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Dear Parents

Welcome back to what is already proving to be a very busy term!!

As usual, I request that you look at the dates on our weekly newsletter to keep abreast of up and coming events - the bold dates being additions - as well as looking at the newsletter and on class doors!! We use a range of forums to keep you informed of all the exciting events happening and as the school is such a hive of activity, with many added extras it is imperative that you watch out for notices.

Website

I am pleased to let you know that the new website should be up and running by next week. Please be aware there may be some teething problems and I welcome constructive and helpful feedback via the parent email route. parent@manorfields.herts.sch.uk

Staffing

It is with regret that I have to inform you that Mrs Maclaren, a newly appointed teacher has resigned due to an ongoing health issue. We were lucky to have Mrs Mather and Mrs Macallister covering the class during her period of absence and I can happily inform you that they will continue to teach the reception class ensuring continuation and stability for the children.

I am also pleased to inform you of our happy news - Mrs Watchorn and Mrs Kerslake are both pregnant! Mrs Watchorn will be starting her maternity leave after the Whitsun break and Mrs Mann, our SENCo, is covering her absence. Mrs Kerslake will continue teaching for the rest of the term.

Reports

I hope that you found your child's report informative and timely. It was decided to write these in the second term so that your child's next step target could be addressed in partnership by the school and yourselves, and not lost over the summer holiday. I hope that you will be able to attend tomorrow's open morning so that you can look through your child's books with them. At the end of term there will be a summary sheet of year end achievement and a parent consultation will also be offered in the week beginning Monday 4th July. Dates and times to be confirmed.

School improvement plan - 'The single plan"

This plan was written and based on the outstanding actions from the previous Ofsted inspection, and in consultation with children, parents (vision evening and requests), staff, Governors, county advisors and as a result of monitoring within the first half term. The plan is divided into 5 sections:

-standards and achievements, learning, teaching and assessment, leadership and management, behaviour and safety and school buildings and grounds. The plan has a three year overview for all these areas and then a very detailed annual section with very specific objectives, actions, success indicators and milestones. This plan is fundamental to school improvement and informs subject action plans, monitoring focus as well as training needs and budgetary considerations. The senior leadership team monitor the actions and impact regular and the Governing body, in working parties linked to the 5 sections, regularly assess the leadership's actions and impact, reviewing a range of evidence.

Actions and impact to date!

These last couple of terms have passed so quickly but I feel it is important to reflect on some of our key actions, outcomes and successes to date.

- Introduction of playtime toys happier children and fewer accidents/friendship issues
- Pupil choice for lunchtime meal less waste and more independence
- Reorganised seating at lunchtimes friends able to sit together and are much happier
- Sports apprentices supporting games at play/lunchtimes as well as PE lessons and sports events. Pupils have represented Manor Fields at cross country, hockey, football and gymnastics to name a few.
- All support staff have received first aid training and safeguarding training everyone is better equipped to keep all children safe and respond to medical issues
- Staff training (opportunities to improve pedagogy have included guided reading, guided group work, improving standards in writing, making all objectives smart and ensuring subject action plans are informed by the school's single improvement plan) -the proportion of good and outstanding teaching is continuing to improve
- Governance specific working parties formed to monitor the schools improvement plan Governance is even more cohesive, effective and strategic.

Polite request

Please could all uniforms be named as the summer months and warmer days will inevitably result in abandoned jumpers on the field!! Our lost property box is regularly filled with un-named and unclaimed items – which have included coats, trainers, water bottles and glasses!

Class assemblies

Parents in Nursery, Reception, Y4 have already had the opportunity to see their child's class engaged in presenting a performance or show and tell event. There will be further opportunities this term for other classes to hold their informal 'show and tell' assembly, where you will be invited in to see what your child has been learning. Look out for the finalised dates in the coming weeks.

Save the date.

9/6/16 – summer music concert 22/6/16 – EYFS sports day 23/6/16 – KS1/2 sports day (reserve 30/6/16) 8/7/16 – Family fun and BBQ – MFSA 14/7/16 – Move up day 19/7/16 – Y6 production

Thank you

May I extend a huge thanks to all those parents who have helped to improve the school premises by painting, litter picking, mending the roof and clearing the garden area. Your hard work and commitment is much appreciated.

I look forward to seeing you at one of the many up and coming events this term.

Ms Jarman







