

Manor Primary School

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10th February 2017
(Letter 8)

Dear Parents / Carers



Another half term gone – we are now half way through the school year. The children (and staff!) have been working really hard, and this is evident in the good progress that they are making. There will be mid-year reports being sent out next month which will show this progress, and pinpoint what the children's targets are to ensure that they achieve well by the end of the year. **Parents' Evening** in March will be an opportunity for you to talk to the class teachers in more detail about this.

Very sadly we are saying **goodbye** today to Ms Clare Warry, who is leaving us to take up a new role in a school much closer to where she is now living. She has worked at Manor for seven years, and in that time she has had a huge impact on the children that she has worked with. I am sure that you will join me in thanking her for her hard work, and good luck for her new role which she starts after half term!



World Religion Day on the 16th January was a chance for all of the children to think about similarities between the different religions, and key messages that are important to all of us regardless of what we believe. Each year focused on a different aspect – respect and feelings; not judging people; beliefs around marriage; different religions working together. A group of Manor children also took part in an RE conference with other primary schools that was held at Brampton Manor School. You can read all about it in the Manor News just issued.

Once again, the children and staff at Manor took part in the world-wide **Safer Internet Day** – with this year's theme being **'Be the change: Unite for a better internet'**. Key stage 1 and 2 classes took part in a range of activities with the focus on digital images and posting them online. Lots of the apps and websites that we use today use photos and videos as a way of communicating so it is very important we understand our responsibilities as safe internet users. When sharing images or video clips online, it is important that we have the permission of all those in the image and that our private information is kept private (for example our school, home address and current location). It is easy to accidentally reveal information by posting a picture which could include a child wearing school uniform in an easily identifiable location. We strongly advise parents and carers to explore the apps and websites that their children are using so that you can fully understand the purpose and content of the apps and websites. New apps and their functionality can change rapidly- www.internetmatters.org is a website that provides information on the common apps used and notes any age restrictions for their use.



Should you have any concerns regarding online safety, please do contact Steve Buckley or Petra Collins where an appointment can be arranged to meet with you.



We continue to work to improve the facilities in the school. If you have not yet had a look at the **re-vamped EYFS playground**, then check it out. We have a new canopy which provides a sheltered area, and will enable the children to access the outdoors even when the weather is wet. There is also a wide range of new storage which is helping to make sure that the children can more easily organise their own play. The new mud kitchen is very exciting and the children are really enjoying playing in that area!

Over the half term holiday we will be having a **Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA)** installed in the West Playground. This will enable us to have the children playing a wider range of sports at lunchtime once they have a designated area.

We have also just appointed a new **Sports Coach** who will be starting after half term, and will be organising a range of activities before and after school, as well as working with the children in school time.



Some dates for this term and next for your diaries:

World Book Day – Thursday 2nd March
Music Concert – Friday 24th March (**CHANGE OF DATE**)
UNICEF: Day for Change – Friday 19th May
Science Week – 22nd – 24th May

Parents' Evenings – March 22nd; July 5th

ASSEMBLIES

Purim Assembly (Jewish) – Wednesday 8th March
Easter Assembly (Christian) – Wednesday 29th March
Vaisakhi Assembly (Sikh) – Wednesday 26th April

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



Now the weather is getting a lot colder please make sure that your child has suitable clothes for playtime & lunchtime – **a warm coat, scarf, gloves and hat**. Please also ensure that every item of your child's clothes is **clearly named**.

If your child is missing anything then please check out the Lost Property trolley in the bottom hall.

Kate McGee
Headteacher

Have a lovely half term, I hope that you have lots of fun planned with the children!
I look forward to seeing you all back in school on Monday 20th February at 9am.

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RESPONSIBILITY
RESPECT