

E-mail:
adminoffice@manor-junior.hants.sch.uk
Website:
www.manorjunior.com



Fernhill Road, Farnborough
Hampshire, GU14 9DX
Telephone: 01252 544072

AND RESOURCED PROVISION FOR
HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN
Headteacher: Mrs C Findlay

21st March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, we have had a busy week here at Manor! As you will be aware we had our OFSTED inspection on Tuesday and Wednesday, which added to an already packed timetable of events in school. I know many of you will be keen to know the outcome of their visit, but we are unfortunately unable to share this with you until the report is finalised and we have been informed it can be published. We are looking forward to sharing this with you when it arrives in school, but please do not be offended if before this time staff explain they are unable to talk about the findings.

Equality and Rights Advocates (EARA) group

Some of the pupils from our school EARA group attended Cove Junior School last week to meet with other EARA groups from the local area. The session focussed on the impact our words can have and how important it is to say kind things to one another. Our group shared the ideas they have been working on and are hoping to implement at Manor.



Year 6 SATS

There are only 20 school days until the SATS tests and our Year 6 pupils are working hard in school to ensure they are prepared. Next week, we will be carrying out a mock SATS week so that the pupils have a good understanding of how the week will work and so we can identify any additional support pupils need. Please click on this link: [SATS Resource](#) which could be a useful resource for you to use with your child in the run up to the tests. Don't forget if you would like to pop along to the SATS revision session with your child on a Tuesday between 5pm and 6pm you can always drop in – biscuits and drinks provided!

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you at parent's evenings next week.

Kind regards

Mrs C Findlay
Headteacher

News from the Year Teams

Year 3

It has been a busy couple of weeks in Year 3 with lots of learning happening. Last week as part of British Science Week we logged on to the BBC's Live Lesson and learnt all about the effects of space on our bones and how astronauts manage food and hydration. This linked wonderfully with our learning about the function of a skeleton. There was much excitement in each class when a life size replica human skeleton visited each class so we could explore bones more closely.

We have been enjoying learning to play the recorder and exploring pitch in our music lessons. We have been practising playing hot cross buns and working hard to make sure we hold the recorder correctly and position our fingers in the right place!

As part of our PSHE topic we are learning about computer safety which is a topic we visit regularly during the year. It is important for all children to know how to keep safe online and to know about positive and appropriate online behaviours.

We have been using different devices in our computing lessons where we have been exploring the computer program Scratch. We have learnt to decompose a game and then created our own version of it. We look forward to sharing some of this learning with you next week at our celebration of learning (Wednesday 26th March).

Well done to all the children reading (including on Oxford Reading Buddy) regularly at home and recording this in their reading record as well as logging on to Spelling Shed and TTRS. Regular practise of these key areas of learning really do make a difference and support our learning in class.

Year 4

There has been some excellent effort on times tables recently and it has been great to see lots of children earning certificates for new rock statuses on TTRS. To add a bit of friendly competition, there will be a Battle of the Bands between 4P and 4B! This will start after school on Thursday 20th March and close on Wednesday 26th March at 8pm. If your child is unable to access Times Tables Rockstars at home, please let us know so that we can make sure everyone can join in.

In music, Year 4 have been learning how to count in 2, 3 and 4 time. See if they can clap along to some music at home and work out whether it is in 2, 3 or 4 time. Year 4 have also enjoyed doing their computing projects this week and have created some brilliant animations!

English has been all about fantastic beasts and the children have been working really hard on using different sentence types within their writing. They have also been practising a poem about a monster which they have performed in front of their classmates.

We have spoken to the children recently about being ready, respectful, safe and kind at playtimes and lunch times, particularly during football games. Part of this has been thinking about how to win or lose a game in a way that is respectful to every other player. You could look for good examples of this at home when watching or playing sports and games together. Thank you for your support with this.

Year 5

Year 5 have been busy starting to practice for our play. They have really impressed us in our first rehearsals and we can't wait to share this with you soon. If your child has a speaking part, please can you help them to continue to learn this ready for the performance. In the next few days your child will be coming home with a slip advising them what to wear for the play. Most of this will be provided by school so we will only be asking for different coloured clothing (depending on your child's part).

In English, we have just finished our topic on Shackleton. This ended with the children writing a diary entry as if they were Shackleton and one of the crew. Their writing contains excellent vocabulary, a range of sentence types and lots of facts that they had learnt over our topic. We have now started our English topic about the northern lights which started with the children producing incredible artwork and then describing this using a range of metaphorical language. We look forward to sharing these with you at parents evening.

In maths, we have been focusing on multiplication and division. We have been working on multiplying a 3-digit number by a 2-digit number using long multiplication. Although the children found this difficult to start with, but they persevered and achieved. In division, we have just started to use the short method (bus stop method) to solve division questions.

We were so lucky to have Treehouse Theatre in last Monday, a massive thank you to all of your support with the children's incredible costumes. We split into four groups and each learnt a part of the play whilst the others were playing Viking games, making rune stones and decorating shields. In the afternoon, we put the whole play together and it was amazing! All children impressed us by joining in and having a part, lots of children pushed themselves outside of their comfort zone. In the rest of our topic work, we have been looking at rituals and routines in RE, databases in computing, writing to a school in France (in French) and learning about different forces in science.

Thank you for all of those children who have been bringing in their homework weekly. Please remember that the children need to have their homework books in on Friday so that we can mark and go through the answers together.

We look forward to speaking to you all next week at parents' evenings.

Year 6

We had an amazing time (as you are probably aware) at Oxford Castle and prison. The guided tour included visiting cells from different time periods. The Georgian prisons were privately run, so, if you had the money, your cell was quite luxurious and you could even host tea parties! The Victorian prisons were government controlled, so the cells were small and designed to make the prisoner regret their crime. Inmates had to perform 'hard labour', from which we get the phrases 'working yourself to the bone' and 'money for old rope'. You could try asking your child what these mean. The children attempted some pointless 'hard labour' tasks - climbing steps and The Crank!

Our workshop helped us to recall what we had seen on the tour and we also had the chance to try out some different police equipment and to write on a Victorian slate. They were surprised to learn that children as young as 7 were imprisoned in the same place as the adults and sometimes whole families were locked up if they could not afford their debt. The children thoroughly enjoyed dressing up - whether that be as a prison guard or an inmate.

In English, our survival kit writing is well underway. We definitely have a few trepid explorers amongst us, from what we have read they are packing to survive the Amazon Rainforest. From solar powered air-conditioned tents to self-cleaning pots and pans and dri-fit non-stainable clothing - very inventive!

In maths, we have been looking at calculations and how to put our fantastic arithmetic skills to good use within worded problems. We have just begun our shape unit, so feel free to test your children on the properties of shapes - vertices, faces and sides.

Thank you for your continued support with homework and SAT revision. We will be holding mock SATs next week and will let you know your child's results asap.