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

20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I apologise for the length of this newsletter, but we just have so much news to share - what a full and busy half term we have had! The children have worked hard and made such an excellent start to the academic year.

#### Parents Evening

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers at our consultations last week – home school partnership is really important to us at Manor and hopefully you found the conversations useful.

Unfortunately, we did have a small number of parents that booked appointments that they then did not attend. Please could I ask that if you are unable to make an appointment in the future, that you let the school know as this frees up the space for another parent or saves the teacher sitting waiting.

#### Foodbank Donations

Thank you so much for all of the donations for Farnborough Foodbank – we were overwhelmed this morning by the quantity of food! For me, this is an indication of the true generosity of this community in supporting others in their time of need. Thank you to our student councillors for organising this event and to you all for your kindness.



### Black History Month

During assemblies this month we have been inspired by hearing about the lives and outstanding contribution to society of individuals such as Rosa Parks and Harriet Tubman. The children discussed the bravery and selflessness of these ladies and they have been encouraged to follow their example and speak up when they see injustice, with particular reference to racism, in school. We are so lucky to have such a diverse local community and I am determined that we continue to celebrate this and ensure that everyone feels a sense of belonging and pride at our school. I will write to you again after half-term to share more information about activities we have planned for this.

# Grounds Force Day

Last Saturday a group of very kind parents, pupils and staff came to school in the morning to help tidy up the growing beds in the sensory garden. These have now been covered for the winter to keep the weeds at bay. The group made such a huge difference to the area and I would like to thank them so much for their time and energy.

# Learning Update

# <u>Year 3</u>

This week Year 3 had a wonderful time when Year 2 visited for a tour of the junior school. They used the magnificent maps they had created in geography to help them and at the end of the session they shared some of the Love to Read books from our classrooms. The teachers from the infant school said their children had a fantastic time and haven't stopped talking about it. We can't wait for them to visit again soon.

On Wednesday it was great to see so many parents and carers attending the Year 3 Celebration of Learning in the classrooms. We are so proud of how our Year 3 pupils have settled into the junior school and how hard they have worked to produce so much!

# Year 4

Year 4 Parents and Carers joined us this morning for their Celebration of Learning which was the culmination of their hard work to produce a non-fiction report on their chosen animal and a drawing of their chosen animal from Marwell Zoo. They worked well to organise their writing into paragraphs and include sub-headings. There was also some great art work on display!

The work on display demonstrated the impact that educational visits can have on a pupil's understanding and enjoyment of a subject, as this followed their trip earlier in the term to Marwell Zoo. With this in mind, I would encourage you, if you are a Year 4 parent and have not already done so, to consider signing your child up to the residential visit to Ufton Court taking place later this year.

# <u>Year 5</u>

The Year 5 staff have been really impressed with the determination, patience and resilience that the children have shown this week whilst they have been sewing their pencil cases. In particular, having a go at sewing with back stitch. We have also enjoyed reading their amazing chapters they have written linked to our English book 'Beowulf'. In science, the pupils have looked at how some animals' senses are adapted to help them survive even though they are nocturnal animals.

# <u>Year 6</u>

Year 6 have continued to successfully find their way using maps and compasses to make mini-challenge routes for others to follow during their P.E. outdoor learning curriculum. They are currently in the planning process of writing an information page about a new tourist attraction in Farnborough. I am looking forward to reading these after half term!

### Parent and Carer Conduct on Site

Please could I ask all parents and carers to act as role models for our pupils whilst they are on the school site. Swearing in the course of conversation or using offensive language of any kind is not acceptable for children to hear.

The use of mobile phones on the school site is not allowed for safeguarding reasons. In addition, at the end of the day your child will be excited to share news of their day with you and this is hard if you are on your phone! The school site is also a no vaping and smoking site.

### Change of shoes

Now that the weather has changed, the school site is often wet and can sometimes be muddy on the field and in the sensory garden. As you are aware, we have just had new carpet throughout the corridor and we want to protect this for as long as possible. With this in mind, please could you ensure that after half-term your child has a change of trainers and a spare pair of socks in school **every day**. This footwear may get muddy and/or wet so please could it come in a plastic carrier bag which your child can hang on their peg. **Please name both the footwear and the carrier bag!** 

I hope that everyone has a lovely break over half term and I look forward to welcoming back the pupils after half term.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Findlay Headteacher