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

8th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a very busy couple of weeks in school since my last newsletter. The staff have worked exceptionally hard, both to deliver the normal curriculum and the extra festive events that add so much to your child's school experience.

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Fair last week. We raised a grand total of £1982.32 which is amazing. The money each year group raised from selling the children's crafts will go directly back to the year teams to spend on the pupils in this academic year. I am going to put some of the other money raised towards buying new resources for indoor play during the winter months.

We also raised £1279 from the school disco. So many of the staff commented on how well behaved the children were at both the discos and it was lovely to see the children enjoying themselves on the dance floor.

Staffing Update

At the end of this term I am sorry to say that Mrs Larmer, who currently teaches 5L, will be leaving us. Mrs Larmer, who has worked at Manor for over 5 years, will be taking up a position as a law lecturer at Farnborough Sixth Form College from January, combining both her teaching skills and knowledge of the law! We will miss her very much and thank her for all of her hard work during her time with us.

I am pleased to inform you that this term we have been successful in recruiting a new deputy headteacher, Mrs James, who will be starting with us in January. In addition to the deputy headteacher role, Mrs James will also be taking over as class teacher of 5L. Mrs James will need to have some time out of the classroom to undertake her leadership responsibilities and so to support her in 5L we have a second teacher Mrs Hunt joining our team. Whilst change can be a tricky time for some pupils, I would like to reassure everyone that both Mrs James and Mrs Hunt are very experienced teachers and will support the pupils with this new start.

Also leaving us at the end of the year, are our two supply teachers for this term, Mrs Brown and Miss Silverthorne. Mrs Brown is leaving to support a school near to her home and Miss Silverthorne will be off to start her travels in Canada! We are so lucky at Manor to have regular teacher cover for statutory planning and preparation time rather than relying on supply teachers who the pupils do not know. I would like to thank them for providing this consistency to pupils this term and wish them well on their future ventures. Again, we have been lucky to recruit new cover for the Spring term and we are pleased to be welcoming Mrs Dillon to our team who is an experienced teacher.

We have appointed new support staff this term to the Manor Team – Mrs Dale, Miss Prins and Mrs Burrows and we are welcoming Mrs Stevens in the new year.

Update from the Year Teams

Year 3

Wow what a busy time we have had in Year 3. We hope those of you who were able to join us enjoyed our Celebration of Christmas. We were incredibly proud of all children and it was so wonderful to have an opportunity for them showcase their talents!

Even though we have been rehearsing for our show we have still been working hard in our lessons. In maths we have moved from learning about fractions to geometry which includes learning more about the properties of 2d and 3d shapes. We have been finding about horizontal, vertical, parallel and perpendicular lines and spotting where we can see examples. We are definitely enjoying all the practical activities in this topic.

Our learning in RE is focused on the concept of angels and we have been thinking about how important they are in the Christian nativity story as well as in other religions. We have also learnt about the different jobs angels do.

As part of our science learning we have been observing how a habitat in our school grounds changes over time. As part of this longitudinal study, each month, we observe the habitat and record the general weather including the average temperature as well as the sunrise and sunset times for the day. We have enjoyed discussing what we notice about the habitat.

We hope all our children and their families have a wonderful time over the festive period. Thank you for all your support this term.

Year 4

Year 4 have been busy working on their Christmas production and we are looking forward to sharing this with parents and carers next week.

On Monday, Year 4 were visited by Guy Bass who is the author of the Stitch Head series of books. He had us all thoroughly entertained as we heard about how he writes his stories. This inspired the children in their own writing about monsters.

In science the pupils have been learning about electrical circuits and have carried out experiments to find out whether adding more batteries makes a lamp shine brighter.

Year 5

Year 5 have had a really busy fortnight. Those who have remembered to bring in a change of shoes have enjoyed being able to choose whether to play football, rugby or netball in our Games sessions. In maths we have looked at reflection and translation of shapes. In English we finished writing a memoir for the Hidden Figures mathematicians and have moved on to our Christmas unit – Home for Christmas. In art we have been working with oil pastels, focusing on blending. It was lovely to see such a range of Christmas jumpers today!

Year 6

Last Friday (1st December) Year 6 held a House football competition. Hawks and Eagles were only separated by one point in second and third places respectively. While Falcons Team B won all their matches, unfortunately Teams A and C did not. This put them in to fourth place. Congratulations to Harriers, who took first place!

Thank you to all the children who have been completing their weekly homework. It has made such a difference to their attainment in lessons.

Merry Christmas!

I can not believe how quickly this term has flown by! Thank you to the whole school community for your support in my first term as Headteacher. I would be lying if I said I wasn't tired and in need of a rest, but I have also loved it! Our children have worked so hard and they make me smile every day.

I wish all of you a restful and happy Christmas break and New Year and I look forward to welcoming you all back in January.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Findlay
Headteacher