



Manorcroft Primary School

September Newsletter 2020-21

Headteacher Welcome:

We have had an incredibly positive start to the school year - you should all be very proud of your children. The atmosphere around the school is one of focus, determination and pride, and it has been a pleasure to observe the children settling back in and engaging in their learning. A very warm welcome to all new families joining us this September - you're very welcome and we hope it won't take you long to feel settled at Manorcroft. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Admin Team via email (info@manorcroft.surrey.sch.uk).

The children have coped admirably with the new changes that have been put into place, and with the inevitable tweaking that has followed over the last week or so. They, alongside the staff team, have shown real resilience and determination in 'making everything work'!

Last week saw our new YR children starting school for the first time and the entire team has been incredibly impressed with how confident and self-assured our youngest children are. Today sees all of them in school for their first full day, and it's fantastic to watch them beginning to make new friends and discover how the different learning environments work. We look forward to them getting used to a whole week at school, including lunchtimes!

Ann Wheeler - Headteacher

Drop-Off & Pick-Up:

A huge thank you to all parents for supporting us with the new arrangements to the start and end of the day. We understand that it's a bit different, but our main priority is the safety of the school community. Below is a reminder of our new systems:

Drop-Off

- There is a 15 minute window for drop-off in the morning, between 8.40am - 8.55am
- Only 1 adult per household
- Parents will not be allowed to access the site - children to independently make their way in
- YR, Y1, Y2 and Y4 to use the Pedestrian Gate (by Nursery)
- Y3, Y5 & Y6 to use the Vehicle Gate (by the Bowls Club)
- There is a one-way system in operation at both gates - as you face the gate, approach from the left and exit to the right
- Adhere to social distancing rules when queuing on the pavements
- Keep the queue flowing, please do not congregate once your child has been dropped off

Pick-Up

- Only 1 adult per household
- All parents to enter the site via the Pedestrian Gate (by Nursery)
- Follow the one way system demarcated by the cones and fencing
- Stand in the allocated zone when waiting for your child, not on the pathway
- Once you've collected your child, keep moving along the one-way system
- Adhere to social distancing rules

In order to alleviate the number of parents on the school site at the end of the day, we have slightly staggered the finish times for some of the year groups:

Year Group	Pick-Up Time	Pick-Up Zone
YR	3.05pm	By the main year group entrance door, opposite Nursery
Y1 & Y2	3.10pm	KS1 playground
Y4	3.15pm	KS2 Trimtrail Playground
Y3, Y5 & Y6		KS2 Back Playground (near the field)

Once you have collected your child from the correct pick-up zone, please keep moving along the pathway, either to the next zone to collect a sibling, or exiting the school site via the visitor car park.

Contacting Class Teachers:

At the moment it is not possible to chat with class teachers at the end of the day. Therefore, if you have a short message to share, either write it in the Reading Record (YR-Y2) or the Weekly Diary (KS2), or email into the Admin Team and they can pass it on for you. Alternatively, each year group has its own email account. Please note, these accounts are shared by the teaching team and will only be checked a couple of times a week, during working hours:

YearR@manorcroft.surrey.sch.uk
Year1@manorcroft.surrey.sch.uk
Year2@manorcroft.surrey.sch.uk
Year3@manorcroft.surrey.sch.uk
Year4@manorcroft.surrey.sch.uk
Year5@manorcroft.surrey.sch.uk
Year6@manorcroft.surrey.sch.uk

Miss Havard & Mrs Jordan
Miss Marshall & Miss Wilkins
Miss Hitchen & Mrs McClean
Miss Hudson & Miss Redman
Miss Elie & Miss Govey
Mrs Scannell, Mrs Woodin & Mrs Whittingham
Mrs Alden, Mrs Rees & Mrs Woodin

Bikes & Scooters:

From this week, we will once again be allowing children to bring bikes and scooters to school. All children will need to dismount at the gate and walk them sensibly into school.

Y3, Y5 & Y6 children will be able to store them in the main bike shed along the school driveway

Y1 & Y2 will need to leave them along the fence in their outside areas

YR & Y4 will need to leave them along the outside wall of YR (the original place we were using last year)

There will be members of staff on hand to help the children.

PE Kits:

By now, all PE Kits should be in school. Please see the school uniform overview for what the children need, noting that as the weather gets colder, the children will need a tracksuit. There are two timetabled PE lessons each week (one initially for YR), plus additional outdoor activities. If children are missing part of their PE Kit then they will be unable to take part, and will need to sit out for the lesson. This is obviously something we wish to avoid. Daily exercise is vital for all children's wellbeing.

Jewellery:

Jewellery is not permitted in school and this includes earrings. Please can we ask that everything is removed before school each day. Children may wear a watch if they choose to, but they must be responsible for it.

Water Bottles:

All children need a named water bottle in school each day.

Diary Dates:

We are in the process of finalising our 'Diary of Events'. Sadly, lots of things that might normally be in the calendar will be unable to run this term, for example Harvest and the curriculum exhibitions. However, we're hopeful that we may be able to add some of them back in after Christmas. A date list will be sent home shortly, but in the meantime, all dates also get published on the school website - please see the [Calendar](#) section to stay up-to-date.

Celebration Certificates:

As before, we will be awarding weekly certificates linked to our school values. These will be presented in classes for the time being as we're not holding any whole school assemblies.

Please look out for the 'Weekly Awards' letter which will go home each Friday detailing those children/classes that have been celebrated that morning.

Online Subscriptions:

Has your child logged onto My Maths or Purple Mash at home yet, or used TT Rockstars to support their home learning? All children in Y1-Y6 have received information regarding their login details to the websites that the school has licenses for this year. A parent letter was emailed out last Friday with details about how each site could be used to support additional learning. If you have any queries or problems accessing the sites, then please contact class teachers in the first instance. We hope that the children enjoy using the resources.

Refurbishment:

The end of the summer term and the school holidays saw the continuation of the refurbishment of the school buildings and grounds, ensuring that our learning environment is exciting, fresh and fit for purpose. YR York has been completely refurbished which now means that both our YR classrooms look bright and welcoming. Y5 Cardiff has been repainted and we're just waiting for a new carpet to be laid. Refurbishment of the library is underway and new furniture is on order which will help with making the books far more accessible for the children.

One big change is our front entrance and Admin Offices. The whole area has been redesigned and the creation of separate office spaces and a corridor, now means that we have a safe and secure entrance to the school. In addition, we have also created a new medical bay area, which means we now have a dedicated space to support first aid.

Thank Yous:

Before the school closed last March, a group of parents and Governors donated money to support the school with beginning the process of replacing old reading books. Some of our resources have become quite tatty and in need of updating, and we were very grateful for the money that was raised. Then at the end of the school year there was a very generous collection from our YR and Y2 parents (now our current Y1 and Y3 parents!), of nearly £450 to put towards new reading resources. We can't thank people enough for their generosity.

Reading is a huge priority in school, and we are overhauling our reading scheme for our youngest learners, ensuring that new books are bought that support how phonics is taught in school. We're also looking at the quality of 'free readers' that are available to the children once they begin to come off the scheme in KS2. Part of our plan is to invest in the reading corners in classrooms, as well as the fiction section of the library.

One exciting development is the creation of a 'Diamond Reader' box in each classroom in KS2 where children will be encouraged to read high quality fiction, alongside other books that interest them. We're beginning to roll out the new books and more updates will follow shortly!

PTA:

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the PTA last year. It was a strange period, in that fundraising through physical events generally had to stop around March time. However, there are some online ways to support the school going forward:

- **PTA Lottery** - weekly tickets cost £1 and one lucky person wins a cash prize each week - [Your School Lottery](#)
- **The Giving Machine** - when shopping online, if you go through the [Giving Machine](#) website first, the PTA will receive on average 3% of your total spend.
- **Easy2Name** - everything in school needs naming and if you use this company the PTA receive 20% from each order.
- **Smile Amazon** - if you shop through smile.amazon.co.uk then Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase to the PTA; this now works on both iPhones and android devices!
 1. *Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device*
 2. *Go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into 'Settings'*
 3. *Tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process*

More details about fundraising for the school can be found on our website: [Our School / PTA](#)

Follow us on Twitter:

Keep up-to-date by regularly checking the school website and following us on Twitter!



@Manorcroft



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