

MANOR PRIMARY ACADEMY

Spring Term Newsletter



Issue 2 'Lighting the Fires of our Future' Friday 20th January 2023.

Staff and Volunteers make the world go round

You will all be aware of the fact that we have taken on a new scheme for teaching phonics and early reading called Little Wandle. This is a big change to the way we work but has been a huge success so far. That



success has been down to the hard work of staff and volunteers who have moved heaven and earth to make sure the resources are organised and everyone knows what they are doing through completing many hours of training. As leaders we had thought it might take until half term to have everything fully in place, but we had underestimated the enthusiasm and hard work of the Manor team. A special mention has to go to Katie Cowell, our breakfast club/after school club/Lunchtime supervisor, who has pretty much lived at school between her paid hours, volunteering to set up the new resources along with other parent volunteers. This has meant teaching staff are able to take a pack from the box with their reading group's books, flash cards, prompt sheets etc already there meaning there is no wasted time and everything works slickly like a well-oiled machine.

Thank you to those parents who were able to join us for Mrs Armstrong's parent workshops. If you want to know more about Little Wandle there is a '[Little Wandle for Parents](#)' section of their website.

Dates for Your Diary

January	
23 rd	Chinese New Year themed menu for lunch
24 th	Swans to library bus
26 th	Sports hall athletics team to Rawlett
February	
1 st	EYFS and KS1 Grandparents' lunches Teachers' strike day (NEU members)
w/c 6 th	Teacher/Parent consultation meetings
7 th	Safer Internet Day Penguins to library bus
8 th	Grandparents' lunches for KS2
16 th	Owls class wedding in church (RE lesson)
17 th	Pm – paint rocks for a 'Kindness is Cool' garden (School council campaign). Treat for house points. Break up for half term
27 th	Children return to school
March	
1 st	Teachers' strike day (NEU members)
2 nd	Fairy tale themed lunch for World Book Day
3 rd	Tennis coaching for Owls and Penguins to start each Friday this half term
7 th	World Book Day – Traditional Tales dressing up. Owls to library bus

Curriculum Coverage over the Next Two Weeks

Swans	
Reading	Reading lessons will now all be using our new Little Wandle reading scheme style with small groups focusing on a new text weekly.
Writing	Writing our own journey stories based on 'The Train Ride' by June Crebbin. Spellings will be: Y1 /oa/ /igh/ /ai/ and /ee/ alternative graphemes Y2 The sound /s/ spelt 'c' before e,i and y
Maths	Exploring what length and height is and how to accurately measure.
Owls	
Reading	retrieving information from a short text
Writing	planning, writing and editing a piece of writing based around "The incredible Book Eating Boy"
Maths	dividing 2 digit by 1 digit numbers with year 4's moving onto 3 digit by 1 digit division.

Wrap Around Care



Before and after school care is available as usual for all children who are in school. Contact the school office to book a place.

Contact us

Simon Robson
Headteacher
e-mail:

headteacher@manor.fierte.org

Manor Primary School

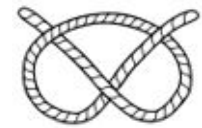
Drayton Lane, Drayton Bassett,

Tamworth, B78 3TX

office@manor.fierte.org

Tel - 01827 213820

<http://www.manor.staffs.sch.uk/>



The Olympic Journey starts for Robins



More requests for Robins for the newsletter! We're looking at winter Olympic sports this week. We'd like to **borrow a few skateboards** to re-enact the luge. The children will be sitting on them, not standing - with helmets on like real lugers, obviously! Look out for Robins in the future Winter Olympics.

Computing



Last week Tony Hand, Fierté Vice CEO, spent a morning, alongside Mr Robson, monitoring our computing curriculum. This involved talking to our computing leader, teachers and children and observing lessons. The findings were very positive with a few suggestions of ways we might look to improve our computing offer. An interesting and useful morning.



World Book Day



On Tuesday March 7th we will be celebrating World Book Day. The theme will be Traditional Tales or Fairy Tales. We will

be asking children to dress up for the day as a character/object from a Traditional Tale. The possibilities are endless with characters such as Big Bad Wolves, Little Pigs, Snow White, a dwarf, Hansel and Gretel, bean stalks, Jack, the Goose laying golden eggs, Giants, Chicken Licken, Puss in Boots, Goldilocks, one of the three bears, a bowl of porridge, Little Red Riding Hood, The woodcutter, The Gingerbread Man, an Ogre, a Billy Goat Gruff, the Pied Piper, an elf, a shoemaker, an ugly duckling... Please don't spend money (unless you want to). A few searches online should help and it can be as simple or imaginative as you like. Any concerns, please do have a chat with school staff who will try to help.

Penguins

SATS Study Club for Year 6 is going well. Children have been set some revision work to be completed before the next session.

Reading	The Journal of Illona a Roman Slave - we will work on our fluency, prosody and comprehension skills and use retrieval and inference to answer questions about what we have read.
Writing	Finish our 'Transmission from Mars' where children will plan and write their own 'transmission' from another planet in the solar system. We will then begin our new unit where we will learn how to write a newspaper report based on a historical event.
Maths	Year 5 Maths - rounding, ordering and solving problem with decimals Year 6 Maths - Ratio and Proportion.

Attendance Improving!

Attendance since the pandemic has become a national issue in schools. Here at Manor we have also been well below our pre-pandemic levels. The government has been taking steps to address this, as have Fierté Trust, and we have a new policy awaiting approval from governors that matches these raised expectations. Before Christmas we had lots of absence due to illness but more recently we have had excellent attendance since the New Year. While we are still below our own high standards we are still doing better than most schools nationally and we have been awarded the certificate below to celebrate this. FFT have over 10,000 schools whose attendance data they have compiled and we have come out in the top 25%. They do a certificate for the top 10% too so it would be great if we could aim for that one next time!



Names in Uniform

We have a large build up of lost property in school. The first thing we do is to check for names and return it to the owner. The large sack of lost property has no names in. Please can you have a fresh go at naming everything children bring to school. Old names and labels do fade or fall off. Just reapply with a permanent marker or new label please. We will soon be laying out the lost property for parents to look through on a dry day after school then we will let parents take unclaimed and unnamed clothing that they need from the pile. Thank you.

And...

Robins would also like to request any clean, small **plastic drinks bottles**, preferably with labels removed so they can make snow globes next week.

And...

Robins would like any clean **takeaway food containers** with lids on (preferably after going through the dishwasher!).

And... Oh no, that's it from Mr Forman!

Teacher Strike Action

You should by now have heard about the teacher strike action due to a dispute between teaching unions and the government which is due to take place on 1st Feb, 1st March and 15th/16th March. As mentioned in the message earlier this week, we will be likely to have a small number of teachers who are members of the NEU out on strike on those days but we hope to be able to cover those classes with other staff in school so there is unlikely to be any closure of any classes. We will be finalising arrangements next week and will let you know more detail where relevant.



A message from Fierté CEO, Maria Hamblin:

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are well and enjoying 2023 thus far.

You may recollect that I shared a communication with you in Autumn 2022 reminding all parents about the importance of respectful partnerships between school and home. The relationships between parents and staff in school cements our shared ambitions to ensure that we all work together in the best interests of our children. Any negative or unacceptable behaviour fractures this important bond and must therefore be addressed because it is unacceptable.

The majority of parents show a genuine appreciation of staff and their hard work, and I know that **all staff** value this and appreciate the positive reinforcement from parents that their role is a pivotal one in supporting children to reach their full potential. If parents have concerns or questions that they wish to raise, **we welcome this** as long as it follows the appropriate protocol and expectations of conduct.

Leaders and staff are working hard during some very unpredictable and challenging times. There has never been a more important time to ensure that we all pull together so that our children can succeed. Your help in this matter, through supportive and respectful interactions with staff can make all the difference and stop unnecessary distractions from what our staff are here to do; teach children and give them the best life chances.

Kindest regards always,

Maria Hamblin (CEO)

Star of the week

Well done to the following children who have been awarded Star of the Week for this week's value and for excellent work:

Manors - We are polite and respectful!



Lottie

Bella Rose

Jovan

Elliott

Fran

Myla

Jude

Josh B

Imogen

Amber

Zachary

Arabella

We are MANOR

