



Weekly

# NEWSLETTER



17 April 2026

## Headteacher's Message: Mrs Marks

As we begin the Summer Term at Manor Drive Primary Academy, it has been wonderful to see the school filled with energy, curiosity and enthusiasm once again. Children across Key Stage Two enjoyed an inspiring visit from musicians who led an interactive Conductive Music workshop, giving pupils the chance to explore technology through creative composition. Our assemblies this week have focused on Responsibility, one of the key values in our Learning Toolkit, and it has been lovely to see children reflecting on how they can show this both in school and at home. We were also delighted to welcome so many families from Yaks Class for their special class assembly. A huge thank you to Miss Young, Miss Mason and the team for creating such a thoughtful and joyful celebration of the children's learning. Looking ahead, our wide range of after-school enrichment clubs begin next week, and we hope the children thoroughly enjoy the exciting opportunities on offer.

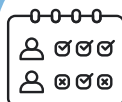


## Spring Bonnet Winning Entries

- Alexander Manley
- Sebastian Zagorney
- Ayomiposi Omoniyi
- Ingrid Raducanu



## Class Attendance



The class with this week's highest attendance is:



**Bears Class**  
96.67%



**Emus Class**  
97.16%



**Raccoons Class**  
99.49%



**Penguins Class**  
96.08%



**Elephants Class**  
95.63%



**Yaks Class**  
96.95%



**Geckos Class**  
98.10%



**Roadrunners Class**  
95.24%



**Macaws Class**  
93.84%



**Hummingbirds Class**  
95.26%



## Star of the Week



### Reception

### Key Stage One

### Lower Key Stage Two

### Upper Key Stage Two

Sienna Leggett

Kacper Ziolkowski

Louie Harrold

Antoni Moroz

Violet-Mae Murray Quinton

Jamie Coyne

Damilare Adelani

ElsieLee Agyei

Diana Grabovska

Savannah Cockburn



Work Hard. Be Kind. Be Brave



# Dates for your Diary



## School Events

**Penguins Class Assembly**  
Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April  
2.30pm  
(Parents invited)

**KS1**  
**Hunstanton Sea Life Centre**  
**Educational Visit**  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May

**Hummingbirds Class Assembly**  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May  
2.30pm  
(Parents invited)

## Term Dates

**Summer One Term**

**Bank Holiday**  
(no school)  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May

**Half Term Break**  
25<sup>th</sup> May – 29<sup>th</sup> May



## Enriching Curriculum

### Nursery Team

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to Nursery after the Easter holiday break. We are also noticing how much the children have grown in confidence and maturity, continuing to develop strong relationships within the cohort and also welcoming new children as they begin their Nursery journey with us. This half term, our topic is all about "Water." The children will be exploring how we use water in our everyday lives and why it is essential for our survival. Our focus story is 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We are using this story to explore emotions, helping the children to think about how the characters feel and why, and to understand the concept of danger and encouraging them to think about making safe choices. A highlight this week was seeing the growth on the bean seeds we planted before the holiday. The stalks had grown so much they had pushed the lids off the jars!

### Reception Team

Reception have had a great first week back. We have been learning all about our Local Area. In our Topic lessons, we have looked at different houses we might live in, places we visit with our families and the area around school. The children have loved talking about shops, soft play and parks they go to when they are at home. In Phonics, we have continued to learn the diagraphs 'sh' and 'ng' as well as practising blending sounds. Mrs Lockett has been busy looking after our plants over the Easter Holidays, these are now planted in our Reception garden. So many children have been keen to help Mrs Lockett in planting and watering these!

### Key Stage One Team

This week in Key Stage One the children came back to the school to discover some unusual items in their classrooms. Year One found a lost penguin, linking to their focus book 'Lost & Found' and Year Two had lots of dragons in their classroom linking to their focus book 'The Dragon Machine'. In PSHRE, we have been thinking about our feelings and the spaces that make us feel safe and in Science we have started our new topic all about everyday materials and we began exploring what materials objects are made of.

### Lower Key Stage Two Team

Year Three have been diving into 'The Tin Forest' by Helen Ward, beginning with a hands-on recycling activity that inspired them to design their own themed posters. In Maths, they have been strengthening their skills in column addition and subtraction with three-digit numbers. Meanwhile, Year Four have started exploring Norse myths, discussing their cultural significance and investigating the beliefs of the Norse world, from gods to giants and dwarfs. Their Maths work has centred on giving directions on a grid and describing how shapes move through translations. To round off the week, both year groups took part in a special music session where children had the opportunity to explore music technology and even created their own digital instruments.

### Upper Key Stage Two Team

In Maths, Year Five pupils have been exploring the concept of volume, using concrete manipulatives to deepen their understanding. In Writing, the class has begun 'Rumaysa' by Radiya Hafiza, a fairy tale with a modern twist, and pupils have been experimenting with rich descriptive language while incorporating personification into their work. The children also took part in an exciting workshop that brought together music, coding, and science; using the Micro:Bit, they explored its musical features through block-based coding and created their own digital sounds.



### Nut-Aware School Reminder

We would like to kindly remind all parents and carers that Manor Drive Primary Academy is a nut-aware school. For the safety of our whole community, nuts and products containing nuts must not be brought onto the school premises. This includes all packed lunches and snacks, which must not contain any form of nuts.

This is extremely important, as even small traces of nuts can pose a serious risk to children and adults with nut allergies.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep everyone safe.