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

31<sup>st</sup> January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

On Wednesday this week after school, the staff joined virtually with hundreds of other teachers from schools across Hampshire for our termly Inclusion and Diversity staff meeting. Within this term's meeting we thought carefully about belonging and how important it is for all members of our school community to feel that they belong. We are proud to have signed a commitment document with the inclusion and diversity partnership whose aims are shared below and we are currently undertaking an inclusion and diversity audit to evaluate areas of strength and those to develop across the school.

#### **The Aim**

Through a focus on equality and diversity, settings will develop further into places where people genuinely feel that they belong and, as a result, they will develop a strong and positive sense of self and an appreciation of their own and others' uniqueness and identity.

Ultimately, this will impact on wider society as the children and young people in our schools today will grow into tomorrow's adults. The partnership aims to shape children and develop critical thinking, skilling children up to challenge and confront prejudice, discrimination, and racism, in order for our communities to become inclusive in the broadest sense.

Inclusion is important to us at Manor – I want all children and families who attend our school to feel welcome. In saying this, I recognise that inclusion is not always easy – with well over 300 children attending the school, meeting everyone's needs can be a daily challenge which we strive to fulfil. Rarely do one pupil's needs present an issue for us, but it is when one child's needs overlap or conflict with another's that the greatest challenges are presented. As a school we try and develop a culture of understanding within the children and teach our rules of ready, respectful, safe and kind. It is my experience that children have an immense capacity to understand and accept one another when kindness and tolerance are modelled for them – far better than adults in many cases!

#### Parent Governor Vacancy

I am hoping you may have seen my communication earlier in the week about our parent governor vacancy. It is really important to me that parents have a say in the running of the school and in holding leaders to account. If you would like to have a chat about what the role would involve then please just pop round to the office and I would be more than happy to explain a bit more.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Findlay  
Headteacher

## News from the Year Teams

### Year 3

*There was much excitement last Thursday on our trip to Butser Ancient Farm. Despite the awful weather our trip was a huge success. All of the children enjoyed learning more about how houses were made in the past and loved learning how to make rope using raffia fibres. We all became archaeologists, using trowels to find the artefacts and using soft wire, we were also all able to make our own pieces of jewellery. The staff at Butser commented on the excellent behaviour of Year 3 and also how much they had remembered about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age from their learning at school. Well done Year 3!*

*Please see below photos from the visit.*



*As you may know in our English lessons the children will be writing instructions to wash a woolly mammoth (or other prehistoric creature) which is a very tricky job! They have already practised washing a plastic toy animal and acted the instructions out to make sure they are clear and easy for the reader to follow.*

*This week we have just started learning about angles in maths and have been identifying the different types of angles in real life and those in 2d shapes. There are many things that create angles, such as clothes hangers, scissors, crossroads, arrowheads and partially opened doors! Perhaps you can challenge your child to go and 'angle hunt' around the house or outside and see the different angles they can spot.*

*In art we have been learning all about Cave Art and we have been working hard to draw from observation a proportional drawing. We can't wait to share all our amazing art work with you at our celebration of learning next Thursday morning (6<sup>th</sup> February) in the hall at 9.00 a.m.*

*Our gymnastic unit this half term focuses on creating different types of sequences using apparatus which include different types of jumps, rolls and balances. Year 3 will be showcasing our superb sequences with each other during the last week of this half term.*

*We have enjoyed seeing some of the home learning projects that have been brought in to school already. There's still time to bring these in next week so we can share them in our year group assembly. As always thank you so much for supporting your child each week with their reading, TTRS and spelling homework. It really does make a difference to their learning if the children practise regularly.*

### Year 4

*Year 4 have continued to enjoy reading the first Harry Potter book and have just completed some fantastic writing about Diagon Alley. See if they can describe to you all the fascinating things that Harry saw there! They are now working towards writing some fan fiction about a detention in the Forbidden Forest – this will involve writing some dialogue between the characters as well as applying everything they have learnt about describing settings.*

We are very much looking forward to our trip to the Harry Potter studios next week, where we will be able to see the Diagon Alley set for ourselves and experience the Forbidden Forest. Following the trip, the children will have the chance to revisit their two pieces of writing and improve them with new ideas from seeing the 'real' places at the studios. Just a reminder that children will need to be in school very promptly on Wednesday and to be collected at 3:45pm. They will need to bring a rucksack with their lunch, drink and coat and nothing else, please.

In maths, Year 4 have revisited fractions and decimals in the last few weeks. They have been deepening their understanding of tenths and hundredths as well as learning equivalent fractions and decimals. The key facts for them to understand and remember about this are  $1/10 = 0.1$ ,  $1/2 = 0.5$ ,  $1/4 = 0.25$  and  $3/4 = 0.75$ .

This week is the first week that we are using Spelling Shed to assign childrens spelling homework to do using their online accounts (rather than sending home a sheet). They have all been given log-in details and shown how to use the site. When they log in, they should click on 'Assignments' which will show what their teacher has set them for this week. They will have 3 games to play to practise this objective. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions about this.

It is also really important that Year 4 continue to practise their times tables at home. Just five minutes practice each day can go a really long way! Ideally, children should know all multiplication facts up to  $12 \times 12$  by the end of Year 4 so that they can keep up with the maths curriculum in Years 5 and 6. Start by checking the 2, 5 and 10 times tables, then move on to 3, 4 and 8 (one at a time!). If your child knows all of these, then move on to the other times tables and tackle these one by one. If you would like any help with supporting your child with times tables at home, please do let us know.

### Year 5

Year 5 have been busy getting ready for our celebration of work on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February. In art, we have been making our totem poles out of clay and painting them. We have been so proud of the children for their perseverance, especially when joining the clay items together. We can't wait for you to see them soon. In DT, we have been learning all about structures around the world and looking at what shapes/joins make the strongest structure. Next week, we will be making our own waterproof tents outside based on what we have learnt. In geography, we have continued to look at North America and how the population changes based on where people live. A massive well done to 5T who did a fantastic assembly all about North America!

In maths, we have been looking at decimals, percentages and fractions. The children have been working hard to convert these and use this knowledge to answer problem solving questions. We have also been looking at angles and been using a protractor to be able to measure these. This was tricky at first, but yet again the children have persevered to be able to achieve this. In Year 5, we have been working on our column method for addition and subtraction. Any support you can give at home to help the children to practice this would be really appreciated.

In English, we have finished our work on 'The Journey' which saw the children write a fantastic narrative with speech in. They made fantastic word choices and really thought about how the characters would have been feeling at these times. We are now looking at different migrating animals and choosing one to write an information page about. To do this the children have been using the laptops to research all about their migrating animal and have thought carefully about the layout of their text. We look forward to sharing these with you at our celebration of learning.

Just a reminder that the deadline for the PGL trip to Osmington Bay is fast approaching (**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February**). Please get in contact with your child's class teacher if you have any questions about this at all or need any support.

Thank you as always for your support, we look forward to seeing you at our celebration of work on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February**.

### Year 6

We have continued to explore Brazil through our geography work, learning about migration and life in major cities. We have looked at the push and pull factors that contribute to where people would choose to live as well as the physical and human factors. We have really had our eyes opened up to what life is like in a contrasting country to our own.

Brazilian artists such as the collage work by Beatriz Milhazes, have also inspired us. We will be making our own tributes to 'her style' - very colourful and vibrant collages.

In English we have continued to use the book 'The Explorer' as a stimulus for writing. Last week we wrote informal and formal letters home in the style of two of the main characters.

In maths our geometry work has allowed us to measure and draw angles with precision using a protractor correctly.

This week we have been running a practice MOCK SAT week. The purposes behind this include getting the children used to the style of the test papers and test techniques, such as asking for the question to be read to them. We will let you know how much progress the children have made compared to their September MOCK SAT scores after we have marked and moderated the results. We have been very impressed with their positive attitude towards completing these tests - Thank You Year 6!