

Dear Parent/Carer

Well, it's been quite a year! It started with an unexpected visit from Ofsted, which was followed by 2 HMI visits, a Herts for Learning Leadership Review and fortnightly meetings with our Herts Improvement Partner. The outcome of all these visits is that the school has made good progress against the issues raised, and we would like to thank the staff for their hard work and good will under constant scrutiny.

We have had the pleasure of working with three wonderful interim head teachers over the year, and we wish Ms Mathie every success in her new post as substantive Headteacher of a school in Letchworth. We were delighted to appoint Ms Jarmin to the role of Headteacher of Manor Fields from September, and we look forward to supporting her and her team as they lead the school forward. Ms Jarmin has visited school on many occasions this term and I know that she is really looking forward to joining us.

We are saying goodbye to some old friends this summer:

Sylvia McCarthy, who has not only kept the school IT in good shape for many years, but has also recently undertaken the role of Facilities Manager and done a wonderful job.

Debbie Rawding, who as well as being a super TA and Forest School Leader, has also been staff governor this year and made a really valuable contribution to the governing body.

Emily Cheer, Reception Teacher who is moving on to new challenges at another local primary school.

Linda Ranger, music and modern languages leader, who has decided to take early retirement, after many years at Manor Fields. Linda's contribution to the life of the school has been tremendous, but we are fortunate to have an extremely musical staff who have been equipped by Linda to take on the mantle and ensure that our children continue to have opportunities to enjoy a rich musical curriculum. With this in mind, we wonder whether there are any musical parents with time available to offer help with extra-curricular clubs, either at lunchtimes or after school? If you think you may be able to support the school in this way please speak to Mrs Watchorn.

We thank these four, and those others whose temporary contracts have come to an end, and wish them well for their future plans.

We also wish to thank the PTA for another wonderful year of fundraising on behalf of the children. There have been 3 major events this year: The Christmas Fair, The Summer Fete and the Summer Ball, each of which was a tremendous success, and the magnificent sum of £16000 has been raised.

Thank you to those of you who completed the parent survey this term, the results of which were encouraging, and were reflected in the pupil survey which was carried out in school. It is good to know that your children feel happy and safe at Manor Fields and enjoy their learning. Thank you also to those of you who made comments, particularly with regard to communication - these will be passed on to Ms Jarmin, along with the children's suggestions.

It only remains for me to thank you for your support over this past year, and to wish you and your families a refreshing and fun filled summer break.

With best wishes

Ali Mansfield

On behalf of the Governors of Manor Fields School