

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

20th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

When popping in and out of lessons over the last two weeks it has been lovely to see the children so engaged with their new topics. Hopefully you have received your child's knowledge maps for this term so you can see some of the things they will be covering in the coming weeks. These can also be found on the school website alongside overviews for every subject taught.

New Website

You may have noticed that we have a new website which was launched over the summer holidays. It is still very early days with the site and we will continue to tweak things over the coming term, but hopefully you will find the website more user friendly. As always, if you have any suggestions, or information you would like it to contain, please get in touch.

Lunchtimes

With the exception of this afternoon's torrential rain, we have been lucky this week to be able to use the school field at lunchtime. We will continue to do so for as long as possible to allow the children more space to play. If you are able to send a spare pair of welly boots or older trainers to school in a plastic carrier bag that can be hung on their peg this is really helpful when we want to continue outdoor play and learning in the wet weather. Please make sure your child's bag and footwear are named!

We have had to speak to a small number of children about not engaging in play fighting and rough play at lunchtime over the past few weeks. With such large pupil numbers, this kind of play is not safe and I ask for your support in promoting this same message and our school rules of Ready, Respectful, **Safe** and Kind with your children.

Being Ready

As we start this term, all classes have been focussed on our school rule of being ready – ready for school and ready to learn. Part of being ready for school is understanding that not everything will be easy and in fact some of the best learning takes place when things have been tricky to start with. We understand that it can feel uncomfortable, even for adults when we don't understand something the first time, but when the lightbulb moment arrives the reward seems even greater!

Update from the Year Teams

Year 3

It's been full steam ahead in Year 3 with lots of amazing learning already. We have been discovering what Manor Junior School is like and thinking about how we show we are ready, respectful, safe and kind. Last week we explored the different countries that make up the UK and started to learn more about each one. Our fairy tale dress up day was fabulous and thank you so much for your support with costumes. There was such an amazing assortment of characters! As part of the day we created our own fairy tale maps and listened to the different instruments in Peter and The Wolf by Sergei Prokofiev's.

Just a reminder to record any reading at home in your child's reading record and please make sure your child has their reading record and reading book in school every day. Our library day is Monday so please remember to bring library books in then. Have a lovely weekend.

Year 4

In Year 4, we have had a fantastic start to the year getting our teeth stuck into our science topic, the Circle of Life. We have been learning about food chains and how to classify animals and we were so excited to find out that we are going to have some animal visitors coming to school in a few weeks' time!

We have heard that some Year 4 children have already started on their homework projects which is fantastic. Please do ask your child's class teacher if you have any questions about this. Children will get a chance to share what they have done in our year group assembly on 17th October. Spelling sheets should also come home in the next few weeks once our new subscription to Spelling Shed is fully up and running: these are a chance for children to practise the spellings that they have been learning in class. Many children have also been playing on Times Tables Rockstars at home. This is really important in Year 4 as all of the children will take a Multiplication Check in the Summer term (more information to follow soon) and TT Rockstars is a great way to practise for this. Congratulations to Mya who was the only Year 4 last week to have a rock star status. I wonder if anyone else will get a certificate this week?

Everyone is so proud of Year 4 for settling into their new classes so quickly and for setting such an amazing example to the new Year 3's, especially in whole school assemblies. Keep up the great work, Year 4!

Year 5

Year 5 have made a fantastic start to the new school year. All of the Year 5 staff have been impressed at how they have thrown themselves into our new topic 'Out of this World' and how they have been demonstrating the school rules in all lessons.

In art, we have been learning all about Peter Thorpe and have been experimenting with mixing different shades and tints of colours. We have been impressed with their addition and subtraction skills using the column method. In English, Year 5 have written descriptive poems about a planet of their choice and have made up a new planet to write about. Year 5 are looking forward to sharing this on Wednesday 23rd October after school.

Thank you for all of the children who have brought back their spelling homework and those who have already completed some of their half term.

Year 6

Year 6 have embarked upon their final year at Manor Junior School settling quickly to their learning and looking ever so smart in their uniforms - thank you!

Their first topic has started with getting them out and about on a couple of local walks. In the first, they learnt to follow a large-scale map to a location. In the second, they searched for landmarks following a photo trail which they then located using grid references on a map. So they should all now be experts at map reading!

Year 6 is a busy year and already the pupils have been supporting their Year 3 buddies, taking on monitor jobs around the school and finding out all about life at secondary school from some of our past pupils.

Well done to all those children who have already completed their half-termly homework - you have until half term to share it with us! We have seen some excellent use of home reading records - again thank you. Reading at home makes such a difference. Congratulations to those pupils who continued with TTRS through the summer holidays, keep up the good work!

We look forward to meeting you all at our upcoming SATS Parents Meeting on Wednesday 9th October at 5.00 p.m.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and we look forward to welcoming your children back on Monday.

Yours sincerely

*Mrs C Findlay
Headteacher*