

Manor Primary School

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18th November 2016
(Letter 5)

Dear Parents / Carers



You will have received today a letter explaining the **new behaviour system** that we are using now. We started this after half term, so the children have had two weeks to familiarise themselves with it, and they are really enjoying all the recognition for their positive behaviours. They have been collecting ticks galore, and this was evident in assembly this morning by the number of children who have already been awarded enough to qualify for a bronze award!

The real focus that we have had on **reading** and the new reading lessons this term are going really well, and the children are enjoying them. The children's reading is improving and their confidence is really growing. The children are using the library in a slightly different way now, and will not always be visiting the library each week. However they will still be able to borrow books from there, and the older children will be allowed to pop in to the library whenever they need to change books. We are also looking to get a lot more of the library books into the classes on a rotating basis so that the children will have even more choice of books in the class.



Parents' Evening is just around the corner – Wednesday 30th November. This is an opportunity to come in and have a look at your child's books to see what they have been doing, and the progress that they are making. It is an opportunity for you to ask your child's teacher any questions that you might have. All of the senior staff will be available if you have any questions or concerns that you might want to discuss. It will also be an opportunity for you to meet the new deputy, Ms Dunn and the new assistant heads, Mr Buckley and Mr Young, if you have not already done so. No appointments are necessary, just come in between 4pm and 6pm. I look forward to seeing you there.

As you will have noticed we have done a lot of work in the **playgrounds** to improve playtimes for the children. They are really enjoying having all the equipment out to play with, and the new table tennis table is proving a real hit! At lunchtimes now we have all of the teaching assistants outside with the children, and the children are really enjoying playing alongside them – it has made a really positive difference to the lunchtimes.



You will have noticed that we are aiming for a **much prompter start to the mornings** now. In order for the children's learning to start at 9am, we are bringing them into school a few minutes before the hour. This is having a really positive impact to the first session of the day, and every little helps! If your children are not in the line as they go in and come in through reception at exactly 9am then they will be marked as on time. However if they are coming through reception at any point after 9am they will be marked as late. It would be really helpful if the children could be in the line ready to come in at 8:55am. Thank you for your help in ensuring that we are able to make a prompt start to your child's learning.

We have five **new governors** who have joined our governing body very recently. They come with a wealth of experience – both of education and of being a governor. We are fortunate to be able to have recruited them, and I am really confident that they will help



Manor continue to move forward over the coming months. The new Chair of Governors is Bronwen Stuckey – she can be contacted through the reception if you wish to ask her anything. All of the governors will be visiting the school over the coming weeks, and once we have photographs organised these will be displayed for you to be able to refer to.

Some dates for this term and next for your diaries:

Christmas Fair – Friday 16th December (3:15pm)
History Day – Friday 6th January
World Religion Day – Monday 16th January
Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 7th February
Whole School Art Project – 20th Feb – 3rd March
World Book Day – Thursday 2nd March
Music Concert – Friday 17th March

Parents' Evenings – November 30th; March 22nd; July 5th

ASSEMBLIES

Christmas (Christian) – Mon 19th & Tues 20th Dec
Nirvana (Buddhist) – Wednesday 8th Feb
Purim Assembly (Jewish) – Wednesday 8th March
Easter Assembly (Christian) – Wednesday 29th March

Please see the school date cards or the website for further dates.



Thank you to all who supported the **British Legion's Poppy Appeal** over the past few weeks. We again managed to collect a good amount of donations and it was good to see that the children were able to explain why they were wearing a poppy. The Remembrance Day Assembly went very well, and the children were very respectful. It finished as always with the 2 minute silence.

A reminder of the new Manor Values....

COMMUNITY
DETERMINATION
EXCELLENCE
RESPONSIBILITY
RESPECT

Kate McGee
Headteacher