

# Manor Primary School

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(Letter 11)

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope that you all had a good half term. This half term is so short that we are already one fifth of the way through it after only one week! There is a lot happening this half term so keep your eyes peeled to make sure that you don't miss anything.

Let me start with some excellent news. Our attendance from September 2015 to February 2016 was **95.8%** overall. This figure has continued to rise over the past two years. A very big thank you to all parents and children who have helped us to make this fantastic improvement by attending school regularly! Long may it continue!!



**Congratulations to Ms Grant** who has a new job! She is leaving us at Easter to become headteacher of a school in Essex. I would like to thank her for all of her hard work in the time she has been with us, and to wish her all the best in her new role. In the time that she has been with us she has spent time getting to know children, parents and staff and has worked hard to ensure that the school is doing well. She will definitely leave us with a legacy, thank you!

The **Home Learning Showcase** that we held just before half term was a success. The children loved having the opportunity to show off all of their hard work, and it was obvious that they were all very impressed with one another's work. There was a really wide range of projects – posters, books, models. I hope that they will all be inspired to try something a bit different for their next home learning project, and am looking forward to seeing the results!



The **UNICEF Day for Change** was another tremendous success. The children managed to raise a staggering £2,099!! They worked very hard to do this and it was a really fun day. Thank you to all who contributed to and attended the International Breakfast. There was a lovely selection of delicious food. Once again we were able to share it with a number of classes as you had all contributed so generously. There were lots of different fundraising activities happening across the day – including some sponsored silences which were a challenge! Well done to the School Council, and to Ms McGill and the other staff who helped the children to be so successful. UNICEF will once again be extremely proud of Manor.

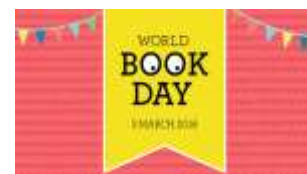
Just before half term we had a **festival assembly for Chinese New Year** which was led by Year 5. Well done to them for a very well presented assembly. They retold the story of how the names of the years were chosen using the Talk for Writing strategies that the staff learned about on the INSET day in January. It was extremely effective as I am sure those of you who attended will agree.



Thank you to all who attended **Parents' Evening** on Wednesday. It was a very busy one, and it was good to see so many of you here. I hope that you found both the report and the appointment useful. I know that lots of you had questions about the new assessment system – it is new for all of us and it will become easier to understand as you receive more information. I hope that you have a clear picture of where your child is, and what it is that they need to do to progress further. As ever, if you have any questions at all then please do come in and ask one of us.

A reminder that it is **World Book Day** next **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**. We are asking the children to come to school dressed up as a book character, and hope that they will be able to tell us about the character that they have chosen. Perhaps you can help them to think about this as you are deciding what to dress them up as. The staff are all busy planning their outfits as well!

As part of this we have organised for each class to attend a World Book Day event at either Stratford Theatre or Discover where they will get to listen to and meet a children's author. This is a fantastic opportunity that I am sure the children will really enjoy.



Some dates for this term and next term for your diaries:

**World Book Day** – 3<sup>rd</sup> March  
**Whole School Music Concert** – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March  
**POLLING DAY** – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May – **School closed**  
**Whole School Storytelling project** – 16<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> May  
**Science Fair** – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May  
**Open Futures Day** – Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June  
**Eid-UI-Fitr** – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July – **SCHOOL CLOSED**  
**Sports Days** – 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> July  
**International Food Fair** – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July  
**Parents' Evenings** – July 13<sup>th</sup> (4-6pm)



## ASSEMBLIES

**Easter (Christian)** – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March  
**Passover (Jewish)** – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April  
**Eid-UI-Fitr (Muslim)** – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July  
**Leavers' Assembly** – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

Have a lovely weekend.  
Kate McGee  
Headteacher