



MANORSIDE  
ACADEMY

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to a very wet first week back! I hope you all had a wonderful break and spent time with family and friends. Hopefully, most of you have now met Miss Sutter, she is already getting to know the children and loving being here with us.

### **Coats and Uniform**

Now more than ever, please make sure that your child has a coat and that it is named, as you know we try and get the children outside as much as possible so they can get fresh air. The uniform is really improving, thank you all for your support. So many children have now learnt to tie their own ties, staff will always help them with their top button and ties if they need it. As a reminder, if your child wears a skirt (pinafore dresses are not permitted) then it is white socks or black tights, if they wear trousers or shorts it is black socks - and always school shoes. In a school with over 400 children in it, of course belongings go missing, we have lost property with lots of unnamed items, please help yourself to these if it is of help to you. If for any reason you are struggling, please come and talk to us.

### **Communication**

Thank you to all the parents that are coming to talk to us on the gates or at the end of the day. We find that we can sort any worries or concerns out straight away. I know for some parents that isn't always possible so please remember to email or phone in and tell us what the concern is so we can then investigate and come back to you. Please do be mindful that our phones and emails are not manned after the school has closed, but we do endeavour to contact you the following day.

### **Consideration to our neighbours and each other**

Once again, we had some very upset and frustrated neighbours because some of our parents parked across their driveways at the end of the day. Consequently, they missed their doctors' appointment. I cannot say strongly enough, do not park across our neighbours' driveway, they are in constant use and we all want to be able to live and work together and look after each other. BCP traffic enforcement have been contacted and will be supporting improvements.

A number of parents have alerted me to a minority of parents who have demonstrated aggressive and sometimes threatening behaviours on the roads, sometimes in front of our children. I know this is only a few parents but we cannot have this type of behaviour as it is dangerous, upsetting and not a good role model for our children. Please let's make it better, for our children.

### **Community Help Marketplace**

We are bringing together 12-15 groups who are able to offer free advice and support with the current difficulties that people are experiencing with the cost of living crisis. There will be free food and refreshments on the day. This will be held at St James Church and the Church Centre on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 11.00am – 3.00pm.

#### **Manorside Academy**

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Alexandra Prout, BA, Director of Primary Education, NLE

Sarah Beer, BA (Hons), Principal, SLE

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### Children in Need

We are supporting Children in Need this year by wearing spotty socks/tights to school on **Friday 18th November**. Normal uniform is to be worn or if it's your child's PE day then they are to wear their PE kit. If children wish to join in, we suggest a donation of 50p in return for wearing their spotty socks/tights. All money raised will be donated to the BBC's Children in Need event. You can now make donations via ParentPay.

### Flu Immunisations

These will be administered on Thursday 17th November. Please see attachments for information on how to book. You must complete the form to opt in or out.

### Mad4Animals Visit

On Thursday, Year 2 had Mad4animals in for their curriculum theme introduction. We met a hissing cockroach, two giant African snails, a corn snake, a tarantula and a python. All the children were very brave and stroked the python and corn snake. Mrs Cuff even held the tarantula!

We learnt lots of interesting facts, like how a snail has 4 brains, a corn snake can eat something three times its size and a cockroach has 2 heads. We'll be using this new knowledge in our English and Science work over the next few weeks. Please look on Twitter for some photos. If you have not yet contributed please do so via ParentPay.

### Phonics

We would like to invite parents of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children in to school for a phonics workshop on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 9:00am. This workshop will provide you with information regarding the Read Write Inc phonics scheme which we use in school. During the workshop, we will share with you what a phonics lesson looks like and how you can support your child to develop their phonics skills at home to support their reading and writing. We will be recording the workshop for parents who cannot attend this session. The workshop will be held in the hall, please arrive at the office at 9:00am.

### Reading

Reading is a skill we continue to develop throughout our lives, but starting this process as early as possible has significant benefits for our continued success as readers. This is why, as parents and carers, you play a vital role in supporting your child in becoming a fluent reader who is confidently able to apply their reading skills across all areas of their lives.

The teaching of reading and reading comprehension within the classroom is only part of a child's learning, and the value that is given to reading at home is equally important. Research suggests that children who read regularly outside of school perform significantly better in school assessments and so your support at home is essential in ensuring that your child makes the progress they are capable of. You can help your child to achieve their full potential by listening to them read daily (for about 15 minutes), reading regular bedtime stories and by encouraging them to enjoy reading and sharing books together. Reading widely through all of these approaches will help develop your child's vocabulary, which in turn will make them more confident when reading more challenging books.

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Giving your child a choice over what they read is an important factor in boosting their enthusiasm for reading and children are more likely to be interested in books they have selected for themselves. Your local library is an incredibly useful resource in providing regular reading material for your child and best of all – it's free!

To help us track how much reading your child is doing at home, it is important that you sign their planner every time you have listened to them read, along with title of book and pages. (At the upper end of Key Stage 2 when children are more likely to be reading with confidence and fluency, they should be keeping their own daily records, which should be signed by parents/carers at least once a week.) Your support with reading at home is essential and only by working together can we ensure your child achieves their potential as a reader. If you require any further guidance regarding reading, please ask your child's class teacher.

### High Achievers of the week

1AG – Tahiyah, 1KH – Isabel & Leighton, 2KK - Frankie, 2BC – Dalia, 3MW – Rosalie, 3AP – Alessia, 4LF – Blake, 4MP – Brian, 5RS – Max, 5ZF – Dan, 6LW – Harry, 6RC – Paige, RJC - Carter, RMH – Dolly-Mea.

Best Wishes

Mrs Prout  
Acting Head

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