

12th January 2018
(Letter 8)

Dear Parents / Carers

Happy New Year! We have some new staff joining us this term. **Ms Hiral Patel** is joining us as a TA in Reception Heilman; **Ms Tina Rowe** will be providing additional support in Y2 Frink; **Ms Hanifa Maiyat** will be supporting children in Y3 and Y4; **Ms Aalliyah Dooley** as a PPA teacher working across KS1 and KS2. We welcome them to Manor and wish them good luck as they start their new jobs!



Some good news about our fundraising last term. The Christmas Fair raised £569.49, and the proceeds from the Christmas raffle and ticket sales was £375.20, giving a **grand total of £944.69!** Many thanks to all who helped with the organisation, and supported the events.

There are a lot of events planned for this term, some familiar ones, and others that are new for us.



We will be marking **World Religion Day** on Monday 15th January. This is an opportunity for the children to think about what their religion means to them, and to consider the similarities between each of the religions. Children are encouraged to talk to and listen to others about their own religion if they have one, and that of others'. In the world that we live in it is important that the children understand the basic tenets of all religions.

All of the children will be doing a lesson around this on Monday, which will build on the work that they do in RE lessons throughout the year.

We are having a **STEM Week** at the end of January – 22nd to 26th. This is focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths – a chance to raise the profile of these subjects, and to talk to the children about careers in these areas.



There are more **parent workshops** planned for this term. A Maths one on 24th January, and a Science one on 27th February. More details will be sent out nearer the time.

The national organisation, **Family First**, have started to produce a magazine written for families. It is full of articles about a very wide range of questions that we as families have, and I am sure that there will be some articles in there that are of interest to you.

Family First Magazine link: http://www.familyfirst.co.uk/ff_mag/

Family First Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/familyfirstuk>

The more parents who like & share our Facebook page the more chance that the school can win sports equipment!



The visit for KS2 classes from **the author Billy Bob Buttons** on Tuesday went very well – the children really enjoyed the session they had, and there were lots of people queuing for the book signing after school. We have bought some of the books for classes and the libraries as they seemed to be very popular.



Year 3 are currently **learning to swim** – we are fortunate to be able to use the amazing facilities at the Olympic Aquatics Centre. They are having a one hour lesson every day for two weeks which is a much better system than having a weekly swimming lesson over the term. It means that the children are able to make much better progress, and you can see this in the improvements that are made. Once they have completed their block **Year 4** will have two weeks' worth of lessons.

Some dates for this term for your diaries:

World Religion Day – Monday 15th January



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

World Book Day – Thursday 1st March

Music Concert & Comic Relief – Friday 23rd March

Parents' Evenings – March 7th; July 11th

ASSEMBLIES

Nirvana Day (Buddhist) – Wed 7th Feb

Holi (Hindu) – Wed 7th March

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

Have a lovely weekend!

Kate McGee
Headteacher