

HEADTEACHER NEWSLETTER



September 2024

Newsletter 1

WELCOME BACK MANOR WOOD FAMILIES

Welcome back to you all - I hope you all had a wonderful summer break. As always, the children have made a great start to the new academic year and are already fully embracing their new classroom routines. I have been very impressed with how settled and engaged the children are.

A huge, warm welcome also to our new children and families starting in our Foundation Stage Unit over the next two weeks. I am very much looking forward to meeting you all.

This is a rather lengthy opening newsletter as I would like to put reminders and whole school information in one place.

Important dates for your diary:

Autumn 1

- **24th September** - Y2 Reading and phonics meeting at 2:30pm
- **25th September** - Y1 Reading and phonics meeting at 9am
- **1st October** - Y6 SATs / SRE / High School meeting 6-7pm (*virtual, link to follow*)
- **7th October** - Y4 Harvest Festival Assembly
- **9th October** - Parent Partnership Day (*SCHOOL IS CLOSED for Y1-6*)
- **23rd October** - School Photos (*Individual photos*)
- **25th October** - Break up for half term

Attendance and Punctuality

School opens at 8:40 a.m. and doors close promptly at 8:50 a.m. If your child arrives late, they are required to sign in at the office. For FSU children, collection time is 3:10 p.m., while for Y1-6, it is 3:15 p.m. Please prioritise picking up your younger children first. We encourage families to take advantage of the additional week of half term holiday in June to help reduce travel expenses and avoid taking holidays in term time as these would unfortunately be unauthorised. Thank you for your support with this.

Uniform and PE Kits

Our uniform policy was distributed at the end of summer and will be resent this week for your reference. Book bags are available for purchase online or in-person at the uniform shop in Meanwood, where pump-style drawstring bags and backpacks are also on offer. It is essential to label all belongings, including water bottles, to minimise the considerable number of items already accumulating in our lost property box.

Medication and Illness

All medication must be handed in at the office. We are only able to administer medication that has been prescribed by a doctor for use more than 3 times, daily. If your child has asthma and has an inhaler at home, a duplicate must be provided for school use, clearly dated. The inhaler will be stored in your child's classroom after it has been registered at the office.

Home-School Partnership and Communication

We take great pride in fostering strong relationships with our families and are committed to regular communication regarding your child's progress and well-being. In addition to the termly parent meetings and reports, you can easily reach out to your child's class teacher via Seesaw to seek clarification or schedule a meeting. Please note that between 7 pm and 7 am, considered our 'unsociable' hours, teachers will not be available to view or respond to messages. Please avoid contacting the school office in the morning to arrange impromptu meetings as our staff are preoccupied preparing for the school day and meetings are not available without prior arrangement.

Your child's class teacher is always your first point of contact for any concern. Should you be unable to meet with your child's class teacher or find resolution through them, your next point of contact would be the Key Stage Phase Leader, who is a member of the senior leadership team:

- KS1: Miss Fran Jagger
- Lower KS2: Miss Chloe Earl
- Upper KS2: Mrs. Becky Hayes

Healthy schools

You may be aware of our recent attainment of the 'Healthy School' Award following an audit from the Local Authority. This acknowledges our well-balanced packed lunches, which specifically exclude juice in water bottles—opting for water exclusively. It is also important to note that our school **maintains a nut-free policy** to ensure the safety and well-being of all our students.

Consent / Permissions

A parental consent form has been sent out via Seesaw. Please ensure that you complete a separate form for each child.