

NEWSLETTER



26 September 2025

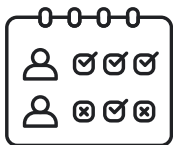
Headteacher's Message

It was truly a pleasure to see so many families engage in our afternoon Book Buzz sessions in the classrooms, where we shared our story time experiences together. Thank you for taking the time to join us!

I recently met with our newly appointed School Council representatives, who returned with ideas for new playground markings for their classes to vote on their favorite designs. We are currently awaiting some quotes, but we hope to have the new markings completed during the half-term break.

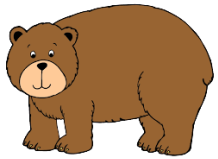
On Tuesday, I was joined by another Headteacher from the Four Cs Trust for a learning walk in our school, focusing on behaviour and attitudes. We were incredibly impressed by how well the children concentrated and the positive relationships they are forming with their classroom adults. I would like to give special recognition to our new Reception children, who, after only two full weeks in school, are already demonstrating excellent behaviours and mastering their routines, what true superstars!

EMarks



Class Attendance

The class with this week's highest attendance is:



Bears Class
90.87%



Emus Class
95.40%



Raccoons Class
95.90%



Penguins Class
99.21%



Elephants Class
91.80%



Yaks Class
100%



Geckos Class
95.22%



Roadrunners Class
99.20%



Macaws Class
94.10%



Hummingbirds Class
98.09%

Stars of the Week

Reception

- Sienna Leggett
- Freddie Ward

Key Stage One

- Daniella Akinmade
- Ollie Brown
- Krisitan Kairiss

Lower Key Stage Two

- Isabelle Burns
- Martha Talbot
- Amirah Liasu

Upper Key Stage Two

- Ingrid Raducanu



Dates for your Diary



School Events

Year Five Bikeability
Wednesday 1st October
(all day)

Harvest Food Bank Collection
Wednesday 2nd October
(deadline for contributions)

Reception Stay and Play
Wednesday 22nd October
2.10 - 3.10pm
(parents invited)

Parents Consultation Evenings
Monday 20th October
Wednesday 22nd October
3.30 - 6.30pm
Please book via MCAS

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2025

School Opens
Wednesday 3rd September

Half Term Break
27th October - 31st October

End of Autumn Term
Friday 19th December



Enriching Curriculum

Nursery Team

This week our focus in Nursery has moved onto "All About Me". The children have enjoyed learning more about themselves and what makes them unique, prompting wonderful discussions about their families and creating beautiful artwork of family members and pets. We also practised important social skills such as listening to our peers, taking turns and showing kindness. Through our classroom daily routines of identifying our registration names with pictures, dancing and singing our welcome songs, choosing activities from our Continuous Provision, and our range of creative activities, the children celebrate their individuality while also learning how special it is to be part of a classroom community. All of these are helping the children to build confidence and encourage friendships.

Reception Team

The children have been learning all about each other's families. We have painted pictures, spoke about who is in our family and been making our houses in the creative area. In Maths, we have been focusing on numbers within 3. Every child has been amazing at learning their sounds in Phonics and using these to build and write simple words. We are so impressed with how every child has settled into Reception and how hard they have all been trying with their new learning!

Key Stage One Team

In PSHRE, the children have been looking at all the different groups they belong to and identifying the different groups within our community. This has linked nicely into our History, where we have been thinking about what shops are in our local community and the importance of different shops including butchers, bakeries and garages. In computing the children have continued practising their skills of using the mouse through a variety of different apps. In Writing, the children have been retelling the stories of their writing focus book. Year One have been focusing on ensuring it is in the correct order to make sense and Year Two have been changing characters and create their own narratives.

Lower Key Stage Two Team

We are continuing our exploration of the Romans, making connections through the timeline and comparing Roman soldiers with the Celts. In RE, we have been delving into the diverse world of religion and exploring the idea of tolerance, respecting and accepting people with different beliefs and backgrounds. In English, the children have been studying 'The Undefeated' by Kwame Alexander, reflecting on powerful words such as undefeated, unflappable, unforgettable, undeniable and unspeakable. These discussions have sparked thoughtful reflections on resilience, justice, and equality, showing how literature can give a voice to history.

Upper Key Stage Two Team

In outdoor PE, we enjoyed our rugby sessions, focusing on our passing skills, the children are really improving! Now that we have learnt all about Philippe Petit and his daring tightrope walk, we've been writing biographies of this inspiring man. In Reading, we've reached a really exciting part of 'The Good Thieves', and the suspense is palpable as we can't wait to find out what happens next! To top it all off, we had a fantastic Book Buzz session where the children enthusiastically shared this tale with their parents and carers.



Every Child A Reader

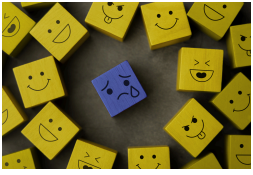
Regular reading at home is one of the most powerful ways to support a child's learning and development.

Just a few minutes each day helps to build vocabulary, improve comprehension, and strengthen concentration, while also fostering a lifelong love of stories and knowledge.

Reading together creates special shared moments that boost confidence, spark imagination, and encourage children to see books as a source of enjoyment as well as learning.

Topics you could use to support daily reading with your child:

- Talk about the story's characters, setting, and events.
- Predict what might happen next.
- Discuss new or tricky words and their meanings.
- Connect the story to real-life experiences.
- Encourage your child to retell the story in their own words.



The Importance of Anti-Bullying at Manor Drive Primary Academy

At primary age, children are still learning how to build friendships, manage emotions, and show respect towards others. These early years play a vital role in shaping how children treat people as they grow.

That's why anti-bullying education is so important in primary school, it helps children understand the value of kindness, empathy, and respect.

Bullying, even in small forms, can have a lasting impact on a child's confidence and wellbeing.

By working together, school, parents, and children, we can create a safe, supportive environment where every child feels valued.

What We Do at School?

At Manor Drive Primary Academy, we actively promote positive relationships and respectful interactions through:

- PSHE lessons – Children explore themes such as friendship, kindness, celebrating differences, and managing conflict in age-appropriate ways.
- Assemblies – We regularly focus on respect, empathy, and our school values, sharing real-life stories and examples of how to support one another.
- School values – Our values underpin all that we do, reminding children to treat others as they would like to be treated.
- Celebrating kindness – We recognise and celebrate children who demonstrate respectful and caring behaviour towards others.
- Restorative conversations – When disagreements or unkind behaviour occur, staff take time to talk with children, helping them understand the impact of their actions and how to put things right.
- Zero tolerance approach – We take bullying very seriously. Any incidents are dealt with promptly, ensuring children feel safe, supported, and listened to.

How Parents and Carers Can Support at Home?

- Model kindness and respect – Children learn from what they see. Use positive, respectful language at home and when interacting with school staff and other parents on school site.
- Talk about feelings – Encourage children to share how they feel and listen carefully when they do.
- Discuss differences – Help children understand that everyone is unique and deserves to be treated fairly.
- Encourage speaking up – Let your child know it's always right to tell an adult if something feels unkind or unfair.
- Celebrate positive behaviour – Praise acts of kindness and highlight when your child shows empathy towards others.
- Arrange an appropriate time to talk to your class teacher if your child is experiencing any issues with their peers or friendships.

Together, we can help children grow into confident, caring individuals who understand the power of treating others with respect.