



Manor Park

CE (VC) First School

Love for God ~ Love for Each Other ~ Love for Learning

Weekly Newsletter

Monday 20th October 2025

Dear families

And so our term is coming to end. The children have settled extremely well into school life again and we have had lots of amazing learning opportunities. The children enjoy their daily phonics and guided reading sessions and have made fantastic progress. The authors that visited our school have further enhanced our "Love for Reading" and the children were able to ask them very insightful questions.

Thank you to all of you who have supported your child and the school with downloading the "My Happy Mind" app. It is wonderful to hear so many children talking about how to keep their brain healthy. We will continue to inform you via a termly Happy Mind Newsletter about their learning.

Our parent survey has gone live. If you have a spare second please could you complete it. Your opinion counts.

We wish you all a very restful half term.

Manor Park First School



Save the Date

DATE	EVENT
20th October	Parents' evening
21 st October	Parents' evening
22 nd / 23 rd / 24 th October	INSET Days
27th -31st October	Half Term
November	'Cut Your Carbon' Month
3 rd November	Start of Autumn 2
5th November	Bonfire Night arts and crafts
6th November	speech and language meetings
10 th November	SENDCo meetings
28th November	Signature House Christmas Bazaar
2 nd December	SENDCo meetings
4 th December	Yr3 Journey to the stable
5th December	Yr4 Journey to the stable
15 th December	Yr 1 and 2 Nativity Performance @ 10:30am-11:30am
16 th December	Yr 1 and 2 Nativity Performance @1:45pm - 2:45pm
17th December	Christmas Carols at Signature House
18th December	End of term

**Further detailed information will be sent out via Arbor for specific events closer to the time.*



Manor Park CE (VC) First School



Love for God ~ Love for Each Other ~ Love for Learning

HIGHLIGHTS of the WEEK



We are so proud to hear about this little #ManorParkSuperStar! Last weekend, Emily wanted to do some litter picking around the school. She found lots of sweet wrappers, cans, bottles and a lunch box complete with very mouldy lunch! She was very proud of her achievement and is going to do it regularly so everyone can enjoy a litter free school.



Thank you for showing your support by buying a book from the Scholastic Book Fair last week.

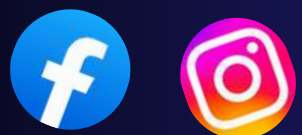


Oak Class and Beech Class in Year 4 enjoyed making bird feeders with the fallen apples and building dens to stay dry in the drizzle during their outdoor learning session.



Chris Smith, the author of the new Famous 5 Books, visited years 3 and 4.

Children's author, Simon Philip, visited Year 1 and 2 .





An exciting new partnership between Manor Park First School and Signature House in Dorchester



We are delighted to announce an exciting new partnership between Manor Park First School and Signature House in Dorchester, aimed at establishing an intergenerational link that will enrich the experiences of both our children and the residents of Signature House.

There are many benefits for our young people in participating in this intergenerational work, including:

- Boosting self-esteem, confidence, and wellbeing
- Developing empathy and communication skills
- Learning from the wisdom and experiences of older generations
- Engaging in social action and contributing positively to the community
- Building a stronger sense of community and belonging



Throughout the coming year, we have planned a variety of wonderful events where groups of pupils will have the opportunity to visit Signature House. Activities will include reading stories, engaging in arts and crafts, gardening, singing, playing games, and much more. These visits are designed to foster meaningful connections between generations and create memorable experiences for all involved.



We are excited to share that on Wednesday 15th October, our Year 3 and Year 4 Chaplaincy team visited Signature House to take part in some autumn themed arts and crafts activities. This marks the beginning of what we hope will be a long and rewarding partnership.





School Meals

Healthy Plates, Happy Students



DESIGN A

CHRISTMAS JUMPER



What to do:

- 1 Draw your Christmas design on a plain piece of A4 paper. Please **DO NOT** use/draw a jumper template.
- 2 Please include your child's name, age, class, year and school on your email.
- 3 Email your design to comps@localfoodlinks.org.uk by **Friday 14th November**.

We will accept the following file types: PDF or JPEG



✨It's Back...Christmas Jumper Competition Time! ✨🎄

Ho-ho-ho get ready for some festive fun! In celebration of 'Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day', Local Food Links is inviting your little Picassos to design their very own Christmas jumper!

Let your child's imagination run wild

🎨 draw a Christmas themed design on one A4 piece of plain paper (no jumper templates, please!)

Entry is totally FREE!

Your child could be the proud owner of a jumper sporting their very own design this Christmas Jumper day



LocalFoodLinks



@localfoodlinks



Manor Park
CE (VC) First School



Love for God ~ Love for Each Other ~ Love for Learning

Limited Preschool spaces available



Are you looking for a preschool place for your child?

We have a few limited spaces available for our 3-year-old intake and can put you on the waiting list for our 2-year-old intake.

If you are interested in joining our wonderful school, please contact the school office. We welcome visits so that you can meet our enthusiastic Preschool team and see the excellent provision we offer to ensure your child reaches their full potential.

Please contact the school office on 01305 268741 or email office@manorpark.dorset.sch.uk



Check out our social media pages

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION



While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES



Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY



When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT



Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS



Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES



Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY



Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE



Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



See full reference list on our website

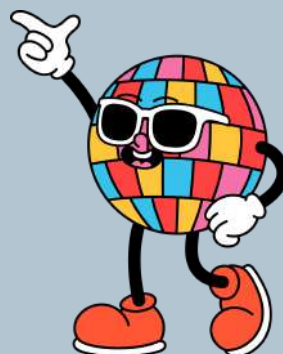




We held our AGM last week and successfully appointed the core committee and specific committee roles for the year ahead. Thank you to those who are also becoming part of the Buds volunteer team - it was lovely to see some new faces. If you'd like to volunteer at events, such as the discos, Christmas Fair, and many of our other events throughout the year, please just give the office your contact details and we will be in touch.



Our Autumn discos were a great success! Thank you to Encore Entertainment for creating such a memorable experience for our children.



@Budsofmanorpark

BudsOfManorPark





Open Day!



Are you looking for a school place for your child who is due to join Reception in September 2026?



We are delighted to invite you to our school on **Thursday 6th November** at 10:30am, where you will have the opportunity to: have a tour with Mrs Sterck, our Head of School; meet our enthusiastic Reception team; and see the excellent provision we offer to ensure your child reaches their full potential.

*If you are unable to attend on the above dates, please call the school office to make an appointment at a time to suit you.

To book a tour, please contact the school office on 01305 268741 or email office@manorpark.wessex.ac



@manorparkfirst



ManorParkDorchester



Love for God ~ Love for Each Other ~ Love for Learning



*Attendance Winners
this week are...*

<u>EYFS</u>	
Maple Class:	96.3%
<u>K.S.1</u>	
Willow Class:	94.6%
<u>K.S.2</u>	
Beech Class:	99.2%

*“Love is a safe place of shelter,
For it never stops believing the best for
others. Love never takes failure as defeat,
for it never gives up. Love never stops
Loving. 1 Corinthians 13: 7-8*

01305 268741

www.manorpark.dorset.sch.uk



@manorparkfirst



ManorParkDorchester

