

E-mail:
adminoffice@manor-junior.hants.sch.uk
Website:
www.manorjunior.com



Fernhill Road, Farnborough
Hampshire, GU14 9DX
Telephone: 01252 544072

AND RESOURCED PROVISION FOR
HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN
Headteacher: Mrs C Findlay

26th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope my newsletter finds you all well. I know that there are lots of bugs and germs flying around at this time of year and they can be hard to avoid!

Being 'Ready'

Of all our school rules, 'Ready' is the rule that I usually explain the meaning of most to parents and carers, as it is a term that we use a lot in education, but maybe not so much in the world beyond. Firstly, it does have some very obvious meanings – Are you *ready* for school with the correct uniform, equipment and are you on time? Are you *ready* to get started on an activity? It does however have another extremely important meaning that has a profound effect on a pupil's ability to learn and grow – Are you *ready* for a challenge? Are you *ready* to find things hard and to keep on trying when it is?

Our teachers are skilled at finding alternative ways of explaining tricky ideas and finding apparatus to demonstrate and model a new concept. I know this is the part of the job I love the most! As much as teachers do their best to break down new ideas for children, true learning takes place at the edge of what we already know – a place that can feel uncomfortable and hard at times. We need our children to be *ready* for this and to know that sometimes they might need to have another go, and another and another..... until they reach that lightbulb moment!

As referred to in my letter home yesterday, we are looking forward to welcoming Kylie Grimes MBE to our school on 6th February. The main purpose for holding this event is to hear from Kylie about how she overcame adversity in her life to go on to achieve such amazing things in the Para-Olympics. I am hoping this will be an inspiration to all of our children to show fortitude in their lives when things are hard.

Update from the Year Teams

Year 3

Year 3 had a stunning start to our English topic last week when we were given the important job of washing some plastic animals and explaining to a partner what we were

doing using precise vocabulary! We will be writing our own incredible instructions to wash a woolly mammoth so we have been learning lots of facts about these incredible prehistoric creatures. Perhaps you can ask your child to share some with you! In French we have been continuing to learn about the flavours of ice cream and have been practising how to ask for one or two scoops!

Although we have now finished our learning on telling the time please do keep practising at home. Our new maths topic is about fractions and geometry. This week we have been exploring equivalent fractions (fractions that are equal in value such as $\frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{4}$) and we have also started to add and subtract fractions. Next week we will be focusing on angles as a property of a shape and how angles are linked to turns.

Year 4

Year 4 are enjoying their new topics so far. They are learning about emotions and friendships in PSHCE. In RE they have learned what stewardship means to Hindus and Christians. Some classes have started their DT project in which they will be learning how to sew different stitches.

In English, we have started a new book called 'What a Waste' and the outcome of our lessons will be to write an information page. We have been discussing different layouts and how to find the right information. At the end of last week, 4B performed their class assembly (and did a great job) and the other classes are looking forward to theirs. You will be notified of the relevant dates.

Year 5

Year 5 have had a busy couple of weeks. We have been learning about the migration of animals in English using the book 'We Travel So Far' as our text driver. We have been amazed by how far some animals travel each year! In maths we have been looking at percentages and fractions. We have been impressed by some excellent hip-hop moves in dance – especially in the free style sections! In science we have been looking at evolution and the role of fossils in helping us to understand changes over millennia. We are looking forward to auditions next week for our Year 5 production, as we know we have many talented performers in the year group! (Date to be confirmed!)

Year 6

Last week the Year 6 pupils completed a Mock SATs week. They showed a positive attitude towards the tests and the results have demonstrated that they are making good progress - we couldn't be prouder.

Having ventured into South America with our Topic work, the children have been enthused by the dance, music and art work. They are in the process of creating some samba music, dance routines and bright iconic art work which they will share with the rest of the school in due course.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Findlay
Headteacher