



WELCOME BACK AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

On behalf of all the staff, belated new year wishes to you all! We hope you all had a lovely time over the festive season? We have thoroughly enjoyed hearing the pupils' recounts of Santa's visit since their return!

This half term already looks set to be a busy one (nothing new there). A list of diary dates for this half term will be sent home next week.

STAFFING UPDATE

Mrs Maltby (a very experienced teacher) will be taking over Mrs Ackers' teaching commitments in early years for the next couple of weeks due to a busy diary schedule containing lots of meetings, audits and school life in general. This will also allow Mrs Ackers time to get into classes to monitor standards of teaching and learning. As always, the children's best interests lie at the heart of any decision making. Although some of you might feel that this is 'another' teacher, please be assured that we are monitoring the situation closely but believe it is the right decision for that class and the school as a whole at this time. We will keep you informed of any changes.

Mrs Harris is due back from maternity leave week beginning 12th February. She will be returning on a part time basis (3 days per week = Mon, Tues, Fri) with Mr Taylor teaching the children for the other two days.

Mrs Virani's sick note runs out next week. We hope she will be fit enough to return to work and look forward to welcoming her back.

BOOK UPDATE

BOOK FAIR

Thank you for supporting our book fair in December. I am delighted to inform you that we sold over £350 worth of books. This means we are able to purchase some free books from Scholastic. Thank you very much!

ACCELERATED READER

As you know, thanks to the very generous donation from the PTFA, we purchased Accelerated Reader during the Autumn term. Staff have now completed 2 out of the 3 training sessions and all books have been labelled. Pupils have been busy completing their STAR reading tests, the results of which will be shared with you next week via your child's reading diary. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher.

CHRISTIAN VALUE

Our Christian value this half term is truthfulness. We regularly talk to our pupils about the importance of telling the truth at all times.

TOPICS THIS HALF TERM

Information about topics will be sent home on Tuesday of next week along with homework for the half term. Following the positive comments received last half term, we will be adopting the 'shopping basket' style approach again. Please ensure that your child completes one task a week and returns this to school on a Tuesday. Please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher if you require any further work or information.

STAMP APPEAL

Reminder—we are supporting the Bone Cancer Research Trust by collecting any new and used stamps. Please send them in to school in an envelope marked 'Stamp appeal'. Thanks for your support.

FLOWERPOT CREATIONS

Your fabulous creations have taken a battering over the last few weeks thanks to our wonderful UK weather. If you wish to take yours home then please feel free to collect it. Alternatively, we are happy to re-house it in the woods where it will hopefully be a bit more sheltered.

YEAR 4 PARENTS URGENT/IMPORTANT

The deadline for middle school admissions is January 15th. Please make sure you have either applied for a place at another school or informed Mrs Ackers of your intention to stay at Manifold by this date.

ENTRY TO RECEPTION

Those looking to join our reception class in September must register their interest/application via Staffordshire County Councils website. Please note no places are guaranteed—therefore it is crucial that you apply for a place. Further information can be found on our school website. Information leaflets have been sent home via book bags tonight (EYFS only).

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

After school clubs start this Monday (8th January). Please note:
Outrageous Outdoors— suitable clothing and footwear is required for as children are likely to get very dirty!
Gymnastics—school PE kit including black pumps.
All other clubs—no additional equipment/clothing is required.

EYFS—NURSERY AGED CHILDREN

We accept children into our foundation stage class the term after their 3rd birthday. Please contact the office if you wish to register your child.

SWIMMING AND PE

Swimming and PE recommence on Monday 8th January 2018. Please remember to bring all kits.