



# Manor Park Primary School September 2021

Dear Parents,

Wow! Wow! Wow! What a brilliantly smooth start we have had to the new school year considering all that we have been through together in 2021! Welcome back and welcome to all our new starters! I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and enjoyed spending some time together as families creating lovely memories. The children certainly sound like they've had a great time from some of the holiday stories I've heard so far about their staycations and trips out and it's been lovely to hear that some have been away to see friends and family they haven't been able to see for so long.

I would like to start by saying a huge thank you for all the lovely gifts the staff and I received from families at the end of last school year - these were very much appreciated and enjoyed over the holiday break.

I have been so impressed with how the children have all come back well organised for school and how they have remembered some of the expectations we have set down since January and got into the swing of our new routines so brilliantly! The children have remembered our 3 rule approach to school life: Ready, Respectful and Safe and are showing this even more so this term.

There are lots of things that we have already got organised in school for this term and the details of these dates are in this newsletter. As other events are organised, or if arrangements change which could quite easily happen this year, we will inform you in good time so that you can plan ahead. There will be individual letters going out over the next couple of weeks.

I look forward to meeting you all throughout the year at events, or if you ever just need to pop in for a chat. We're all looking forward to a happy and successful year at Manor Park and as always will make the best of anything that is thrown at us in life with our resilient and flexible attitudes!

Best wishes,

*Mr Coole* (Headteacher)



## Harvest Assembly

We are hoping to be in a position to be able to hold our Harvest Assembly this half-term. We will be holding this in the school hall and will have a morning and afternoon assembly to reduce audience size. This will involve all children from Reception to Year 6 singing songs, performing poetry or giving readings. We will be asking for donations to the Foodbank too, but will give you more details closer to the time. We look forward to seeing lots of our parents and families at one of our assemblies.

**Thursday 14th October 9.30am & 2.00pm**



**We still have a few parents who are not signed up to the Class Dojo - our end of year survey showed that the vast majority of parents really like this as a means of communication and we are using it more and more.**

**Please make every effort to join so that you can keep up to date with what is going on in school and see what rewards your child is gaining for their efforts in school.**

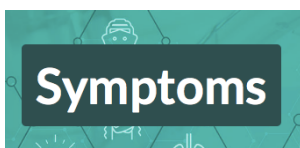
## IMPORTANT COVID-19 INFORMATION



Coronavirus  
COVID-19

**Please do not forget that if anyone in your family shows any of the following symptoms of Coronavirus to take a lateral flow test, take the online assessment or phone 111 for advice.**

- a temperature of more than 37.8C (100F)
- OR, a new and persistent cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- OR, anosmia – this is the loss of or a change in your normal sense of smell. It can also affect your sense of taste as the two are closely linked
- new shortness of breath



# Dates for your diary!

Date	Event
Wednesday 22nd September	Forest School for Mighty Oak (please check ClassDojo for groups)
Friday 24th September	Swimming starts for Year 3 only.
Friday 1st October	Swimming starts for Year 4, 5 and 6 (along with Year 3 again).
Monday 4th October	Flu Immunisations (School Nursing Team)
Thursday 14th October	Harvest Festival Assembly (9.30am and 2.00pm)
Wednesday 20th October	School Photos ( <b>ALL CLASSES</b> ) - consent forms must be returned or photos will not be taken.
Wednesday 20th October	Junior Achievement Day for Year 6
Friday 22nd October	Hop-tu-Naa and Yn Mheillea Party (PM)
Friday 22nd October	Break up for Half Term Holidays
Monday 1st November	Back to school after Half Term Holidays
Tuesday 2nd & Wednesday 3rd November	Parents Evenings
Wednesday 8th December	School Christmas Dinner
Thursday 9th December	KS1 Christmas Performance (1.30pm)
Wednesday 15th December	Key Stage 1 Party
Thursday 16th December	KS2 Christmas Performance (6pm St Matthew's Church)
Friday 17th December	KS2 Christmas Treat
Friday 17th December	Break Up for Christmas Holidays

## Texting Easier?

If you have any urgent messages to get to us during the school day or out of hours you can:

\* leave a message on the school answering machine

\* text us on the school mobile

Our Mobile Number is:

**316472**

We will respond to your messages as soon as possible.

Changed address or phone number? Please make sure we have this on our system.

## Need to contact school out of school hours?

Please leave an answer-phone message, send a text or email [manorparkenquiries@sch.im](mailto:manorparkenquiries@sch.im)

**Please do not contact members of staff via personal Facebook accounts.**

Thank you.

### Administrator Hours

Our school administrator, Mrs Dennett, is available in the school office on the following days/times...

**Mon, Wed & Fri:**

**8.40-12.00 / 1.00-3.40**

**Tues & Thurs:**

**8.40-1.40**

Please try to make general enquiries during these times. Especially in relation to milk/dinner money.

Thank you.



## Our Classes



Miss Jackson's Class  
**Maple - Year R/1**



Miss Hinge's Class  
**Rowan - Year 2**



Miss Wood's Class  
**Horse Chestnut  
Year 3/4**



Mr Caley's Class  
**Mighty Oak**



Thanks to our brilliant Lunchtime Assistant, Stevie-Lea, Breakfast Club started again on Monday 13th September.

This takes place in the mobile from 8.15am. This costs 50p a day in order to cover expenses and money can be paid to staff by your child on arrival or when you drop your child off.

If your child hasn't been before and needs to use this service please let us know.

## Parents Evening

As your children did not have the best school experience last academic year we have decided to move our Parents Evening back a little this term. This will allow time for your child's new teacher to get to know them and then to update you on how they are getting on. We feel this is really important given that so much school time was missed again last academic year.

The dates for our Parents Evenings will be **Tuesday 2nd & Wednesday 3rd November.**

Further details of definite timings will follow.



### Collecting children during school time

As always can you please ensure that if you need to collect any children during the school day for appointments that you come to the school office, there is usually someone there, if not if you ring the bell you will be attended to. Any visitors going into school **MUST** sign in the Visitors Book in the Reception area for Health and Safety reasons.

### School start time

**To enable the children to have a settled start to their day can you please ensure that they are in school at 8.50.** The pupils are already involved in a learning task by 9am so we don't want them missing out.

I have to remind you that we cannot be responsible for the health and safety of the children before 8.40 when a staff member is on duty on the playground. I would advise that the children should not be arriving at school much earlier than this time. If your child is late he/she must come through the main door by the office, which is now our main entrance at all times.

Department of Education, Sport & Culture policy now states that if a child does not arrive in school during the time set aside for registration this is classed as a 'Late' and will be marked accordingly in the register. If they are very late it is marked as an Unauthorised Absence. Should this become a pattern we have no choice but to inform the Education Liaison Officer.

### Absence from School

Should a pupil be absent from school we must receive a message informing us of this fact as soon as possible. If we do not hear, we will phone you! If we are unable to contact you and the situation persists we will write to you asking for an explanation. Again this is Department Policy to ensure that we are aware of where each child is each day.

### Leave of Absence for Holidays

At Manor Park Primary School we believe that good attendance and punctuality is key to establishing positive life habits. There is a clear link to attendance rates and attainment.

It is therefore recommended that holidays during term time should be avoided. If however these cannot be avoided then **a request must be made in writing to the Headteacher explaining why the holiday is necessary.**

The Headteacher is only able to authorise 10 days absence in one school year - any days taken after 10 days will be Unauthorised in the school register.

### Medical/Other Appointments

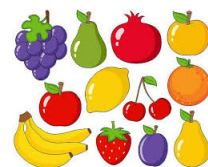
Wherever possible, for any appointments taken within school time an appointment card should be brought to school or a message/phone call received by school before the appointment.

## Snacks & Packed Lunches

You may have seen all the coverage in the press lately about the advertising of unhealthy snacks with high sugar content to children. Things like fruit winders, yo-yo bars, yoghurt biscuits, fruit flakes and cereal bars are all items that contain more sugar than you think. For this reason we ask that children's daily snacks are vegetable sticks or pieces of fresh fruit as much as possible. Too much sugar can also mean that your child could find it more difficult to concentrate on their learning after their snack or lunch.

We also ask that no fizzy drinks or sweets are put in packed lunches please. Anything else you provide in packed lunches is obviously at your discretion but we hope you will try to make them as healthy and balanced as possible.

Thank you for your support in keeping your children as healthy as possible.



## Water Bottles

**EVERY** child should have a clean water bottle in school daily.

The children have access to water from the water cooler to refill bottles during the day. They do get thirsty and need drinks as the day goes on to help maintain their concentration levels.

**Water bottles should be named.**



## **Hair and Headlice!**

As always, please can you help us to control the start of any headlice problems by ensuring that **any children with long hair - girls AND boys - come to school with their hair tied up out of the way.**

This also makes PE lessons a lot easier as it is not practicable to take part in outside lessons with hair flying in eyes or gymnastics which would be very unsafe!

I know many of the girls like wearing their hair down but it really is so much better if it is tied up during school time.

## **Reading Books**

From early on in Reception Class your child will be bringing home a reading book and a reading record book which should be completed by you as a parent each time your child reads. Taking this approach to supporting reading really does have a tremendous impact, and hopefully you will see some superb results!

If your child does not read daily he/she really will be at a disadvantage.  
Thanks for your support.

The children must bring everything they need into school every day - including PE kits.

PE kit is, as always, house coloured T-shirt and black shorts. **Pumps are required for indoor PE. Earrings should not be worn on PE days.**

Please make sure all kits, sweatshirts, polo shirts, coats etc. are named.

## **Lunchtime Clubs**

Our wonderful staff team have put together a brilliant selection of clubs to run over the lunchtime periods this term. These have been a great success this week and really helped to give everyone something fun to do at lunchtimes and to have more space to play too :) Here is what is on offer.



**Monday:** Choir & Mindfulness

**Tuesday:** MSR, Mindfulness & Drama

**Wednesday:** ICT

**Thursday:** Drama & STEM

**Friday:** Chess & Mini-Football



I think you'll agree this is a great new initiative :)

## **Swimming...**

Children are allowed to bring goggles if they want to for swimming sessions (no note is needed).

**Also, if your child has a verruca please make sure they have been treated or get them a verruca sock as soon as possible so they don't miss out on valuable swimming time. Thank you.**

