

Manor Primary School

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8th January 2016
(Letter 9)

Dear Parents / Carers



Happy New Year! I hope that you all had a lovely holiday. The children (and staff!) certainly needed time to recharge their batteries after a very busy Autumn Term. It is good to have the children back in school, and they are already well settled into the new term. We have a lot of events planned for this term. Please keep an eye on my newsletters and the school website to make sure that you know what is coming up.

We have **two new teachers** joining us this term. Ms Dorith Morgan is the class teacher in Class 6 replacing Ms Skinner. Ms Lerlin Woodrow has replaced Ms Marcel as the class teacher in Class 8. They are working hard to get to know the children well and making sure that they are able to continue to make good progress this term. We welcome them to Manor, and wish them well as they start their new jobs.



Don't forget that we have an **INSET day** planned for January 22nd 2016. This day will be training for all the staff on 'Talk for Writing' which is a strategy that encourages children to rehearse their writing before actually doing it. It is something which will help us to help the children to improve the quality of their writing, and will hopefully then impact on the progress that they are able to make. By February half term the children should be able to describe to you the sorts of new things that they are doing in class to help them with their writing.

As you can see from the date box below **Parents' Evening** is just after half term on Wednesday 24th February. **Mid-year reports** will be coming out to you in that week giving you information about how your child is doing so far this year. You will need an appointment for Parents' Evening, and in a change to previous years we will be sending out information about doing this before half term and not with the reports themselves. That letter will be coming out to you in the week beginning 8th February. We are aiming to have all the appointments made before we break up for half term, so would ask that you reply to this letter promptly. Thank you for your help in this.



I am pleased to see that a number of children **cycle or scooter to school** in the mornings – and there are some very smart new ones after the Christmas holidays! A reminder that bikes and scooters cannot be ridden in the playground at all – there are too many people, both adults and smaller children for it to be safe. The children do know this and have been reminded of it. I have told the children that if anyone continues to do this then they will not be able to bring their bike or scooter in to school. If your child does ride to school can you please remind them of this too so that they are getting a consistent message from home and from school. Many thanks for your help in keeping the playground safer in the mornings.

Can I also remind you about the **food and drink that children are allowed to bring in to school**. We encourage all children to bring in bottles of plain water to have in the classroom to drink throughout the day. They should not bring anything else in to drink in class. No sweets are allowed in school at all – these will be taken away from them and given back to an adult at the end of the day. If the children bring a packed lunch we like it to be a healthy one – again no sweets, chocolate or biscuits. For educational visits the children should not bring anything other than their packed lunch and a bottle of water. Thank you.



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

INSET DAY – Friday 22nd January (school closed for children)

World Religion Day – Monday 25th January

UNICEF Day for Change – Friday 5th February

Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 9th February

World Book Days – 3rd & 4th March

Whole School Music Concert – Friday 18th March

History Days – 23rd & 24th March

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



ASSEMBLIES

Chinese New Year (Buddhist) – Wednesday 10th Feb

Easter (Christian) – Tuesday 22nd March

Have a lovely weekend.

Kate McGee
Headteacher