



MANBY LODGE INFANT SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER: MISS M. MORRIS

Headteacher Newsletter – 2023 – 2024 - Number TWO – Friday 15th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

New Year R first days of school

Our new Year R children have made a fantastic start to school life at Manby Lodge! Staff have been very impressed with how children in each class have settled and are getting used to classroom routines. All of them were keen to get out into the big playground at lunchtime and many have even started making friends with children in Year 1 and Year 2.



Cygnets at lunchtime






Exploring and playing – inside and out!

Year 1 and 2 children have been helpful and kind, guiding new Year R children to the toilets at lunchtime, taking them to First Aid when there are accidents and playing games with them. We expect this of our Year 1 and Year 2 children, but we are still very proud of the way they are behaving.

Meet the Teacher Meetings

We hope that you have found these meetings helpful. Remember, if you have any questions about your child, or school routines, always try to speak to your child's class teacher – they are most likely to be able to answer your questions.

In each Year Group there is a Year Group Leader who can help you if your child's class teacher can't.

Year R – Mrs Atkinson (Ducklings)	Year 1 – Mrs Maxmilan (Squirrels)	Year 2 – Mrs Hughes (Tigers)
		

Playground rules before and after school

Please remember the following:

- Children are not allowed to use the Trim Trail before or after school.
- No scooting or cycling in the playground before or after school.



These rules are in place to avoid accidents. Please help us to keep everyone safe. Thank you.

School events for you to attend

We are sending out an **updated Key Dates** along with this Newsletter today.

I'd like to highlight the upcoming events.

1. Year R Parents FOML Welcome drinks – Wednesday 20th September 7.30pm – 9.30pm (School Hall)

This is a chance for you to spend a little time in school getting to know other new Year R parents and members of our PTA, FOML (Friends of Manby Lodge).

2. Sessions for parent volunteers

Friday 22nd Sept – 2.15pm

Monday 25th Sept – 9.10am

Friday 29th Sept – 2.15pm

Tuesday 3rd Oct – 2.15pm

Parents are welcome to come into school to do volunteering, but you will need to attend one of these sessions first. In the session I will talk you through our Safeguarding systems as well as other key points you will need to know in order to volunteer in school.

You will also need to complete a DBS check.

If you want to attend one of these sessions please book a place with our School Office Team. These events are not suitable for younger siblings to attend, but if you are really stuck for child care please speak to one of the Office staff explain that you'd like to attend but may need support looking after your child. We may be able to help.

3. Reading & Writing Workshop for parents

Tuesday 26th September 9.15am – 10.15am (school hall) or 6pm – 7pm (online)

Mrs Hughes and Mrs Maxmilan (Year 2 and Year 1 Leaders) will talk to you about what you should expect in terms of your child's development and progress in reading & writing. They will share with you strategies for supporting your child at home.

We will be holding further workshops on Phonics and Maths. Please see the dates for these on the Key Dates page.

The Key Dates list is also available on our website on the [Calendar page](#).

Child's absence from school

If your child is absent from school, it is your responsibility to contact us and let us know why they are not in school, and you should do that every day unless it is mutually agreed that this is not necessary by you and our Office Team.

You may find this NHS Guidance - 'Is my child too ill for school?' helpful: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



2023-2026



ACTIVE SURREY
2018/19



Elmbridge Family Centres have lots going on this autumn / winter – please see the attached flyer for further information.



Reading at Home

We will not be continuing with the Reading at Home Competition as we will be focusing on different ways to promote reading at home.

I have attached a longer document about why reading with your child is so important, but here are the headlines for you to see straight away.

Research has shown that the frequency of reading to and with children at a young age has a direct causal effect on their outcomes, e.g.

- Reading with children aged 4-5 every day has a significant positive effect on their reading skills and cognitive skills (language & literacy, numeracy, and cognition) later in life
- Reading with children 3-5 days per week (compared to 2 or less) has the same effect on a child's reading skills at age 4-5 **as being 6 months older.**
- Reading with them 6-7 days per week has the same effect as **being almost 12 months older.**

Many of you will ask how best to support your child.

Our answer is always:

Read with your child as much as possible!

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine.

Kind regards,

Miriam Morris