



The Manor CE Primary School

*Aspire, Believe, Achieve
Shine like stars in the sky*

Dear families

As we come to the end of a very busy term, we can certainly say it has been a memorable one — not least because of the truly awful weather! Despite the rain, wind and grey skies, our pupils have continued to shine like stars in the sky and school has been full of energy, enthusiasm and fantastic learning.

A big thank you to all the families who were able to join us for Open Classrooms. We really appreciate you taking the time to come in and see the fabulous learning taking place across the school. The children absolutely loved sharing their work and were so proud to show you what they have been doing.

Now we are very much looking forward to spring and, hopefully, some brighter days and better weather to match the positivity we see in our children every day.

World Book Day lands on Thursday 5th this year. At The Manor, we take this opportunity to share our love of books with our classes for the whole week. We have lots of activities planned, across the week, and we are looking forward to encouraging the child to share their favourite books with us.

We know the children thoroughly enjoy dressing up on the Thursday. As last year, there is no dedicated theme. The children are invited to come dressed as their favourite character from a book. Please do not spend money on these costumes - some of the best costumes in the past are the ones that are simply home-made! We will end the week with a celebration of all things reading on the Friday in the hall, at 3.15pm. Please pop in and take a look at some of the learning your children have produced!

Thank you as always for your continued support. We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable break.

Wishing you all a lovely and restful weekend!

Team Manor

Staffing news—Mrs Cox's Retirement

At Easter, we will be saying farewell to Mrs Cox, our wonderful Teaching Assistant, who will be retiring.

Mrs Cox has worked tirelessly to support children across the school and, over the past six years, has made a tremendous difference to the lives of so many pupils. She is a highly valued member of our staff team and will be sorely missed by children, families and colleagues alike.

We wish her a very happy retirement and hope she enjoys spending lots of special time with her family and her new grandchild in Australia.

Thank you, Mrs Cox, for everything you have given to our school community.

Important Dates

- 13 Feb—Term 3 Ends (14 Feb Inset Day—school closed to children)
- 9—24 Feb—FOMS Clothes Collection
- 23 Feb—Term 4 starts
- 27 Feb—FOMS Treat Friday
- 5 Mar—World Book Day
- 6 Mar—FOMS Mother's Day Craft in school—details to follow
- 17 & 19 Mar—Parent/Carer Consultations—Booking details to follow
- 23 Mar—Year R NCMP & Vision Screening—remember to opt out if you don't want your child to take part
- 23 Mar—Y3 Y4 Arnos Vale trip—letter sent
- 31 Mar—YR Windmill Hill City Farm trip—details to follow
- 31 Mar—Y6 Residential Camp Meeting—details to follow
- 1 Apr—Easter Church Service 9.30am. All year groups
- 1 Apr—Open Classrooms 2.45—3pm entry. 3.10 leave

All dates are on the school website <https://www.themanorcofeprimary.org.uk/> (scroll to bottom of page)

Safeguarding Corner

What is Children's Mental Health Week?

Children's Mental Health Week is an annual mental health awareness week launched by children's mental health charity, [Place2Be](https://www.place2be.org.uk/). The week exists to empower, equip and give a voice to all children and young people in the UK.

Children's Mental Health Week 2026 took place this week. The week launched back in 2015 and we celebrate it every February.

For further information, please see link below.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/about/>





We would like to say a big thank you to everyone for their wonderful fancy dress donations. If anyone else has more to donate, we're still accepting them. Also, we are thrilled to announce that the climbing wall and stage are now complete. The children are having a fantastic time using them, and it's wonderful to see!

Additionally, a massive thank you to everyone who attended our second-hand uniform sale. We're incredibly grateful to those who came and took a look. We still have plenty of jumpers, cardigans, boy shorts, and a few summer dresses available.

Lastly, gentle reminder that Treat Friday is coming up on the 27th of February. We're planning to be at the reception and the playground, but if it rains, we'll be in the hall.

Many thanks!

Communicating with your Child

A supportive session for JIGSAW parents and carers, focussing on practical, calm ways to communicate with your child

- Thursday 12th March
- 6:30 - 8:00pm
- At JIGSAW Thornbury
- £4 per person
- Refreshments available



www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk



Breakfast and After School Club

Whenever possible, please make bookings for the week ahead by 2pm on the Friday before. This allows time to ensure correct adult/child ratio and to purchase provisions. Many thanks



* Parent Workshops delivered by the School Nursing Team *

The South Gloucestershire School Nursing Team is visiting our school to offer small, interactive parent sessions:

☺ **Sweet Dreams - Helping Your Child Sleep Well** on Tuesday 3rd Mar 2026 at 9:00am
Learn strategies to help your child settle and sleep well.

☺ **Limited spaces - Please email Mrs Mann directly to reserve your place!** (teresa.mann@gmail.org.uk)

Further information about this service, please follow this link:

<https://sirona-cic.org.uk/children-services/services/school-nursing-service/>



Managing Challenging Behaviour and Anxiety Course

Where: The Manor CE Primary School, Coalpit Heath

When: Wednesdays, 9:00–11:00am

Start date: Wednesday 4 March 2026

Duration: 3 weeks

Places are limited, so early booking is advised. To register your interest, please contact via the school office or email directly at: teresa.mann@gmail.org.uk

Please sign up by Wednesday 25 February 2026.



Nut-Free School Reminder

A quick reminder that The Manor continues to be a **nut-free school**. We do have a child in school with a **severe nut allergy**, and it's really important that we all work together to keep them safe.

We kindly ask that no nuts or nut products are brought into school by children, staff, or visitors. This includes items such as peanut butter, Nutella, cereal bars with nuts, or any snacks containing nuts.

Thank you so much for helping us make sure our school is a safe place for every member of our community. Your support really does make a difference.

Looking Ahead to Spring 2 – Learning After Half Term

After the half term break, we have another busy and exciting term ahead! Here's a snapshot of what children in each year group will be diving into in Spring 2:

Year R – Springtime!

Antarctica Class will be exploring Spring in Term 4. We will be looking for signs of spring, learning about spring flowers and will be finding out about young animals that will be born on the farm during this time. We will also be looking at why Christians celebrate Easter.

Year 1 – *Happy and Healthy*

After half term, Year 1 will be learning about Elizabeth Fry, discovering how one person can make a big difference in the world. In Science, children will explore animals and what makes them similar or different. They'll be creating bold animal prints in Art and making their own tasty fruit kebabs in DT. Computing focuses on safe internet browsing, and in PSHE children will be thinking about how to stay healthy and happy.

Year 2 – *Happy and Healthy*

Year 2 are also learning about Elizabeth Fry, exploring themes of compassion and courage. In Science, children will investigate animals including humans, thinking carefully about how our bodies work and how we keep healthy. In DT, they will be preparing crudités — and parents and carers will be invited in to taste their creations! Art lessons will involve creative animal printing, and children will build confidence using spreadsheets in Computing. PE will keep everyone active with gymnastics and team-building games.

Year 3 – *Victorians*

Year 3 step back in time to the fascinating world of the Victorians! Children will find out what life was really like in Victorian Britain. In Science, they'll investigate rocks, and in Geography they'll explore how land is used across England. Art lessons will develop their watercolour skills, and PE will focus on gymnastics alongside Forest School sessions.

A real highlight of the term will be a visit to Arnos Vale Cemetery, where children will take part in a Victorian Life workshop to bring their learning to life.

Year 4 – *Victorians*

Year 4 also embark on a journey through the Victorian era, uncovering how Britain changed during this time. Geography explores counties and changing land use, while Science learning focuses on rocks. In Art, children will create independent watercolour pieces. In Music, they are learning djembe drumming — and parents will be invited in to enjoy a special performance of their drumming showcase.

PE this term includes gymnastics and Forest School sessions with Mrs Gray, giving children the chance to build resilience and teamwork outdoors. Year 4 will also be visiting Arnos Vale Cemetery to take part in a Victorian Life workshop, bringing their historical learning vividly to life.

Year 5 – *Our World*

Year 5's topic this term is Our World, with a strong focus on ocean health and caring for our planet. Children will carry out an environmental enquiry and will also be planning a charity event to raise awareness and money for this important cause. In Science, they'll explore properties and changes of materials through practical investigations, and in Art they will create independent watercolour artwork. PE this term includes basketball and tennis.

Year 6 – *Our World*

Year 6 are also focusing on Our World, linking their learning to ocean health and environmental responsibility. As part of this, children will plan a charity event to raise awareness and funds. In Science, they continue exploring properties and changes of materials, and in Art they will refine their independent painting skills. PE this term includes gymnastics and Basketball sessions, alongside their continued preparation for SATs and the exciting move to secondary school.

The Manor CE Primary School

As a school we set high targets for our children's attendance as we know that regular consistent attendance makes a huge difference to their learning:

If children are not in school they miss key parts of their learning.

Our current target for **all** children is **97%** - thank you for supporting us with this.

Term Time Absence

The Department of Education's guidance encourages all schools to take a much firmer stance on absence authorised in term times. Parents do not have the right to take their child out of school for holidays.

Where absence is wanted for any reason during school time, it is important to email school and inform us of your intentions in advance. E-mail: manorprimary@gmail.org.uk

Please be advised that we are unable to authorise any term time holiday requests, – parents need to email and inform school of their intentions to take a holiday in advance, this will be **unauthorised**, and will be recorded as G code for family holiday (unauthorised).

Other Circumstances that would not be authorised are:

- Family Holidays;
- Relatives coming to visit;
- Family day trips/shopping days
- Visiting family who have different half terms or holiday;
- Grandparents/family members that have booked a holiday and parents were not aware of the dates;
- Re-occurring car/traffic problems;
- Parents/siblings are ill and therefore unable to get children to school.

How many days does your child attend School?

There are **190** days in a school year which leaves **175** days to spend with family for birthdays, special occasions, holidays, shopping, appointments and other things.



Reminders

Our school gates are open at **8:40am**, where a member of staff will welcome pupils into school. Gates close at **8:50am** (if you arrive after this time you will need to enter through the main school entrance).

If a child is unwell, a telephone call message should be left on 01454 866555 before 9am on the first day of absence stating the reason the child can-not attend.

We operate an everyday call system and if a reason for absence has not been communicated to the school office by 9:30 a.m. a call/text to the parent or carer will be made. Every day calling is an effective measure that helps ensure children are safe.

We are unable to authorise any holiday in term time.

More information can be found on the school website: <https://www.themanorcofeprimary.org.uk/copy-of-contact-us>

www.themanorcofeprimary.org.uk E: manorprimary@gmail.org.uk T: 01454 866555

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Amanda Flanagan

Head of School: Mr John Israel