

10th November 2017
(Letter 5)

Dear Parents / Carers



The **school photographer** was in school on Wednesday and successfully took both the individual photos and sibling photos across the school. You will soon receive the sample photos and information about how to order any copies that you might want. Looking briefly at the photos taken – they were very good and really captured the children well!

For the last two weeks we have been doing our **Whole School Arts / English Project**. The theme of this is **Journeys**, and the children have been working hard at developing their own take on the theme. It is now being put together to create a Whole-School installation which I am expecting to look really impressive.



We marked **Remembrance Day** in school today with a one minute silence at 11:00am. The children have all had an assembly to explain again why this is an important thing to acknowledge, and the silence today was done in classes to enable the teachers to reinforce the important message of remembrance – it was nice to see how respectful the children were. Thank you to all who have supported the **British Legion's Poppy Appeal** over the last fortnight – they will be able to put all monies collected to very good use.

Next week is national **Anti-Bullying Week**. The theme for 2017 is **All Different, All Equal**. It is a good opportunity for us to talk to the children about how to recognise and deal with all different types of bullying, and to remind them of all of the systems that we have in school to deal with these on the rare occasions that it happens.

Ask your child about the Manor Anti-Bullying Charter that the School Council developed, and what they should do if they are bullied or are worried about a friend.

We will be launching a poster competition for the children to enter, and will be displaying the best ones around the school. There will be prizes for those that best convey the key messages. We will also be putting some of the best work on the school's Twitter feed.



Later this month we will be holding some **parents' sessions** for you. These will be focusing on phonics, reading and grammar. They are designed to help you to understand how we teach these aspects of English – probably very differently to when you (and I) were at school! The sessions will be an opportunity for you to ask questions and to find out how you can support your child at home.

They will be held on Wednesday 29th November – more information will come out closer to the time.

Some dates for this term for your diaries:

Anti-Bullying Week – 13th – 17th November

Christmas Fair – Friday 15th December (3:15pm)

World Religion Day – Monday 15th January

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) Week – 22nd – 26th January

World Book Day – Thursday 1st March

Music Concert & Comic Relief – Friday 23rd March

Parents' Evenings – March 7th; July 11th



ASSEMBLIES

Hanukkah (Jewish) – Wed 6th Dec

Christmas (Christian) – Tues 19th Dec

Nirvana Day (Buddhist) – Wed 7th February

Holi (Hindu) – Wed 7th March

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

Although it is only November, we are already planning ahead for the **Christmas festivities!** The children will be having their **Christmas lunch** with staff on Thursday 14th December; the **Christmas Fair** will be on Friday 15th December – we would love any help and/or donations that you are able to give us. It is usually an opportunity to raise a significant amount of money for the School Fund that we can then use to improve provision for the children – as well as being really good fun, and a nice way to end the Autumn Term.



We have two **Festival Assemblies** in this half term. The first is the **Hanukkah** assembly which will be led by Year 2, and then the **Christmas assemblies** (KS2, KS1 and EYFS) which all of the classes will be contributing to. Plans are already afoot for all of these assemblies – I hope to see lots of you at them as we know that the children really love a good audience!



A reminder as the weather seems to have now turned to make sure that children are coming in to school with warm coats, hats and gloves for playtimes and lunchtimes. Please ensure that they are all named as this will help locate them if they are lost!

We will be finishing for the Christmas holidays on **Wednesday 20th December at 1:30pm**.

Kate McGee
Headteacher