



March/April 2025

MARCH ALREADY!

This term has set off at a brisk pace following a busy end to February, with a lot of positive learning taking place throughout the academy. We are already looking forward to all the exciting learning opportunities planned for pupils as we head towards Easter!

As always, keep an eye on our academy Facebook page for photographs of learning in action.

WORLD BOOK DAY

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the support given towards making this year's World Book Day the success it was. The children had such an action-packed day and really embedded their love of reading further. It was wonderful to see the many varied outfits relating to the books which our pupils have read and further enhancing a love of reading throughout this special day.

PARENTS' EVENINGS

This term's Parents' Evenings will be held on the 25th and 27th March. The purpose of these meetings is to allow staff to update you on the progress your child is making at the halfway point of the academic year, and for you to ask any questions you may have regarding their progress.

PE KITS

Please can we remind parents that all PE kits need to be in school from Monday to Friday. Thank you.

DIARY DATES

MARCH

- 4th – Rand Farm Parent talk
- 4th – Y6 SATs Parent Talk
- 5th – Y6 Trip to Energy from Waste
- 11th – Y3 Viking Experience Day
- 12th – R and Y6 Heights and Weights
- 13th – Y1 Learning Showcase (2.45-3.15)
- 18th Year 2 Learning Showcase (2.45-3.15)
- 20th – Martial Arts Workshop
- 21st – Red Nose Day – Non-Uniform
- 24th – Y1 Trip to Washingborough Church
- 25th & 27th – Parents Evening
- 28th – Reception Space Day – Dress Up
- WB 31st – Careers Week

APRIL

- 2nd-3rd – Y2 Rand Farm Residential
- 3rd – Reception Learning Showcase (10.30-11.30)
- 3rd - Year 5 Learning Showcase (2.30-3.30)
- 3rd – Year 6 Learning Showcase (2.30-3.30)
- 4th – TERM 4 ENDS (2pm finish)

MAY

- 22nd – TERM 5 STARTS
- 23rd – Y5/6 Swimming Starts
- 24th Skipping Workshop
- 25th Reception visit to Tattershall Park
- 29th Year 1 visit to Lincolnshire Life Museum

Water Bottles

Once again, please can we remind you that the children should ONLY have water in their water bottles that they have in the classroom.

Healthy Snacks

Please can we ask that any morning break snacks that the children bring in to school from home are healthy ones. This might be a piece of fruit, vegetable sticks or crackers and cheese etc.

Jumpers

As the weather is beginning to get a little warmer, children are understandably beginning to remove their school jumpers and cardigans during the day. Please can we ask that you take a moment to check your child's jumper or cardigan is named. If a child's name is in their jumper, academy staff will endeavour to return it to them. If a jumper is unnamed, it is incredibly difficult to return it to its owner!



RED NOSE DAY

All pupils are invited to come in to school on Friday 21st March in non-uniform and wear some red if they want to!

Please help us raise money for Comic Relief by donating whatever you can online [here](#)



FOOTBALL TEAM

We are really enjoying watching the progress that our Y5/6 football team are making. Thank you to all of the parents of the team who have been able to support with transporting them to and from matches– it is very much appreciated.

SAFEGUARDING: MOBILE PHONES

Please can you ensure that if your child brings a mobile phone to school, that they are reminded to switch this off before they come through the school gates and then not turn it on until they leave the school gates at the end of the day. All pupils MUST then place their phone in the phone case in their classroom at the start of each day. This will then be locked until they are given out at the end of the day.

BEHAVIOUR

You may well have seen that in our recent Ofsted report it stated that “Pupil’s behaviour is exceptional”! Something we are incredibly proud of.

At Manor Farm Academy, it is our aim to:

- Establish a whole-school approach to maintaining high standards of behaviour that reflect the values of the academy
- Create a positive culture that promotes excellent behaviour, ensuring that all pupils have the opportunity to learn in a calm, safe and supportive environment
- Outline the expectations and consequences of behaviour
- Provide a consistent approach to behaviour management for pupils
- Define what we consider to be unacceptable behaviour, including bullying and discrimination

Our **Behaviour Policy** can be found [here](#)

SAFEGUARDING: Group Chats

In today's digital world, group chats on platforms like WhatsApp, Snapchat, and others have become a common way for children to stay connected. While these chats can foster friendships, they also come with risks that are especially concerning for primary school-aged children.

The realities of group chats

Group chats are often viewed as harmless, but they can expose children to risks parents might not anticipate. These digital spaces can quickly become environments where negative behaviours thrive without adult supervision. Primary school-aged children, still developing social and emotional maturity, may struggle with the fast-paced and often unfiltered nature of these chats.

Many parents are unaware of what can occur in group chats. Unfortunately, children can be exposed to:

- **Unkind behaviour:** teasing, exclusion, and bullying can occur more easily behind a screen.
- **Inappropriate content:** children may encounter or share inappropriate language, images, videos, or other harmful content.
- **Peer pressure:** children may feel pressured to participate in conversations they are uncomfortable with.
- **Overuse and distraction:** constant notifications can interfere with sleep, homework, and family time.

How can parents help?

As a parent, there are practical steps you can take to educate and monitor your child's use of group chats:

- **Have open conversations:** talk to your child about the importance of kindness, respect, and the impact of their words online.
- **Set boundaries:** establish rules around screen time and appropriate online behaviour.
- **Monitor group chats:** regularly check the content of your child's chats and discuss any concerning messages.
- **Teach privacy awareness:** encourage your child to think before sharing personal information or images.
- **Promote reporting:** let your child know they can come to you if they feel uncomfortable or witness inappropriate behaviour.
- **Use parental controls:** utilise built-in tools on devices and apps to limit access and monitor usage.

Teach your children to stick to these five rules from the very start of using group chats. Emphasise the importance of being kind to others and ensuring that everyone's experience is positive.

