



Manorcroft Primary School

November Newsletter 2020-21

Thank You:

Thank you to everyone who supported our Harvest collection for the Runnymede Foodbank around October half term time. Once we had put everything together from across the school, we had managed to collect an incredible 12 crates worth of food which were driven over to the Foodbank to support local people in crisis. Altogether we collected 203.35kg in total, which the Foodbank acknowledged by sending us a certificate. A huge thank you to everyone across the school who donated.



Diary Dates:

The latest 'Diary Dates' are now available. All dates are also published on our website - please see the [Calendar](#) to stay up-to-date. Alternatively, please see the 'Term Dates' section where you can find the dates for the year plus a detailed/printable overview from November.

School Website: School Life / [Term Dates](#)

Open Mornings:

Before the second national lockdown started, we were able to hold 6 successful Open Morning sessions for those parents considering sending their children to Manorcroft in September 2021. Each session was held following a strict risk assessment ensuring that it was Covid secure. We're very fortunate that our school site allowed us to run the tours outside in the grounds. We have received lots of very positive feedback about the school and the curriculum opportunities available. If you are aware of any further families considering Manorcroft for their children, then please encourage them to phone or email the school Admin Team, who will in turn put them in touch with a member of the Leadership Team.

PE:

Staying fit and healthy, and spending time outside in the fresh air has never been so important. To that end, we have adapted all our class timetables to ensure that on the days when there isn't a PE lesson taking place, everyone is involved in some sort of 'Daily Physical Activity' (DPA). We use a variety of activities and resources, so please ask your children what they have been up to. Each classroom has a thermometer to try and achieve their daily/weekly target of keeping active.

Although taking part in inter-school competitions is not currently allowed, this hasn't stopped us getting creative with our in school efforts! We have been trying to achieve as much as possible in our year group bubbles and we know the children have been enjoying the competitive elements that we've been able to bring back.

The first thing we've been taking part in across the whole school is rounders for the Virtual Surrey School Games (VSSG). This has been great fun and there have been lots of different versions being

played by the children, including football rounders! Our scores will be submitted to Active Surrey and we hope to be high up the leader board.

The next exciting thing we have planned is a Panathlon Games Day which will see selected teams from each year group bubble taking part in a festival style event. This will be held in school on Thursday 2nd December and will be following our Covid risk assessment - look out for photos on Twitter soon! The final thing is our Cross Country competition for Years 3 to 6. Children are taking part outside of school and sending in their results. We have had quite a few entries and the competition is getting close, most certainly in Year 5. Please continue to send in the entries, either by sending in a paper copy of a photo or via email (Year5@manorcroft.surrey.sch.uk).

Update by Mrs Whittingham

Forest School Update:

Last week saw our new trees arriving in the Forest School. We have been waiting a very long time for these as sadly Covid had disrupted the delivery and planting, however they eventually arrived and have now been successfully planted! The additional trees are part of our plan to extend the forest area to the RH corner of the field, away from the noise of the M25. Last year we sectioned the area off with willow fencing and these new trees will help the development get underway. A big thank you to the PTA for financially supporting us.

KS1 Playground Update:

Last week also saw new playground equipment beginning to be installed in the KS1 area, alongside the edge of the court. We are installing a selection of games and musical panels to give the children more activities to get involved with at break and lunchtime. This is part of our bigger project to slowly develop the playground spaces, which the PTA generously helped us with last academic year.

Run up to Christmas:

Last Friday we held Christmas Art Day which saw every class getting ready for the last 3 weeks of term. Classroom Christmas trees were put up, decorations were made for the classrooms and everyone started to learn their class Christmas song.

Full details of the last 3 weeks of term were sent home last week, please check your emails or the school website for the 'Christmas Overview'.

School Website: School Life / [Newsletters](#)

Refurbishment & New Resources:

Our general refurbishment of the school has continued, ensuring that our learning environment is exciting, fresh and fit for purpose. Y5 Cardiff has now been completed and Y6 Oxford underwent a complete refurbishment over Half Term, including the building of a new cloakroom space for the children.

Excitingly the library has now also been completed, meaning that the space is now accessible and somewhere inviting to either go and choose books from, or work in a small group at one of the tables. We have invested in new furniture along with hundreds of new reading resources. Replacing some of the reading resources is a huge priority for the school currently, and thanks to the generosity of parents and governors, as well as an injection of funding from the school budget, we now have lots of new reading resources across the school.

New books have been purchased to support the reading scheme in YR and KS1, as well as new 'free reader' books in the library and classrooms for our more confident readers. We have also introduced the idea of 'Diamond Readers' (key year group texts) for the children to explore once they come off the reading scheme. Improving the quality of the reading resources across the school is going to be a long

term investment, and to help explain a little bit more about what has been achieved to date, Mrs Rees has created a leaflet that is being emailed home today. Please take the time to read this through and see what changes we've made. If you have any questions, then please contact class teachers in the first instance.

Hall Update:

The replacement of the school Hall ceiling continues and is on track to be completed by the end of term. The project is quite an undertaking as you can imagine, however we're very excited to finally be getting a new ceiling, and subsequently new lighting in the Hall, as this is something that the school has needed for a very long time. Further refurbishments and investment will need to take place in the future, namely redecorating, replacing the blinds which have become damaged and looking at a new sound and lighting system for the stage. These will be planned for accordingly and we'll keep you updated.

Once we have full access to the Hall and stage again, we will plan for the reintroduction of hot school lunches, most likely from January 2021. More details will follow nearer the time. In the meantime, please can we thank all parents and carers for being so supportive of our current situation, including the packed school lunch service and the changes to pick-up.

Please note, all PE lessons are now being taught outside, so it is vital that all children have a hoodie/sweatshirt and joggers with them. Even in cold weather the lessons continue, so children must have appropriate clothing with them.

Reminders:

1. Nail varnish and earrings are not allowed in school. We ask that they are removed at the end of the weekend before children return to school on the Monday.
2. PE lessons are a statutory part of the curriculum and all children will take part in two hours each week. Children must have the correct PE Kit in school at all times. In order to assist with this, we ask that PE Bags come into school on a Monday and, if necessary, go home on a Friday for washing.
3. We are a nut free school. We ask that no food containing nuts or nut derivatives is sent into school. This includes within packed lunches or morning break snacks.

Drop-Off & Pick-Up:

A huge thank you to all parents for supporting us with the current 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 the 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 & Y5	3.15pm	KS2 Trimtrail Playground
Y3 & Y6		The school driveway

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.

PTA:

PTA meetings have now moved online; if you'd be interested in joining the next one, please email the PTA at: manorcroftpta@hotmail.com

Upcoming Date for the Diary:

- **Christmas Shopping Room** Friday 11th December
Opportunity for the children to buy their loved ones a secret Santa gift

If you're interested, there are several 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](#)
- **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*
- **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.

More information can be found on our website - **School Website**: Our School / [PTA](#)

Follow us on Twitter:

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



@Manorcroft



Respect Responsibility Resilience