

MANOR PRIMARY



Newsletter

22nd July 2024

As the academic year draws to a close, it is the perfect time to reflect on our values of kindness, respect, pride, and dedication that guide us to 'be the best we can be'. It has been a privilege to serve as the Head Teacher at Manor Primary, and getting to know the children and families has been truly wonderful.

There have been so many highlights that I will struggle to report on them all, but I must mention the fabulous Christmas plays, discos, trips (yes, the coach trip was often their favourite bit!), residential trip, Sports Days, and the recent Year 6 leavers' assembly. A special mention must be made for the children's excellent progress and achievement in phonics (Y1 and Y2), the Multiplication Tables Check (Y4), and the SATs (Y6). These outcomes reflect not just this year of hard work, but their strong start in Early Years and the excellent teaching and learning in every year since then.

Our sports teams have had a phenomenal year, making it through to the county finals in netball, cricket, and football. They demonstrated not only talent but also exemplary sportsmanship. Our teams were always commended by the organisers and other schools for their competitive spirit balanced with kindness, positivity in defeat, humility in victory, and unwavering support for each other.

We take immense pride in all of the children; their attitude towards learning, their resilience in managing challenges, their dedication to outside interests, and their kindness and respect for all others.

This year, we have experienced several staff changes. We bid a fond farewell to Mrs McCourt as she began her well-earned retirement. We were thrilled for Mr Surj, who adopted his young son just after Christmas. Mrs Sanghera also saw her family grow following the birth of her son. We all tried very hard to remember to call Miss Sharpe by her new name, Mrs Kane, after her wedding in May. Finally, thank you to Mrs Perkins who stepped in to cover Mrs Sanghera's maternity leave in the last half term.

Despite national challenges in recruiting and retaining staff in education, we are fortunate to have retained our high level of expertise while expanding our team. This year, we welcomed:

- Mrs Flanagan as Office Manager
- Miss Farrell as Deputy Head Teacher
- Mr Harris as Caretaker
- Mrs Stokes as a cleaner
- Mrs Bamra in her new office role
- Mrs Minchin in her new role in SCAMPS
- Our September starters: Mrs Casey (lunch time supervisor), Mrs Dhadwar (TA in KS1), Miss Hethertington (teacher), Mrs Kiernan (TA in Nursery), Mrs Morris (cleaner & lunch time supervisor), and Mrs Strawford (teacher)
- Our newly directly employed staff: Miss Bi (TA), Mrs Chown (teacher), Miss Gomery (HLTA/Sports teacher), and Mrs Lau (TA)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank every member of staff at Manor Primary School. Amidst many changes, they have shown grace, enthusiasm and dedication, ensuring our pupils receive the very best care, education, and wider opportunities. We are very lucky to have them!

The PTA have been exceptionally hard working, organising 2 lots of discos, a spectacular summer fayre, an Easter raffle, numerous drink/snack stands, and the wonderful towels and coasters. Their work is entirely voluntary, driven by their goodwill and commitment to the school. The funds they raise for school and community spirit they foster is greatly appreciated.

Similarly, thanks must go to the Governing Body members, who also give their time, skills, and efforts voluntarily. Their ability to be the supportive, critical friends the school needs is invaluable to our development.

My final thanks must go to you, for welcoming me to Manor and for all your support throughout the year. To say I have enjoyed it would be an understatement! I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved together as a community. After taking some time to reflect and recharge over the summer, I look forward to building on our successes and continuing to go from strength to strength.

We wish the very best to our Year 6 pupils as they embark on the next phase of their education. We are proud of you, confident that you are ready, and know that you will continue to shine brightly. We also look forward to welcoming all our returning pupils as they confidently settle into their new classes in September.

All that is left to say is we hope you have a wonderful summer and enjoy reading the rest of this end of year newsletter!

Statutory Assessment Outcomes

Assessment	Manor Primary (2024)		National (2023)	
KS1 PHONICS				
Phonics Year 1	88%		79%	
YEAR 4 Multiplication Tables Check				
Average score	23.1		20.2	
Percentage full marks (25/25)	63%		29%	
KS2	Expected+	Greater Depth	Expected+	Greater Depth
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	85%	55%	72%	30%
Reading	85%	28%	73%	29%
Writing	77%	9%	71%	13%
Maths	96%	43%	73%	24%
Reading, Writing, Maths	77%	9%	60%	8%

Rock It!

We are thrilled to be working with Rock It! from September. They are a local, family run business who specialise in whole class teaching and small group teaching on a wide variety of instruments. They will be teaching music to pupils from Year 2 to Year 6. In addition, Rock It will also be offering small-group lessons to pupils from Year 3 and above, from 11.00-12.00 every day. These lessons will have limited availability and will incur a fee. As such, to help the children decide if they are interested, we will provide taster sessions for all pupils from Year 3 to Year 6 during the first few weeks of term. More information about this will be shared at the start of the term.

Miss Gomery



We are very pleased that Miss Gomery, now employed directly by us, will be taking on multiple roles; she will be teaching PE lessons, mentoring pupils, and leading lunchtime activities on the main playground. She has already led some successful interventions, built strong relationships with all, and given the pupils taster sessions of what lunch times will be like. This is all in addition to the excellent coaching she has given our staff on delivering high quality PE lessons for the past few years.

PPA in 2024-2025

From Year 2 to Year 6, the teachers' Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA) time will be covered by Rock It and Miss Gomery. During these afternoons, Rock It! will teach music to one class while Miss Gomery teaches PE to the other, and then they will swap halfway through. This ensures that the teachers have vital time to plan together while the pupils benefit from specialised teaching for both PE and music.

Clubs in 2024-2025

All sports clubs will be run by Manor staff in the next academic year. Miss Gomery will lead a variety of free breakfast clubs from Monday to Thursday, as well as after-school clubs every day of the week. She has been working with our PE Leads, Mr Richards and Mr Ingram, to ensure that we offer a variety of sports to different year groups, from Reception to Year 6. Mr Richards and Mr Ingram are also keen to lead some team sports clubs participate in local competitions. Additionally, Rock It will be offering free music clubs after school from Monday-Friday. We are currently finalising these details and will provide further information, including how to reserve places at all of these clubs, early in September.

Catering from September

Following Miquill's notice that they can no longer provide school catering from September, I am now in discussions with a new catering company operating from Bushill Jones. This change presents an opportunity to review our current catering services and consider expanding our offerings to include KS2 pupils (Year 3 and above) and Nursery children who stay for the afternoon.



Our immediate goal is to ensure that all pupils from Reception to Year 2, as well as those entitled to Free School Meals in KS2, will be catered for. We will be implementing an ordering system on Arbor, with more details to be shared over the summer holidays. Our aim is to have school dinners available for all other pupils by October. Please bear with us as we work towards this goal, as it involves significant administrative and logistical planning!

Sports Day Results

Sports Day was a great demonstration of the children’s confidence, resilience, and healthy attitude towards competition. Thank you to all who came to support the children – and a special thank you to those brave souls who took part in the parents’ and toddler races!



1st Place	2220 points	Venus
2nd Place	2015 points	Mercury
3rd Place	1999 points	Jupiter
4th Place	1978 points	Neptune

House Teams



We will be changing the model of our house teams starting September. The pupils’ current teachers have been assigning them into new teams, ensuring that siblings are kept in the same team. They will stay in these new teams for the duration of their time at Manor. The children will be discussing the House Team names in class councils early in the term. Do they want to keep the existing planet names, or can they think of new names, perhaps linked to something local?

Important Dates

SEPTEMBER	
Monday 2 nd	INSET Day – School closed to pupils
Tuesday 3 rd	Term starts Induction timetable begins for Nursery and Reception
OCTOBER	
Monday 14 th	EYFS & KS1 Parents’ Evening
Tuesday 15 th	EYFS & KS1 Parents’ Evening KS2 Parents’ Evening
Wednesday 16 th	KS2 Parents’ Evening
Monday 21 st	Flu Vaccinations (Reception – Year 6)
Tuesday 22 nd	EYFS & LKS2 Halloween Disco
Wednesday 23 rd	KS1 & UKS2 Halloween Disco
HALF TERM: 28th October – 1st November	
NOVEMBER	
Monday 4 th	INSET Day – School closed to pupils

Pupil Achievements

A*Star Sheriffs



Our Year 4 and 5 A*Star Sheriffs went to Walsall F.C. to represent us in the A*Stars Inter-Schools Quiz. Georgia L, Jack T, Isabella W and Arjan S used their knowledge of Active Travel and Road Safety superbly to answer questions in the quiz and then took part in football activities with Walsall F.C. Coaches and were rewarded with a stadium tour! Well done!

Mr Allman



Year 3/4 Cricket Team



The team played incredibly well in their first competition, winning all matches to advance to represent Walsall in the Staffordshire Year 3 and 4 cricket competition at Fordhouses Cricket Club in June. The children competed brilliantly at this stage even in the face of some very skilled opposition. Well done to all the players!

Y5/6 Cricket finals

The team competed brilliantly, displaying excellent sportsmanship and winning all but one of their games. If the organizers hadn't rescheduled our postponed draw after the finals, they would have advanced to the next stage. Although this was disappointing, their great positivity shone through and they greatly enjoyed the experience.

Year 5/6 Netball Team



The team had a fantastic day out and we are proud to announce that they were **bronze medal winners!** Like all our other teams, they showed great passion, team work and positivity. A special mention must go to Isabella (Y4) who played up a year group to make sure the team could compete. Well done to the whole team!

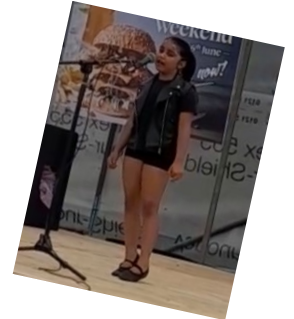


Beyond Manor...

In our weekly celebration assemblies, the table has been overflowing with medals, trophies and certificates. There are far too many achievements to mention in a single newsletter, but each one fills us with immense pride and we enjoy hearing the children talk about them so confidently and being able to celebrate these together.

These accomplishments showcase a wide variety of interests and skills, including:

- Violin
- Chinese
- Netball
- Muay Thai
- Netball
- Swimming
- Gymnastics
- Player of the season
- Parents' player of the season (football and netball)
- Cheerleading
- Cub Scout of the Year
- Rainbows badges
- Dance
- Karate
- Tae Kwon Do
- Golf
- Rugby
- Drama
- Triathlon
- Boxing
- Singing solo
- Jiu Jitsu



Charity Work



Well done to brothers George and Jake, who raised over £400 by completing a 10km walk through London for One Walk for Type 1 Diabetes.

Ajuni G raised a fantastic £600 for charity by completing the 5km Race for Life. Jessica P and Arjan S also completed the same run. Well done to them all!

Saanvi P donated over 30cm of her hair and raised £662 for the Little Princess Trust – what a generous thing to do!



Ibrahim C completed a 5-mile bike challenge to raise money for communities in need of clean, safe water. He raised enough to fund four water wells in the most needed villages in Pakistan.

We are filled with pride that the pupils at Manor are having such a positive impact on the world already! Enjoy your summer break!

