



Manor Farm Infant School

Sept 2024 Newsletter

School Motto

**'Together We
Grow'**

A Message from Mrs Woodhead

Dear Families

It has been a pleasure to welcome you all to the new school year and see the children settling in to their new classes.

I have really enjoyed meeting the two new class councillors from each class who were voted for by their class mates. They will be playing a big part in rewriting our school values and I will soon be requesting parent input on this too.

Mrs Bing and Mrs Hardy will be leading an information session for parents on phonics and reading on 8th October at 2.15pm and 10th October at 7pm. I strongly encourage you to attend as the home /school partnership is so important for the children to develop and progress.

Performance assemblies led by Mrs Whelan will start again at the beginning of October. This is an opportunity for children to perform individually or as part of a group to the rest of the school. It really has become one of my highlights each month as we watch singers, dancers, magicians, footballers, musicians, fact tellers and more! We do not video the performances but do share photos on our website.

Attendance

The Department for Education have released new rules relating to attendance and term time holidays. Please take time to read the attached letter and the updated attendance will be on the website after our next governors meeting.

Please do remember to look at our school website where you will find curriculum overviews for each year group so that you can see what your child / children will be learning each half term. Diary dates are also regularly updated with information such as Autumn assemblies.

Kind regards

Janice Woodhead

Dates for this term

Tuesday 8th October at 2.15pm-3.00pm and Thursday 10th October at 7pm-7.45pm —Parent Information Meeting on Phonics and Reading

Thursday 24th October—Autumn Assembly—1.30pm (with creche)

Friday 25th October—Autumn Assembly—9.15am

Monday 28th October—Friday 1st November—Half Term

Monday 4th November—Return to school

Tuesday 19th November—Open Morning for prospective new pupils—9.30am

Wednesday 20th November—Individual Photographs

Saturday 23rd November—Christmas Fayre

Wednesday 4th December—Open Morning for prospective new pupils—9.30am

Tuesday 17th December and Wednesday 18th December—Christmas Performance—2.00pm

Thursday 19th December—Christmas Performance—9.15am (with creche)

Friday 20th December—End of Term—3.15pm

Friends of Manor Farm Schools

Please see the letters from The Friends which are attached to this email. They have some brilliant events coming up and would welcome your support.

The AGM is also approaching where key members of the committee are standing down. Please do speak to anyone from the committee if you would like to join, be it as a normal member or as one of the main roles. By joining the committee you are able to say how much you are able or willing to do. Not everyone does everything but all help is greatly appreciated and needed. Please do consider stepping up. Everyone is welcome and without more people the Friends will no longer be able to continue which would be devastating for both our schools and all the children.

Kenyan Linked School

Manor Farm Infant School is excited to announce that we now have a direct link with a school in Western Kenya. It is Rungu Primary School in Kirongo, near Oyugis. With the primary aim of understanding what life is like in a very rural area of Kenya, our hope is that the children will enjoy the exchange of news and come to appreciate that the lifestyle we have in the UK is not the same across other continents.

This link has been established through Amani UK (www.amaniuk.org.uk) and will offer our children the opportunity to learn about a very different culture and lifestyle, directly from the children of Rungu school. Likewise, Rungu Primary will gain knowledge and understanding about Manor Farm Infant School and our own culture here in the UK.

Email will be the form of communication between our schools and will include news of our school events, photos of our environment, examples of work and some letters with questions we would like answered.

We will be having an introduction to Kenya through an assembly about Kenyan life in the Kirongo area early in October and will hopefully start to understand the achievements and challenges that these children have.

If you have any queries about the link or any of your own experiences with Amani UK or in Kenya, please do get in touch with us.

Mrs Thurtell
Geography lead

Christmas Preparation

Mrs Morris has asked if anyone has any white sheets that they no longer need please could they send them into school for us to use to replace some of our Christmas costumes.

Advance notice of Christmas Dates:

All children will perform in all performances.

Tuesday 17th December at 2pm, Wednesday 18th December at 2pm and Thursday 19th December at 9.15pm (there will be a creche for this performance only as no younger children are permitted in the performance. There is a charge for this).