



November/December 2024

Welcome Back after the Half Term Break

We are delighted to have had such a successful first half term and we have welcomed the pupils back to enjoy the learning and experiences which are ahead of them. The children and staff have come back from the October break refreshed, and the new term has started in a very positive and focused way. We look forward to the learning which will be taking place in the term ahead.

Staffing

We would like to inform you that Mrs McCann joined us in September on a temporary contract. Following an interview process last term, we have appointed Ms Kearl to the team who will join us as our Year 2 Class teacher in January. Ms Kearl spent last Friday morning with the pupils and will spend time with the pupils again later in the term.

Christmas Productions

Christmas is approaching and both the pupils and staff are busy preparing for the Reception Production of "The Big Little Nativity" and the Year 1&2 Christmas Production of "The Angel Who Nearly Missed it All".

We would very much appreciate any support that you are able to give your child in learning any lines and providing them with a costume. Please do not feel that a lot of money needs to be spent on these- some of the best costumes are often those made at home! Further communication regarding tickets will follow shortly . Thank you.

DIARY DATES

NOVEMBER

- 4th** Phonics talk for Reception Parents
- 6th** New Intake Open Morning
- 8th** Year 3 Roman Day
- 13th** New Intake Open Morning
- 15th** Children in Need
- 18th** Odd Socks Day
- 19th** Circus Skills workshop for all
- 22nd** Y4 HSBC Digital Workshop
- 22nd** Y2, Y4 & Y6 Animal Handling
- 28th** Flu Vaccination Mop-up

DECEMBER

- 3rd** PTFA Movie Night
- 3rd Year 4 Trip to Cresswell Craggs
- 9th** Reception Christmas Production 2.15pm
- 10th** Year 1/2 Christmas Production 2.15pm
- 11th** Year 1/2 Christmas Production 6.00pm
- 11th** Reception Christmas Production 2.15pm
- 13th** Christmas Jumper Day
- 16th** Christmas Lunch
- 17th** Year 3 Imam visit
- 19th** Christmas Party Day (Non-uniform)
- 19th** END OF TERM (2.00pm)

JANUARY

- 6th** START OF TERM

SOCKS AND TIGHTS

Our stocks of socks and tights are running low. Should you have any old items that you would be willing to donate to the academy, then we would very much appreciate them.

Thank you.



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POPPIES FOR SALE

Poppies and other related items are currently on sale every morning before school outside the Year 2 classroom. Money donated will be given to The Royal British Legion.

Pupils will also have a special assembly to give them an increased understanding of Remembrance Day.

Children who are currently in Girl Guides or Scouts are able to wear their neckers on 11/11/24 should they wish to.



MUDDY FIELD

Please can we ask that the children **do not** go on to the school field before the start of school. Thank you to everyone who has supported us in ensuring that this does not happen. This has helped us ensure that the carpets are kept as clean as possible and suitable for the children to work on where needed.

CHILDREN IN NEED

This year, in order to support Children in Need, we have decided to ask the children to help us in raising money for the charity by inviting them to come to school on



Friday 15th November in non-school uniform– and as spotty as they like and join this years theme of The Great **Spotacular!**

The amazing projects that BBC Children in Need support help change the lives of disadvantaged children and young people all over the country. We are sure you'll agree this is a very worthy cause and hope that you are able to support our fundraising.

We would like to invite parents to make a donation to this charity here:
<https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>

Christmas Cards

We will once again have our Christmas post box in school. Should the children wish to send cards to friends in school, they will be able to place them in to the post box from **Monday 2nd December.**

Please ensure that cards are clearly labelled with the recipients full name and year group. Cards will not get to recipients unless this is the case.

Last post will be on **Friday 15th December.**



ATTENDANCE

Our attendance for the academy is currently **97.3%**. Thank you for everything that you are doing to ensure that wherever possible your child attends school every day. Please do continue to try and ensure that medical appointments happen outside of the school day. We do understand that this is not always possible, and where these do need to happen in the school day, please can we ask that proof of these appointments is emailed in to the school office using admin@manor-farm-academy.co.uk. This can be a copy of the letter or a screenshot of a message.



NAMING CLOTHING, WATER BOTTLES AND LUNCHBOXES

This is yet another plea to ask that **ALL** belongings are named.

Following a display of unnamed lost property at our Parents' Evenings, our lost property box has now been emptied and all unnamed unbranded items have been donated to charity. Please can we work together so that our lost property box is seldom used due to the fact that belongings are named and can therefore be quickly returned to their owners.

Please can **full names** be used and not just initials. I am sure that you can all appreciate that with 210 pupils in the school, it takes quite some time to identify an individual from just their initials.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Christmas hot lunch day this year will be on Monday 16th December. For those not wanting hot meals on this day, we are inviting children to come to school with a 'festive pack-up'!

SCHOLASTIC BOOKFAIR

Thank you so much to everyone that supported our recent Scholastic Book Fair. Together, you raised an incredible £92.39 for the school which will now be spent on books for the children.

