmas, and to everyone, a happy and healthy New Year.

We look forward to welcoming the students back on Tuesday 7th January, refreshed and ready for another exciting term. Until then, stay safe and warm this Winter.

Kind regards,

A. Chaplin

Andrew Chaplin - Deputy Head Teacher

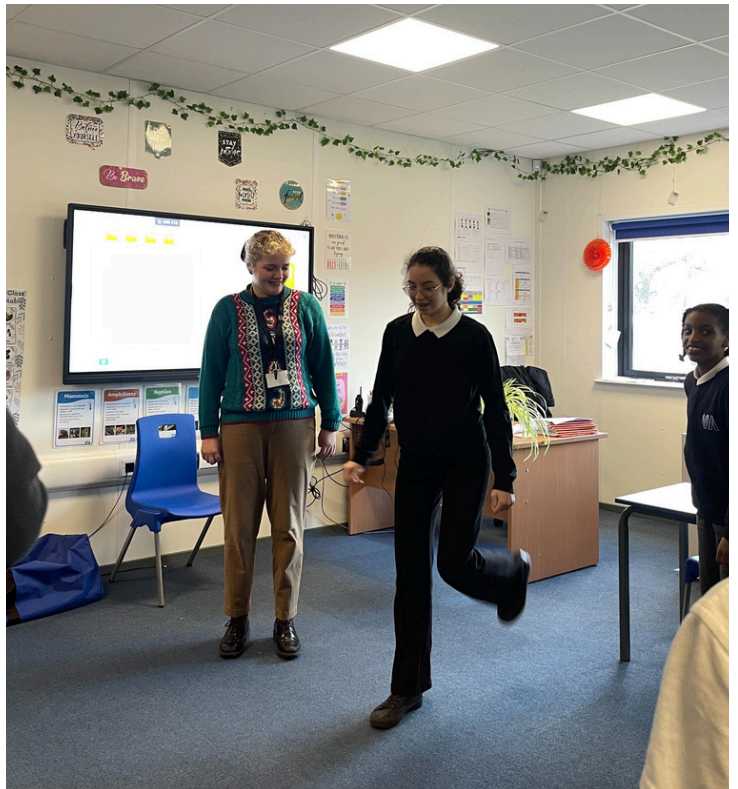
Amethyst Class

In Amethyst class, our theme for this term is 'Predators and prey.' We have been very fortunate to learn more about our topic through different engaging and immersive experiences. Our visit to Woburn Safari Park was a very memorable adventure. We were able to view different wild animals and discuss if they are predators, prey (or both) and to whom. It was a great way to open up conversations about food chains, as well as applying key scientific

vocabulary into our conversations such as carnivores, herbivores and omnivores when discussing the diet of different animals. Additionally, we used virtual reality as a way to immerse ourselves into the different habitats of animals and further our understanding of how they are adapted to their environments. And, last but not least, we visited Belmont Farm where students got up and close personal with different animals.

Amethyst class students thoroughly enjoyed petting and feeding alpacas, llamas, cows, horses, sheep, goats and many more animals. Great pieces of writing about our theme were produced by students in Amethyst including non-chronological reports about a wild animal of their choice filled with lots of technical vocabulary and factual information as well as recounts of their experiences using conjunctions to add detail.

Hanifa, Tasha and Thomas



Year 7

Emerald Class

Pupils have engaged in a rich and varied learning experience this half term. They explored the significance of Remembrance Day, understanding its importance and participating in activities to honour and reflect on the occasion. We focused on hygiene and cleanliness, teaching them practical ways to stay healthy and maintain good hygiene.

Discussions about politeness emphasized the value of respectful behaviour. In maths, students delved into the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, learning to identify vertices, faces, and edges. The pupils learnt to recognise British money, identify coins and notes, and understand their values, a practical life skill.

We also discussed poverty, fostering empathy and awareness about some people's challenges. The students explored the habitats of different animals, learning how creatures adapt to their environments and why protecting habitats is crucial. Beyond the classroom, they enjoyed exciting trips, including a lovely visit to Winter Wonderland that sparked joy and wonder and a local excursion to the park where they explored the aviary and delighted in outdoor play.

These activities enriched their learning experience and fostered personal growth in various contexts.

Simona, Jay and Pramina



Year 8

Quartz Class

Wow! What a great half term we have had! This half-term has been focussed on learning all about Ancient Egypt, All Around the World and Rocks, Soils and Fossils.

We started by working with our text 'Coming to England', a true story about Floella Benjamin and her family's emigration to England. Within our Literacy work we have: made predictions; considered how we would feel in different situations; used role-play to explore feelings and written a diary entry. We ended with a great understanding of Floella and her feelings on her journey.

Our history lessons have been really fun as we have learnt all about the Ancient Egyptians, which involved getting to experience Virtual Reality! This was an exciting activity for all of us and a great opportunity to use some different technology.

An exciting opportunity this half term came up which has meant we can use the Lifeskills Room at Manor Primary School to do some cooking. We voted on a Main Course and a Dessert before writing the shopping list, going shopping and then writing the recipes together before cooking it.

Our favourite activity in Science was when we used dinosaurs and salt dough to make our own fossils! This was very sensory so we enjoyed playing with the salt dough before creating our dinosaur prints.

Another great half-term Quartz Class, well done!

Lucy, Michael, India



Year 8

Ruby Class

What an amazing half-term we've had in Ruby Class! The students have truly embodied our school motto, "Love, Learn, Laugh," by building strong relationships, embracing learning, and growing into compassionate individuals. We're especially proud of how they've shown respect and kindness to one another.

This half-term, we explored budgeting, studied Chemistry, and wrote heartfelt diary entries inspired by the Windrush story. The students embraced a new history unit on Ancient Egypt with enthusiasm, and their curiosity has been inspiring.



We marked important events like Remembrance Day, Crisis at Christmas, and Children in Need, while celebrating Anti-Bullying Week with discussions and art projects promoting respect and inclusion.

Thank you for your ongoing support

Dorota, Jasmin, Mihai and Sharon



Year 9

Diamond Class

Diamond class have had a brilliant autumn term. We've explored and learned about various topics from our changing world to climate and weather. This term has been fun filled full of adventurous trips. One of the highlights was our trip to Woburn where our students saw a variety of exotic safari animals. All students have gradually progressed and impressed their teachers in school, swim instructors at the sports centre and the general public.

During harvest, our collection of food was delivered to Willesden Food Bank with the help of Noah, Ben and Malachi. I am also very happy to see how Diamond class is improving in their conduct towards one another, displaying respect, compassion and love to everyone. We have also had great opportunities to visit Westfield to buy t-shirts from Primark as well as another trip to Belmont Farm where we fed farm animals. Well done Diamond class.

Ahmed, Maera and Hari



Year 9

Topaz Class

Hello everyone! Apart from our usual learning Topaz Class has been quite busy with Life Skills!

We recently had a Manor School Cooking Day! Before that we went to Tesco and everyone grouped up and helped to do all the shopping for the ingredients. We then all helped to make a delicious spaghetti bolognese and we also made some tasty chocolate chip cookies! Everyone had a really lovely time, and all of the students really loved seeing all of their old primary school teachers.

We also went to the local café on another trip as part of Life Skills for hot chocolate!

Neena, Tia, Keenan



School Council

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are excited to introduce a new initiative at Wembley Manor School called the Smart School Councils programme. This approach is designed to empower every student to have a voice and play an active role in shaping our school community, ensuring that all children feel included and valued.

What is the Smart School Councils Programme? The Smart School Councils programme is a student-led approach that encourages students to participate in decision-making and contribute towards positive changes within the school. The programme is accessible to all, including young people with additional needs, as it uses simple, structured tools to ensure everyone can engage effectively.

How Does It Work? The programme is made up of three key elements:

1. **Classroom Meetings:** These are short, structured discussions held in every class. Students discuss key questions and share their ideas and opinions on school-related topics. This ensures that every voice is heard.
2. **Action Teams:** Small groups of students volunteer to work on specific projects or ideas that come out of the classroom meetings. This helps develop teamwork and leadership skills.
3. **Communications Team:** A team of students takes responsibility for coordinating and sharing the outcomes of the meetings and projects with the wider school community.

Why is This Important? Smart School Councils offer a fantastic opportunity for all students to:

- Develop confidence and communication skills
- Practice teamwork and problem-solving
- Learn about democracy and decision-making
- Feel a sense of ownership and pride in their school environment.

How Can Parents and Carers Support? Your encouragement can make a big difference! Here are some ways you can support your child:

- Ask them about their classroom meetings and what they discussed.
- Encourage them to join an Action Team if they are interested in a particular project.
- Celebrate their involvement and achievements as part of the programme.

We are thrilled to bring the Smart School Councils programme to Wembley Manor and look forward to seeing the positive impact it will have on our students and the school community. If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact Neena Raveneau through the school office.



Awards

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our commitment to achieving excellence for our students, we are undertaking a range of awards that will further enhance the learning experience at Wembley Manor School.

We are proud to announce that Wembley Manor is working towards achieving the Equalities Award. This recognition celebrates schools that promote diversity, inclusion, and equality, ensuring that every member of the school community feels valued and respected. Through this process, we are strengthening our commitment to provide an environment in which everyone within our diverse school community can thrive. The award encourages us to reflect on our practices, celebrate achievements, and identify areas for growth. We hope to achieve the bronze award this year.



We are excited to share that Wembley Manor is working towards achieving the Healthy School Award. This prestigious recognition highlights our commitment to promoting physical and mental well-being across our school community. By participating in this programme, we aim to encourage healthy lifestyle choices, foster a positive school environment, and equip our students with the knowledge and skills they need to thrive. From nutritious lunches to engaging physical activities, we are working together to create a culture of health and wellness. We hope to achieve the bronze award this year.

We are delighted to inform you that Wembley Manor is on the journey to becoming a Rights Respecting School; an award granted by UNICEF UK. This initiative is centred around embedding children's rights into our ethos and culture, ensuring every student feels respected, valued, and heard. By working towards this award, we aim to create a safe and inclusive environment in which students understand their rights and responsibilities, empowering them to become confident, active members of society. The programme also fosters mutual respect and understanding within our school community.



We are thrilled to announce that Wembley Manor is working towards achieving the Eco School Award. This international programme empowers students to take an active role in protecting the environment and promoting sustainability within our school and the wider community.

Through this initiative, we aim to raise environmental awareness, reduce waste, conserve resources, and instil a sense of responsibility in our students. From recycling projects to eco-friendly initiatives, we are committed to making Wembley Manor a greener place for everyone.

The Therapy Team

It has been great to welcome everyone back and get to know all our new pupils and their families through meet and greets, stay and plays, meetings with parents and carers and time spent in class. Our Speech and Language Therapy team have also offered 2 'Communication is Key' parent training courses for our younger pupils.

We started the year with learning walks across all RPT schools with a focus on ensuring environments support pupil's communication, regulation and participation in school activities. We are very proud of our staff members' efforts to ensure our universal therapy provision is embedded across our schools.

Parent Makaton training has been up and running this term and our Makaton tutors Al and Rebecca have been impressed with the level of engagement and enthusiasm of those who attended. If you are interested in Makaton training, you can contact them at makaton@therisepartnershiptrust.co.uk

As part of our Brent Outreach offer to mainstream schools, members of our OT and SaLT teams have delivered training on Augmentative and Alternative Communication, Play/Leisure, and Supporting Regulation.

Thank you for your continued support and collaboration. We look forward to another year of growth and learning!



Groundbreaking ceremony

We are proud to share that a group of our students accompanied staff to attend a special ground-breaking ceremony at the site of our new school on Remembrance Day. This significant event marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for our school community while also giving us an opportunity to reflect and honour those who have served and sacrificed for our freedom today.

Our students were fantastic ambassadors and participated appropriately during this meaningful event, representing Wembley Manor with pride. As part of the ceremony, they learned about the construction plans for the new school and took part in activities commemorating Remembrance Day.

We are also delighted to share that the building works are on track and that all students will be visiting the site in the Summer term to begin to familiarise themselves with the location and see how the construction works are developing.



Holiday activities

Christmas Cookie Shapes

When crafting Christmas cookie shapes – you can explore geometric concepts like shapes and sizes and even introduce counting as you create a delicious array of mathematical delights!



Paper Chains

Get the festive fun rolling with Christmas paper chains that sneakily weave in maths – assign each paper ring a number fact or align them with vibrant colour patterns for a jolly numeracy twist!

3D Nets

Be creative by creating 3D shape gift boxes with your child, incorporating mathematical concepts by exploring shape features like faces, edges, and vertices.



Code Breaker

Crafting a simple Christmas Code Breaker for your child, where they decipher clues to locate the Elf on the Shelf or unveil a hidden gift, making learning math magical and merry.

Other Maths Home activities

- Baking a cake, which involves measuring and shaping.
- Singing Maths-related songs such as 'Ten Green Bottles'.
- Calendars can provide an excellent opportunity for learning about time and daily routines. Support your child in recording special events on a calendar and subsequently cross off the days as they happen, culminating in the special event.



Holiday countdown

Christmas Holidays countdown calendar

 On Friday	 20th	 December	 school	 is finished.	 No school on:	 Saturday	 Sunday
 Monday	 Tuesday	 Wednesday	 Thursday	 Friday	 Saturday	 Sunday	 Sunday
 Monday	 Tuesday	 Wednesday	 Thursday	 Friday	 Saturday	 Sunday	 Sunday

Monday
 Back to school
 Tuesday
 7th
 January
2025
2025

End of term recap

Wembley Manor
Love • Learn • Laugh

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