



## Important Dates :

- 8<sup>th</sup> September - Reception children back to school
- 15<sup>th</sup> September - Staggered starts for Nursery children
- 23<sup>rd</sup> September - KS1 Reading and Phonics meeting @ 2:30pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> September - KS1 Reading and Phonics meeting @ 9am
- 29<sup>th</sup> September - Y6 SATs/SRE/High school choices meeting (online)
- 7<sup>th</sup> October - Flu jabs for 2-11 year olds
- 8<sup>th</sup> October - Reading and Phonics meeting for Reception
- 15<sup>th</sup> October - School photos (individual)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> October - Parents Evening (Reception to Y6)
- 24<sup>th</sup> October - BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM
- 3<sup>rd</sup> November - Return to school

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the new school year! We hope you all had a lovely, restful summer break. It has been absolutely wonderful to see so many of you this week and to have the familiar, happy buzz back in our school as normal service resumes.

### A Busy Term Ahead!

We have a very busy and exciting half-term planned. Your child's year group will be sharing their own termly newsletters shortly, which will include their new 'Sticky Knowledge' mats. These mats detail the key vocabulary and all the essential information your children will be learning across our wider curriculum subjects. Please do take some time to look at these with your children this term; it's a great opportunity for you to become familiar with their topics and use them as a talking point at home!

### School Updates and Reminders

#### Welly Stores

As mentioned before the holidays, our new welly stores have been built over the summer. We expect them to be ready in a couple of weeks, and we will let you know when your children can bring their wellies and waterproof trousers or all-in-one suits into school. These will be kept in school and sent home during the half-term holidays, or sooner if they need a good wash!

#### Uniform

Our uniform expectations remain unchanged and are as follows:

- Mid-grey plain trousers, shorts, pinafore dress or skirt
- White shirt, blouse OR white polo shirt (with collar)
- Manor Wood official school sweatshirt or cardigan
- White, grey or black tights, leggings or socks
- Green gingham summer dresses
- Sensible, dark coloured outdoor shoes
- A pair of black pumps for indoor use
- A Manor Wood book bag

We continue to ask that you send your children into school in their PE kit on the days they have PE.

- Indoor kit: White t-shirt and plain dark (black or navy) coloured shorts
- Outdoor kit: White t-shirt, plain dark (black or navy) coloured tracksuit with full-length trousers and jumper/hoody, and trainers

Please ensure that your child has a Manor Wood school book bag or document case. They can be purchased from The Uniform Shop in Meanwood or via this link: <https://www.uniweears.co.uk/products/manor-wood-primary-book-bag>.

### Labelling & Lost Property.

Please can we remind all families to clearly label every item of clothing and property belonging to your child. The lost property bench is located just outside the main school office for any items that go missing.

### School Gates & Timings

A quick reminder of our times:

- Gates open at 8:30 am and close at 9:00 am.
- School doors open at 8:45 am and close promptly at 8:50 am.
- School finishes at 3:15. At pick-up time (gates open at 3:00 pm and close at 3:30 pm), please can we ask parents collecting KS2 children from the playground to leave adequate space as the children leave their classrooms. This helps adults identify parents safely and prevents the playground from becoming overcrowded.

### Healthy Snacks

We are a healthy school, so please remember that snacks for playtime cannot be crisps or chocolate. Items such as fruit, veg sticks, breadsticks, rice cakes, and popcorn are all suitable and appropriate snacks.

### Arbor App

As you know, we have now fully moved over to Arbor for payments, bookings, and communications. Thank you to the vast majority of families who have downloaded the app. If you are one of the few who haven't made the transition yet, please check your email inbox for the welcome link. ParentPay is no longer in use. For now, Seesaw will remain a good communication tool with your child's class teacher. Please bear in mind that to ensure a healthy work-life balance for our staff, we have a 72-hour communication policy. If your enquiry is urgent, please call or email the school office directly.

### New Faces and Familiar Faces

We are very pleased to have our full staff team in place for the new academic year. It is a great pleasure to welcome back Miss Manson (formerly Miss Keeble) following her maternity leave. We have also been joined by two new colleagues: Mrs Hemingway in our Year 6 teaching team, and Mr Kelly, our new Assistant Headteacher. Both have made an excellent start and have settled into their roles wonderfully. We are thrilled to have them with us and they are already proving to be great additions to our team. Mr Kelly has been on the gate with Mrs Lowry and I this week and has enjoyed the opportunity to meet the children. Please do say hello if you see him around school in the coming weeks.

### Our Youngest Learners

Our new Year 1 children have made a fantastic transition from Reception and are certainly ready to hit the ground running when they return as a full group of 60 next week! We are also very much looking forward to welcoming our new Reception children for their first days at school next week, too.

### IMPORTANT - [Vote For Ayaan to be Leeds Children's Mayor!](https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/LCMVoting25/)

We are incredibly proud to announce that Ayaan, one of our wonderful Year 6 pupils, has been nominated as a finalist for Leeds Children's Mayor! He is one of just 12 candidates selected from across the city, and now he needs our help to win. The voting process is simple, takes less than a minute, and every single vote counts. Please support Ayaan and help a Manor Wood star become a voice for children across Leeds! Vote here: <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/LCMVoting25/>

Finally, thank you to my wonderful staff team and to you as parents for your support in making the first week back so successful. The positive energy around school has been wonderful to see, and we are all looking forward to a fantastic term. We truly value our partnership with you and are excited to work together to make this a brilliant year for your children. We hope you have a lovely weekend