

19th October 2018  
(Letter 3)

Dear Parents / Carers

It has been a very busy half term – we have managed to pack in a huge amount to the last 6 weeks! The children are all well settled into their new classes, and really enjoying their learning. It is lovely to walk around the school and to see the excitement in the classes each day. The staff have all been busy planning for after half term, and November and December will be just as busy I am sure.



There have been lots of trips that have taken place this half term. This week Year 1 visited the **Science Museum**, and Year 3 visited the **Museum of London** and explored a Roman amphitheatre. Year 2's trip to **London Zoo** was postponed last week, and they will be going in the week after half term. Earlier in the month Year 4 visited the **Sea Life Centre** and Year 5 went to **Kew Gardens**. Right at the start of term Year 6 visited the **Ragged School Museum**.



These visits all help to bring to life the learning in the classroom, and to help the children deepen their understanding of what it is that they are learning about. Plus they are really enjoyable and a lot of fun!



We have had a series of workshops in school this week run by the **Metropolitan Police**. This is part of their work with children to help them keep themselves safe. They worked with Reception and Year 1 on **Trusted Adults**; with Year 2 on **Personal Safety**; with Year 3 on **Road Safety**; with Year 4 on Internet Safety; The Police will be working with Year 6 on both **Internet Safety** and on **Gangs and Peer Pressure** after half term. Year 5 will be going on a borough-wide trip to Tate & Lyle at the end of November to do a series of workshops run by the emergency services and other organisations that cover a wide range of safety issues. These sessions are really important, and really help us all to keep the children safe.



Some lovely news to share – Mrs Emily Smith had her baby last Friday, a baby girl who they have named Esme. They are both doing well, and Mrs Smith says that she is learning to sleep in short bursts! You will all know what that feels like I am sure! I am sure that you will want me to pass on your congratulations to her.

From November we will be offering **30 hours places** to children in the Nursery. We are fortunate at the moment to be able to accommodate this, and hope that it will offer an extra degree of flexibility to parents who are working, or who are wanting to return to work. We will be running it very flexibly, and hope that we will be able to suit the needs of anyone that is interested in this offer.

There is more information coming out to you about this today. If you would like to talk to us about it, or have any questions then please come into the office to ask. We look forward to this starting.



We have been offered an amazing opportunity to take part in a national singing event taking place next March at Wembley Arena – **Voice in a Million**. Children who are part of **the school choir** will be practising like mad, and then joining thousands and thousands of other children in school choirs to all sing together. The opportunity to sing somewhere like Wembley Arena really is a chance in a lifetime! We do still have some spaces and would love to have more children in the school choir. If you are interested in your child being part of this then please speak to Mrs Dunn who will sign them up. Don't miss out on this!

Thank you to all who contributed to the **Cake Sale** last Friday – either by baking or sending in some cakes or biscuits, or by buying some. We raised almost £120 which is great. I am sure that the Children's leadership Team will enjoy discussing how this might best be spent. We will let you know any decisions that they make.



Some sporting news for you!

The **Boys' Football Team** competed in a football tournament earlier this week and came up against some very stiff competition. They did well to reduce the number of goals they conceded, and drew one game and lost two. They are very keen to practice hard and do better next time. Their sportsmanship throughout the tournament was exemplary – Mr Archer was very impressed. Well done boys, you represented Manor really well!



KS1 children took part in a **Mini Olympics** recently, competing against 10 other schools. They did really well, and came in third which is fantastic! Well done to them.



We had the **school governors** in on Wednesday, and they spent the afternoon in classes with the children, and talking to the Children's Leadership Team. The governors were really impressed with what they saw, and wanted their thanks passed on to the staff, and a well done said to the children!

They saw a wide range of subjects being taught, and they took part in some of the lessons.

The **Children's leadership Team** grilled them, asking them all sorts of questions – about themselves and also about how they helped the school. They have lots of ideas that they will be taking to the governors for approval!



Those of you who came to Open Day may have seen or spoken to Paulette who runs the **Academy Achievers** programme. Sessions are run here at school each Saturday, and during the holidays. We are currently working with Paulette to extend some further opportunities into the school day.

Leaflets about Academy Achievers are available from the main reception, and you can speak to any of us to find out more information. The children who attend, talk very enthusiastically about what they do.

Some dates for this term for your diaries:

<b>ASSEMBLIES</b>	
<p><b>Half Term</b> – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October  <b>Anti-Bullying Week</b> – 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November  <b>Children in Need Fundraiser</b> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November  <b>OPEN DAY</b> – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November  <b>Food Festival</b> – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p><b>Parents' Evenings</b> – February 6<sup>th</sup>; July 10<sup>th</sup></p>	 <p><b>Christmas Assemblies</b> – 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 19<sup>th</sup> December</p> <div style="background-color: #d9534f; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid white; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>The Festival Assemblies this year will be led by the staff rather than the children.</p> </div> <div style="background-color: #f39c12; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid white; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>Please see the school website for further dates.</p> </div>

As the weather turns colder, please ensure that the children have warm and waterproof clothing in school with them!  
 Have a good half term holiday with the children.

Kate McGee  
 Headteacher

