

Manor Primary School

Richardson Road
Stratford
E15 3BA

Tel: 020 8534 2238
E-mail: info@manor.newham.sch.uk

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(Letter 4)

Dear Parents / Carers

We have had a very busy final week of the half term, with lots going on!

We recently had a visit from **Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI)**. She was here following the inspection last year to check that the school was taking decisive steps to address the key issues that had been identified. She spent the day in school talking to staff and to children, as well as to governors and the Local Authority. She visited classrooms to look at the children's books, and looked at a variety of documents that set out the school's plans. It was a very positive day, and she was very happy with the progress that has been made in the last six months. She has written a short letter outlining her findings and this is available for you to read on the Ofsted website. There is a link to this from the school's website. I would like to thank all of the staff for their hard work over the last term and a half which has ensured that we are in a really positive position now.



Maths Problem Solving Day on Wednesday went very well. There were lots of very excited children solving maths problems all over the school! Each class took part in a maths treasure hunt which was a real challenge. They also had the opportunity to try out a wide range of very practical games and puzzles in small groups. In class they also spent time grappling with some very tricky problems. Ask your child about what they did, and see if they can explain to you how they solved various puzzles. Thanks to Ms van der Westhuizen for all her hard work in organising the day.

I hope that you enjoyed the **first edition of this year's Manor News** which came out this week. This is the first edition by the new Year 5 newsletter team. The children attend an after school club where they learn all the skills that they need to publish, and then spend a lot of time gathering the news, writing the articles, editing them and then publishing them. There is a lot to learn, and I think you will agree that their first edition was a success. Thank you to Ms Dempsey and the newsletter team



Don't forget that after half term we will be **selling poppies** in the reception to support and raise money for the Royal British Legion. We will be selling a wide range of poppy merchandise specifically designed for school children to help convey the message about this work. These will be on sale from Monday 2nd November. We will also be having a **Remembrance Day Assembly** led by Year 6 on Wednesday 11th November. It will begin at 10:30am which is unusual for our assemblies, but ties in with the 2 minute silence held at 11:00am. We hope to see lots of you there.

After half term all of the children will be working on the whole school art project for this year. Ms McGill has been busy planning and preparing for this. The focus will be the UNICEF Rights of the Child, and the artwork will be displayed in the corridor outside between the two playgrounds. Watch this space!



We have started to issue **pen licences** to the children who are able to prove that they are able to write consistently neatly and joining their letters accurately. So far we have awarded 6 pen licences. The children get a certificate, a badge to wear and a pen with their name on it. There is a lot of excitement about this.
Well done to Ameerat, Princess, Habiba, Alima, Hamail and Julia!

Some dates for this term for your diaries:

Half Term – Monday 26th – Friday 30th October

OPEN DAY – Wednesday 2nd December

School Council Fundraiser – Friday 27th November

Christmas Fair – Monday 14th December (3:00pm)

Parents' Evenings – March 24th (4-8pm); July 13th (4-6pm)

ASSEMBLIES

Remembrance Day – Wed 11th Nov

Guru Nanak (Sikh) – Wed 25th Nov

Christmas (Christian) – Wed 16th & Thu 17th Dec

Have a lovely half term. I look forward to seeing you all back bright and early on Monday 2nd November.

Kate McGee
Headteacher