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

26th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the Summer term!

We have had an action-packed couple of weeks, with Bikeability in Year 6 and a Viking Day in Year 5 and more planned next week; both Year 4 and Year 3 are out on trips. All of these experiences are in addition to the children's usual lessons and provide wonderful opportunities for hands on learning.

We are living in an age now where a certain amount of screen time seems inevitable for all of us with so many devices at our finger tips. When talking with colleagues from the Primary Behaviour Support Team recently, we reflected upon how instantly technology is able to fill any time we have. How many adults do you know that scroll on their phones when the programme on the TV gets a bit slow or the adverts come on? The trouble with our brains receiving this constant stimulation is that when we don't have it, we become easily bored. Our children's growing brains are affected in the same way. The teachers at Manor Junior School work extremely hard to make lessons exciting, but in all honesty, it is hard to compete with computer games and the array of short videos on the numerous apps available! If your child struggles to occupy themselves away from screens you are not alone, but it is worth considering the impact this is having on their brain. If you would like any further support with setting limits on screen time (yours or your child's!), then please do not hesitate to ask your child's class teacher or speak to Lucy Hoggan our family support worker. Working together seems the best way to navigate this age of parenting tech savvy children.

Update from the Year Teams

Year 3

In Year 3, we have enjoyed starting our new topic, Down by the River. We have explored different UK rivers and learnt about the main features of rivers. We also enjoyed showing what we had learnt by making a poster or building a river from Lego. We are looking forward to our visit to Gilbert White's Field Studies Centre on Thursday to support our learning about rivers.

In science, we have been learning about how flowering plants reproduce and how important bees are for pollination. The children should be able to use the correct scientific vocabulary to tell you the important parts of flowering plants.

*We have written our own narratives based on the book *The Last Garden* which is a beautiful story about a girl who lives in a war-torn city and tends to the last garden.*

In maths, we are revisiting units of measure and solving problems involving capacity. Next week we will be starting to learn more about interpreting and explaining pictograms, bar charts and tables. Thank you to the families and friends of children in 3K who were able to join us for their amazing assembly today. We look forward to 3Q and 3M sharing their learning in the coming weeks.

Year 4

Year 4 are putting in lots of hard work with multiplication and capacity in maths and in our new English unit, 'The Firework Maker's Daughter'. We have already written a set of instructions for their own fireworks and are in the process of planning a diary entry for Lila.

Science has been our focus in topic and we've learned about the nutritional content of food and how the food groups make a healthy diet. We are building up to make our own healthy pizza. At the moment we are looking forward to Monday's trip to the Harry Potter Studios. Remember school uniform and trainers.

Year 5

Year 5 have written fantastic poems based on the weather and seasons using figurative and descriptive language. The poems were inspired by the Winter Olympics advert 'The Dreadful Menace'. It also got us talking about the Summer Olympics which is our new French unit. In PE we have started our athletics unit and are enjoying putting our batting and fielding skills to use in rounders which is always a great game to play at the beach, or in a field over the summer holidays. In maths we have started our multiplication and division unit – please keep playing Times Table Rockstars as this will help with speed of recall and accuracy.

On Tuesday, Manor was invaded by some magnificent Vikings as the year group enjoyed the terrific Treehouse Theatre experience where they learnt about Anglo Saxons and Vikings and produced a play in a day!

Year 6

Year 6 are entering the last stages of revision work for our SATs, concentrating on test techniques and filling gaps in our knowledge. We are continuing to improve our writing capabilities ready for final teacher assessments after the SATs have finished. Thank you to everyone that has returned the free SAT's breakfast letter.

At the moment the children have been enjoying five free 'Bike-ability' sessions. It is amazing to see the progress children make over these sessions and the growth in their confidence in using the roads. If they implement what they have learned, then the local area should be safer!

We may not have seen much sun yet this summer term, but I am keeping my fingers crossed for the weeks ahead. To encourage it on its way, I wanted to share with you a beautiful poem written by one Year 5 student, Louisa.

Scorching Sun

I am the blood-bailing heat,
I dance with the sun.
Brighter than light,
The battle was never won.

I will burn you alive,
Nothing can be done.
I scatter no hope, no joy, no prey.
I creep up on nature, the sun has just begun!

I make grass yellow, I make skin red,
Don't run, don't raise your head.
Bask under my wrath, my body of fire,
Be careful! You may expire.

Glowing, bright as life,
Run little mice.
Scarlet red skin, burning like a flame,
I am Summer, nothing can be saved!

I'm like an eclipse, bold and brave.
Red as blood, the night is no sun!
Day is where I'm at,
Faster than a hare, Stronger than a bear

By Louisa

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Findlay
Headteacher