



## Important Dates :

6th January – Return to school

16th January – Fiesta Fun Lunch (opt in for packed lunches via Parent Pay)

29th January – Y6 Parent Consultation Day

12th February – Parents Evening for Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4 and Y5 (3:15–5:30pm)

13th February – Parents Evening for Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4 and Y5 (3:15–5:30pm)

14th February – Break up for half term

## Autumn 2 Term – December – A festive round up

### Not one, not two but THREE nativities and other festivities

This December, we were treated to three wonderful Nativity performances that truly captured the festive spirit and showcased the incredible talent of our children... and staff! Our staff team performed a, shall we call it, 'unique version' of the traditional Nativity, written and directed by the wonderful Mrs. Hayes. The children watched in amazement and eagerly joined in, singing along to the festive songs. It is always a memorable event that kicks off the festive season. A huge thank you to Mrs. Hayes and our staff for bringing such a special and light-hearted version of the Nativity to life!

Our Key Stage One children performed the traditional Nativity and did an amazing job, bringing the traditional tale of Christmas to the stage with such passion, enthusiasm, gusto and bounce!

Next, our Foundation Stage children took on the most ambitious Christmas show we've seen yet—Nativity: The Musical. This performance was nothing short of spectacular, especially considering the challenges they faced, in the midst of a flood - with our youngest children unable to attend school for an entire week! Their creative interpretation of the Nativity, complete with modern song twists, was both heart-warming and entertaining. The children really shone!

As I said at both performances, we know our children very well at Manor Wood and are incredibly proud of every single one of them. We know what guts, grit and bravery it takes some of our children to take part and we are so, so proud of them all. A huge thank you to all the children, staff, and families who made these performances possible.

The festivities don't end there! Our Y5 children spread Christmas joy among the residents at the local care home, singing Christmas carols and as always, were a real credit to school on their outing within the community. Our Y6 children took part in our annual 'Tinsel Bike Ride' to Meanwood Park. Decked out in their brightest festive decorations. Once again, our Year 6 students were a fantastic reflection of the spirit of our school—energetic, positive, and full of enthusiasm!

# Foundation Stage – News and a huge thank you to all

As you may be aware, Storm Darragh hit us at the beginning of December and sadly flooded the entirety of our Early Years setting. We did have to temporarily close the Unit however we have been able to reopen to all children this week. This would not have been possible without the support and effort of our amazing staff team who worked around the clock to restore the space. We aren't quite the finished article yet but the Unit is safe and clean! We would also like to extend a huge heartfelt thank you to the families who reached out to offer their help. This weekend, I was truly overwhelmed to learn of the GoFundMe page set up by some of our wonderful parents. The generosity shown by everyone who contributed has been a really lovely surprise during what has been an incredibly challenging time to say the least. We cannot thank you enough for your kindness and support – it means the world to us!

We would like to share bittersweet news that Beth, Yellow Group teacher, will be leaving to embark on a new adventure in Shanghai. We will certainly miss her enthusiasm, dedication, and care for the children, but we are excited for her as she starts this new chapter. For those of you who know Beth through your children's time at our setting, you'll know that while she loves to travel the world, she always finds her way back home and of course, we will welcome Beth back to MWPS if and when she returns to the UK. Until then, we wish her all the best on her travels and look forward to hearing about her adventures. Thank you, Beth, for everything you have done for our children.

## Updates and other information

### [eVisa's](#)

We've been asked by the Local Authority to share important information regarding Visa's. The Home Office and the UK border and immigration system is becoming digital in 2025. People who do not have British or Irish nationality may need to apply for an eVisa and should check now. The link is available here : <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/online-immigration-status-evisa>

### [OMAT and MWPS Online Safety newsletters](#)

Our December Owlcotes newsletter showcases the highlights from across our school communities. Click here : <https://www.owlcotesmat.org/page/?title=Newsletters&pid=42> to read the OMAT Newsletter.

A reminder that, as part of our ongoing commitment to online safety, we are sharing our latest online safety newsletter. It's a valuable resource for parents and guardians to help keep our children safe while navigating the digital world. Click here : <https://www.manorwoodps.org.uk/page/?title=Latest+Newsletters&pid=19> for the Online Safety Newsletter.

### [Admissions for September 2025](#)

A reminder that the deadline for applications for Reception 2025 places is on 15th January. Information regarding admissions for Reception places for 2025-26 academic year can be found here: <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/our-school-admissions-policies/primary-school-admission-policy-for-september-2025-to-2026>

### [Save The Children](#)

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Save The Children Christmas Jumper Day fundraiser – we have raised a huge £657 that will go towards helping the emergency fund for children in crisis across the globe.

## 2M

When we return to school in the New Year, we are excited to welcome Miss Wilson back from her maternity leave. She will be the class teacher for the remainder of the academic year in 2M. We are really looking forward to having her back with us. A big thank you to Mrs. Taverner for stepping in and taking over from Mrs. Manson when she began her maternity leave in November.

## Fiesta Fun Lunch

Children on packed lunches are invited to join us for a 'Fiesta Fun Lunch' on 16th January. Please ensure you sign up and make payment via Parent Pay no later than Friday 10th January. If you have selected 'yes' for the lunch but have not completed the payment by this date, your child will not receive a school meal and will need to bring a packed lunch as usual.

Finally, as we approach the end of the year, I would like to take a moment to wish all of our families celebrating Hanukkah and Christmas over the two-week break a happy, peaceful holiday. I hope this festive season brings you all joy and a much-needed break after a busy year.

We look forward to seeing you all in 2025!

Kate Humphries  
Headteacher