



MANOR FIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Penningtons

Bishop's Stortford

Hertfordshire

CM23 4LE

admin@manorfields.herts.sch.uk

www.manorfields.herts.sch.uk

01279 757193

Ms Tina Jarman
Head Teacher

Dear Parents

Welcome

It is with pleasure I extend a warm welcome to all the children, staff and parents at the start of my second year in post. It was lovely to see so many of you on the playground this morning – despite the weather!! Mrs Smith and I shall be trying to ‘meet and greet’ you on a more regular basis, so please do feel free to approach us and introduce yourself.

We had a lovely assembly this morning about some of the exciting changes that have happened in school over the summer holidays. You may have noticed the new playground surface, and co-ordinating the design of the playground markings will be the first project of our school council which will be elected by the end of this week. We also have new class names which reflect our focus this year on developing scientific enquiry skills across the school.

Another key priority will be the development of our behaviour policy to promote and reward ‘active learning’. Electronic recording of all rewards and sanctions will enable us to introduce a merit scheme that will recognise individual effort and achievement and we will be holding a parent workshop later this month to share more details with you.

This focus on ‘active learning’ will also mean that we will be making good use of our wonderful grounds this year, ensuring that we promote them as a valuable learning environment. All classes will be using Forest School regularly so children will be asked to bring in a suitably scruffy set of clothes/ footwear so they can fully enjoy the experience without worrying about damaging their shiny new uniforms!

With uniform in mind I have to note how wonderful our school community looked this morning. All the children (and staff!) looked so rested and smart and our collective challenge is to keep them looking that wonderful for the rest of the school year.

As always though, exciting changes are often tinged with a little sadness and this year is no exception. Caroline, our caretaker at Manor Fields for the last 16 years, has decided to pursue a new role in the Care sector. While she will continue to work at the school for an hour a day – we feel that it would be appropriate to mark her long period of service with a celebration at school in the next few weeks and I know that many of you would like to add your thanks to ours. Please do let us know if you would like to make a contribution towards her collection.

Single plan : to move the school to good and outstanding.

Thank you for all your feedback in the summer term in response to ‘What works well... even better if..’. Your opinions and ideas have helped inform our improvement plan for this academic year

including some of the projects I have already mentioned. Working in partnership is key to our school's future success and there will continue to be a wide range of opportunities for working collaboratively through workshops, working parties and questionnaires.

Meet the Teachers sessions.

Dates/times for you to meet your child's new teacher are detailed in today's school newsletter. For those parents who are unable to attend, we will be filming the sessions and uploading onto our website.

Help your child with.... Workshops

Built on the success of the workshops held last year, we shall be hosting more on the following topics over the year. Finalised dates will be confirmed in the weekly newsletter, and, wherever possible, the sessions will be filmed and uploaded onto the website.

Cursive handwriting	Thursday 22nd September 6:30 – 7:00pm	See the new handwriting guidelines in practise
Behaviour	Thursday 22 nd September 7:00 – 8:00pm	A chance to find out more about our updated Behaviour Policy – including details about electronic recording of sanctions and rewards and the new individual merit system.
Maths – a series of topic based workshops	Autumn Term	Topic based sessions on: calculation methods, developing pupil reasoning and problem solving.
Phonics & Early reading	Autumn Term	An introduction to phonics and the development of early reading.
E-Safety	Spring Term	Parental information evening with 'Child Net'

Communication

Here is a reminder of methods for communication:-

Purpose	Method	Any other info
To advise class teachers/school leaders of any academic /personal/social/SEND information or concerns.	parent@manorfields.herts.sch.uk	
To discuss academic /personal/social information or concerns in more detail	Meet and greet at the classroom door Teacher meeting	Teacher have limited time on the door in the mornings. Please make afterschool appointments if a longer meeting is required.
Advise of URGENT changes to collection etc	Phone messages – school number 01279 757193	Any non-urgent changes to be shared with teacher at the start of the day.

Sickness or absence	Absence@manorfields.herts.sch.uk 01279 757193 – option 1	For appointments that are not first thing, children must attend school. <i>If a child is absent for morning registration but will be returning for lunch the office must know the meal choice before 9am.</i>
Dinner queries. Wise Pay.	finance@manorfields.herts.sch.uk 01279 757193 – option 2	
Dates / updates / news General current information Celebrations of learning and achievement	Website Weekly newsletter Head's Termly newsletter Governors newsletter	

Charity Choices

Fundraising is an important element of our PSHE curriculum. While we will be supporting national events such as Macmillan Coffee Morning, Peace One Day, and Red Nose Day - other events such as Harvest or Christmas collections give us an opportunity to support other charity and community organisations which are possibly more local. If you are involved with a local organisation which you would like to nominate for our support, please do let me know.

Key dates for your diary;

Please check the weekly newsletter regularly as extra dates and events will be included when the timings have been discussed and confirmed.

Friday 9 th September	School council results in assembly
Friday 16 th September	Termly Class Curriculum Newsletters out
Wednesday 21st September	Peace One Day theme day
26 th -30 th September	Year 6 to Kingswood
30 th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning in dining room 9:00 – 10:00am
Friday 14 th October	a.m Harvest Celebrations in school and Open Morning Flu Immunisation Programme – Year 1,2,and 3
Thursday 20 th October	School Individual Photographs Parent Consultations 2-8 pm
21st October	INSET
	Half Term
Monday	Diwali Day
7-11 th November	Anti-bullying and E-Safety Week
8 th November	NSPCC Assemblies KS2 9:00 – 9:30am and KS1 9:40 – 9:55am
Tuesday 22nd November	NSPCC follow-up workshops in Year 5 and 6

Monday 28 th November	Art and Crafts Week
Friday 2 nd December	Christmas Craft and Decoration Day
Monday 12 th December	Reception Dress Rehearsal to KS1 and siblings/ grandparents
Tuesday 13 th	KS1 dress rehearsal to KS2, siblings/ grandparents
Wednesday 14 th	AM EYFS show to parents PM KS1 show to parents
Thursday 15 th	AM EYFS show to parents PM KS1 show to parents
Friday 16 th	KS2 to panto am Nursery pm mini Christmas sing along with parents in class
Monday 19 th	Christmas Dinner
Tuesday 20 th	Christmas Dinner Carols Round the Tree 6:30pm
Wednesday 21 st December	Term ends 1:30pm
	Christmas Holiday
Wednesday 5 th January	Return to school
Monday 30 th January	Year 6 Young Voices – one evening this week, awaiting confirmation.
Monday 6 th February	Book Week
Tuesday 7 th February	NSPCC sponsored read assembly 9:05 – 9:20am Safer Internet Day
Friday 10 th February	INSET DAY
	HALF TERM
Friday 3 rd March	NSPCC sponsored read finishes – forms back in
Monday 6 th March	Science theme week 1
Wednesday 8 th March	NSPCC collect sponsor forms (10am)
Friday 10 th March	NSPCC in assembly for announcement of fundraising total/ special prizes
Monday 13 th March	Science theme week 2
Friday 21 st March	Red Nose Day
Friday 31 st March	Term Ends 1:30pm
Tuesday 18 th April	Term begins
Monday 1 st May	Bank Holiday
Monday 8 th May	KS2 SATS
Thursday 18 th May	Class photos

Monday 22 nd May	Outdoor Learning Week
	HALF TERM
Monday 5 th June	INSET
Monday 12 th June	Phonics Check Year 1 (Re-check Year 2)
Friday 16 th June	Transition to new class - sessions start
Monday 10 th July	Year 4 to Burwell
Thursday 13 th July	Move Up Day
Friday 21 st July	Term ends 1:30pm
Monday 24 th July	Occasional Day

I hope this letter gives you a good flavour of our priorities this year. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible either at the events outlined or as we pass on the school playground.

Yours sincerely

Ms Jarman