



## Newsletter 02.04.2026



### **Manston St James CE Primary Academy**

**Email:** [info@manstonstjames.co.uk](mailto:info@manstonstjames.co.uk)<sup>1</sup>

**Website:** [www.manstonstjames.co.uk](http://www.manstonstjames.co.uk)<sup>2</sup>

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*Across the school, many year groups have taken part in a wide range of exciting experiences this term. It has been a real pleasure to see the children so engaged, and we have had lots of feedback from both parents and staff sharing that the children are full of awe and wonder, and have truly loved the opportunities provided. These experiences are such an important part of school life, helping to enrich learning and create lasting memories for the children. We are delighted to be able to offer them.*

*We would like to take this opportunity to encourage all parents and carers to continue with the instalment payments for the Adventure Ticket. Your contributions make these experiences possible and help ensure that we can sustain them for all year groups.*

*By keeping up with payments, it also means that we do not need to draw on the school budget that is intended for essential resources and day-to-day learning in the classrooms.*

*Thank you, as always, for your continued support.*

*We wish you all a happy, joyous and peaceful Easter break!*

**Mr Biedka**



**"It's the small acts of parents, teachers, and friends — each one full of care — that light up our school and enrich our children's lives."**

**PTFA now has their own place on our school website. Please <sup>3</sup>visit for any updates, upcoming events, or to connect.**

There are lots of ways to support the PTFA — and every little bit makes a big difference! You don't need to commit to every meeting or event; just getting involved when you can really helps.

#### **PTFA Facebook & Instagram Group**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/199267443474410/>

### **Massive 'Thank You'**

A massive **'thank you'** to all of you amazing pupils and families for your support on our last event- Handpicked for Mum.

It was lovely to gather gift options and support pupils who participated to pick gifts for the special people in their world. We managed to raise a small amount of **£231.12** which we will be pouring back into school to buy much needed supplies for each class!

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<sup>3</sup><https://www.manstonstjames.co.uk/parents/ptfa>

## Break the Rules day!



We have unfortunately had to amend our original calendar of events- **Unfortunately we won't be running the Mad Hatter event at the end of April.**

HOWEVER, we have changed this with a "Dress like David Day".

This year marks David Attenboroughs 100th birthday on the **8th May**. We invite everyone to come to school dressed in the theme of planet/ nature/ or David himself.

The PTFA will supply school with plenty of seeds to get the school blooming and a huge living birthday celebration to David.

**We only ask for a £1 donation and prizes will be given to the best dressed in each class!**

Thank you for your support as always!

## Safeguarding

### Health and Safety

If you have any concerns or observations regarding **Health and Safety** please contact: **Mr Biedka**

### Child Protection

If you have any concerns or questions regarding **Child Protection** issues please contact: **Mrs Crabtree or Mrs Cliffe.**

### **Absence Reporting**

If you need to **report your child's absence**, please contact : **0113 8592081**

### **Other**

**If you have any concerns about a child over the Easter Break, please report this directly to Children's Social Services directly on 0113 222 4403<sup>4</sup> to report any concerns you may have or alternatively via our school website [www.manstonstjames.co.uk](http://www.manstonstjames.co.uk)<sup>5</sup> by pressing the 'share a concern' button.**

If you need further support regarding Mental Health, Domestic Violence or support accessing a Foodbank please see links on our Safeguarding page on our website.

## **Who Can Collect My Child?**

We appreciate that sometimes plans change. If someone who is not on your child's '**Who Can Collect**' list comes to collect your child, we will not release him/her unless you have specifically informed us in advance by emailing the school office at [info@manstonstjames.co.uk](mailto:info@manstonstjames.co.uk)<sup>6</sup>

Please speak to your child's teacher if you are unsure of who is currently authorised to collect your child from school, and if you need to update this list, please complete a new **Who Can Collect Form** by following this link:

WHO CAN COLLECT MY CHILD – Fill in form<sup>7</sup>

## **Good Friday Family Activity Morning**

This **Friday, 3rd April in church, from 9:00am - 10.30am** come for our **Good Friday family activity morning.**

All are welcome to join us.

**St James the Great Church, Manston**

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<sup>4</sup>[tel:0113 222 4403](tel:01132224403)

<sup>5</sup><http://www.manstonstjames.co.uk/>

<sup>6</sup><mailto:info@manstonstjames.co.uk>

<sup>7</sup><https://forms.office.com/e/PX7sUuAyRn>

## Cluster Drop-in

**Do you need advice on how to get support for your family?**

**If your child attends one of the schools below, we may be able to offer some information/advice**

**Drop-in anytime between 9am and 10am at any one of the following schools:-**

Grimes Dyke Primary	13th March 26	Whinmoor St. Paul's Primary	8th May 26
Our Lady of Good	18th March 26	St Theresa's Catholic Primary	15th May 26
Manston Primary	20th March 26	Cross Gates Primary	19th May 26
Grange Farm Primary	24th March 26	Leeds East Academy	6th June 26
Beechwood Primary	23rd April 26	Fieldhead Carr Primary	23rd June 26
White Laith Primary	1st May 26	Searcroft Grange Primary	24th June 26
Manston St. James	6th May 26	Bishop Young Academy	14th July 26

**Cluster Drop-in**

## SEND Drop-in



www.leedslocaloffer.org.uk  
 @leedslocaloffer  
 leedslocaloffer@leeds.gov.uk  
 @leedslocaloffer

**SEND PARENT CARER INFORMATION DROP IN**

Date	Time	Venue
Wed 1 April	11.30 AM - 12.30	Carver Manor Community Hub, Carver Manor Community School, Southwood Lane, LS7 2PL

**Services in attendance:**

- Leeds Local Offer
- SENDIAS
- Carers Leeds
- Child Health and Disability Team (CHAD)
- Leeds Parent Carer Forum
- Little Hiccups
- Speech and Language Therapy Service
- SEND Coordinators, Family Hubs

Let us know if you will be attending the drop in  
<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/info/420391>

If you would like more information about the drop in sessions email [LLO@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:LLO@leeds.gov.uk)



**What you might want to speak to each service about**

- SEND Local Offer**
  - How to find out about SEND services in Leeds
  - The Leeds Local Offer website and events
  - Supporting SEND services
- SEND support in mainstream schools**
  - Preparing for SEND meetings
  - Identifying health and Care (PCT) needs assessments and plans
  - Medication and SEND School support
  - Specialist schools, settings and provisions
  - Preparing for admission
  - Preparing for educational transitions
  - SEND funding
  - School transport
- How to have your voice heard in Leeds**
  - How we represent the voices of parents and carers
  - Events and resources for families
- Carers Leeds**
  - Benefits advice and support (DLA and PIP)
  - Emotional support/parent carer group
- Parent Led Support**
  - A welcoming community for families of children with disabilities to connect and share experiences
  - Inclusive Activities, Sensory-friendly sessions, inclusive play and family events that build confidence and social inclusion
  - Advocacy & Resources: Help with equipment, peer support and working with healthcare providers to improve local services and accessibility
- CHAD Our Health and Healthy Team**
  - What support do CHAD offer?
  - How can children or carers specialist care packages?
  - What is the threshold for CHAD social worker involvement?
  - General questions or queries about social care?
  - How to make a referral?
- Our Family Hubs**
  - Our family hubs provide a welcoming space where families with children and young people (0 to 18 years, or up to 25 years for young people with special educational needs and disabilities) can access support, advice, and services in one convenient location
- Leeds SEND Local Offer**
  - Support with communication
  - Support with reading, writing and spelling

# Leeds SENDIASS



Termly Newsletter:  
20<sup>th</sup> April - 21<sup>st</sup> July

## Upcoming SEND Advice Drop-In sessions

Our trained officers will be available in person to answer your SEND enquiries, along with other SEND services at the SEND information drop-ins.



**Venue:** The Old Fire Station, Gipton Approach, LS9 6NL  
**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
**Time:** 10:30-12:30

**Venue:** Horsforth Library Building, Town Street, LS18 5BL  
**Date:** 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
**Time:** 10:30-12:30

**Venue:** The Welcome Centre, Belle Isle, LS10 3DN  
**Date:** 8<sup>th</sup> July 2026  
**Time:** 10:30-12:30

We will be attending drop-ins with other SEND Services, such as:  
Leeds Local Offer, Speech and Language, CHAD, Parent Carer Forum.



## Upcoming Virtual Information Sessions on Microsoft Teams:

### Topic - Transitions

Information and practical advice on transitions for children & young people with SEND.

**Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
**Time:** 11:30-1pm



### Topic - Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA)

Information about pupils feeling unable to attend their school or setting due to their individual needs.

**Date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026  
**Time:** 11:30-1pm

To book a place onto one of these virtual sessions, please email:  
[sendiasocialmedia@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:sendiasocialmedia@leeds.gov.uk)

Please state in your email which session you want to attend.



## Sports Camp!



## We are a 'Nut Free' School



We currently have staff and pupils who have allergies, which require an epi-pen for treatment. People who suffer from nut allergies can develop a severe, potentially life threatening allergic reaction.

**So please can we ask that you have no nut products in lunch boxes or sent into the school as treats. This includes 'Nutella' and other unbranded chocolate spreads which usually include nuts or nut derivatives.**

## Healthy Lunchboxes



### What to include in your child's lunchbox

A healthier lunchbox should:

- be based on starchy carbohydrates<sup>8</sup> (bread, potatoes, rice, pasta)
- include fresh fruit and vegetables/salad
- include a source of protein such as beans and pulses<sup>9</sup>, eggs, fish, meat, cheese (or dairy alternative)
- include a side dish such as a low-fat and lower-sugar yoghurt (or dairy alternative), tea cake, fruit bread, plain rice/corn cakes, homemade plain popcorn, sugar-free jelly
- include a drink such as water, skimmed or semi-skimmed milk, sugar-free or no-added-sugar drinks

The Eatwell Guide<sup>10</sup> shows you how to have a healthy balanced diet and can help you decide what to put in your child's lunchbox. Find healthy lunchbox ideas at Change4Life<sup>11</sup>.

### Lunchbox tips

- Keep them fuller for longer - base the lunchbox on foods like bread, rice, pasta and potatoes. Choose wholegrain where you can.
- Mix your slices - if your child doesn't like wholegrain, try making a sandwich from one slice of white bread and one slice of wholemeal/brown bread.
- DIY lunches - raps and pots of fillings can be more exciting for kids when they get to put them together. Dipping foods are also fun and make a change from a sandwich each day.

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<sup>8</sup><https://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Goodfood/Pages/starchy-foods.aspx>

<sup>9</sup><https://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Goodfood/Pages/pulses.aspx>

<sup>10</sup><https://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Goodfood/Pages/the-eatwell-guide.aspx>

<sup>11</sup><https://www.nhs.uk/change4life-beta/healthier-lunchboxes>

- Less spread - cut down on the spread used and try to avoid using mayonnaise in sandwiches.
- Cut back on fat - pick lower fat sandwich fillings, such as lean meats (including chicken or turkey), fish (such as tuna or salmon), reduced-fat cream cheese, and reduced-fat hard cheese.
- Ever green - always add salad to sandwiches – it all counts towards your child's 5 A DAY
- Always add veg - cherry tomatoes, or sticks of carrot, cucumber, celery and peppers all count towards their 5 A DAY. Adding a small pot of reduced-fat hummus or other dips may help with getting kids to eat vegetables.
- Cut down on crisps - if your child really likes their crisps try reducing the number of times you include them in their lunchbox and swap for homemade plain popcorn or plain rice cakes instead.
- Add bite-size fruit - try chopped apple, peeled satsuma segments, strawberries, blueberries, halved grapes or melon slices to make it easier for them to eat. Add a squeeze of lemon juice to stop it from going brown.
- Tinned fruit counts - a small pot of tinned fruit in juice – not syrup – is perfect for their lunchbox and is easily stored in the cupboard.
- Go low fat and lower sugar - go for low-fat and lower sugar yoghurt or fromage frais and add your own fruit.
- Get them involved - get your kids involved in preparing and choosing what goes in their lunchbox. They are more likely to eat it if they helped make it.
- Variety is the spice of lunchboxes! Be adventurous and get creative to mix up what goes in their lunchbox.

Read more at <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life-beta/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes#ZfH6v8YgO6XJADLg.99>

**School will be closed on *Friday 3rd April* for the Bank Holiday, and from *Monday 6th April* to *Friday 17th April* for the Easter break. School will reopen on *Monday 20th April 2026*.**

School will reopen on Monday, 20th April 2026.

**Manston St James C of E Primary Academy**

Sandbed Lane

Cross Gates

Leeds

LS15 8JH

**Tel:** 0113 859 2073

**Email:** [info@manstonstjames.co.uk](mailto:info@manstonstjames.co.uk)<sup>12</sup>

**Merlin's Wraparound Care Club**

**Tel:** 0113 8592074

**Email :** [msj-merlin@manstonstjames.co.uk](mailto:msj-merlin@manstonstjames.co.uk)<sup>13</sup>

**Headteacher**

Mr A Biedka

**Deputy Headteacher**

Mrs E Caygill-Boothroyd

**Assistant Headteacher**

Mrs A Crabtree

**Assistant Headteacher/DSL**

Mrs C Cliffe

**SENCO**

Mrs L Bennett

**Visit us on the web at** [www.manstonstjames.co.uk](http://www.manstonstjames.co.uk)<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>12</sup><mailto:info@manstonstjames.co.uk>

<sup>13</sup><mailto:msj-merlin@manstonstjames.co.uk>

<sup>14</sup><https://www.manstonstjames.co.uk>

*Thank you for reading our Newsletter*

