



## MANBY LODGE INFANT SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER: MISS M. MORRIS

### **Headteacher Newsletter – 2023-24 - Number FIVE - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023**




Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back! I hope that you had a great Half Term holiday. We've come back to such a busy week, with Year 2 enjoying their Titanic Workshops, our FOML Pumpkin Displays, school photographs and a Cake Sale to finish the week!




I am afraid that there is lots of information in this Newsletter, please be prepared to read for a while! Thank you.

#### **The winners of the Pumpkin Decoration are as follows:**




##### **Reception:**

-  Arlo (Cygnets)
-  Emmie (Goslings)
-  Leo (Ducklings)

##### **Year 1:**

-  Niya (Squirrels)
-  Amelie (Hedgehogs)
-  Sefton (Foxes)

##### **Year 2:**

-  Mara (Leopards)
-  Caleb (Tigers)
-  Vova (Lions)



I was very impressed by the quality of the decorating this year and I can confirm that choosing the winning Pumpkins was a very difficult job! More photos are available on the FoML page on the School Website.

#### **IMPORTANT – School Admissions**

Please follow this link to make an application for Year 3 or for younger siblings to join Manby Lodge in Reception from September next year:

Primary school admissions are now open - Surrey County Council ([surreycc.gov.uk](https://surreycc.gov.uk))

#### **Parent Survey**

Every year in the Autumn we conduct a Parent Survey. It helps us to understand your views on what we do well and what you think we could improve. As last year the survey is online and can be accessed if you follow [this link](#).

**We will keep the survey open and will send a reminder in a couple of weeks.**

#### **Green Team: An invitation to parents and carers from Mrs Lisa Atkinson (Year R Lead and Duckling Class Teacher)**

As we further our commitment to sustainability at Manby Lodge, we would like to invite parents and carers with an interest in environmental issues to join our 'Green Team'. The team would meet at least once a term to discuss how we can further improve our efforts in taking care of our environment.

To make this manageable we would like to invite 1 or 2 adults from each class (this could be, but doesn't have to be class reps) to be part of the team.

If you would like to be part of the Green Team at Manby Lodge, please complete [this form](#) and we will confirm your place by the beginning of next half term. If we are in the fortunate position of having more people than we can accommodate, we will draw names from a hat.

Link for form: <https://forms.office.com/e/JsfJ2sYQxJ>

### Parent Voice

We also held our first Parent Voice meeting of the year in the first half term. Class Reps joined me for a lengthy discussion. The minutes are available on the school website if you follow this [link](#). All the actions have now been completed. As an attachment to this Newsletter, you will find an Appendix to our Behaviour Policy that describes the timeline we are using to guide the changes we are making in terms of how we manage Behaviour in school.

I would like to draw your attention to the Appendix that we will be adding to our Behaviour Management Policy because, as I hope you are aware, we are in the process of changing the way that we manage children's behaviour. I shared this with Class Reps in the Parent Voice meeting.

We will keep you updated on changes that we are making.

During the Meeting parents asked if there had ever been consideration given to a Zebra Crossing being installed on Queens Road, given how busy it is and hard to cross it is.

This has been something that various staff, Governors and members of the parent community have taken up with Surrey County Council **for more than 5 years**.

Last year in the Autumn Term our school was informed by the Safer Travel Team at Surrey County Council that there are plans to install a Pedestrian Crossing, although no timescale was provided for this work. This term we have chased our contact at Surrey and once we have more information, we will update you again.

In the Autumn term last year Surrey County Council agreed to pay the salary for a School Crossing Patrol Officer, and we advertised that role within our school and local community. Unfortunately, we had no interest for that role last year so we will advertise for it again.

Please refer to the advert that will go out with the usual Dear Parent emails today.

If you can think of anyone who would be interested in the role, please direct them to us! While we don't yet have a Pedestrian Crossing a School Crossing Patrol Officer will certainly help on the busy road outside of school.



### Anti-Bullying Week

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November we will be taking part in Anti-Bullying Week. This year it has the theme 'Make A Noise About Bullying' and children will be taking part in a range of activities throughout the week to recognise the importance of making a noise about bullying! The week will be kicked off with Odd Socks Day on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November, where adults and children wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.

### Children in Need

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November we will also take part in Children in Need. All children will be able to come to school dressed in mufti (their own choice of clothes, not school uniform). The theme for this year is **Spotacular** so we encourage children to come in spotty clothing, or to decorate their hair with spots! Please donate by dropping money into buckets in the playground. All money raised will go to Children in Need.



### Christmas Crafts Morning

On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November we are looking forward to parents joining us in school to make Christmas Crafts with your children to decorate classrooms.

### Timings are as follows:

Year R – 9.10 – 10am      Year 1 – 9.10 – 10.10am      Year 2 – 9.10 – 10.20am

After you have helped in the classroom, we will be offering tea/coffee and mince pies in the school hall.

If you have children in two separate classes or year groups, you will be able to move between more than one classroom.



Due to the nature of the activities and the need for you to be hands on with your child to support them with craft activities, I am afraid that younger siblings cannot join these sessions.

If it will mean that you really can't attend, we *may* be able to help. Please speak to your child's class teacher about this. Thank you.



### **Match Funding**

**Do you want to help Manby Lodge to raise money in a simple and easy way, without much work at all?**

**Do you work for a company that does 'Match Funding'?**

**We will be sending out a letter with more information about Match Funding. Please keep an eye out!**

### **Polite Reminders**

#### **1. School Uniform**

Please can you make sure that children are wearing simple studs only if they have pierced ears.

Hair that is longer than shoulder length should also be tied up fully. We ask this as it helps to reduce the spread of nits if one child gets nits! It is also safer considering how active our learners are.

Class teachers will be reminding parents about our smart school uniform.

#### **2. Parking**

The Staff Car Park is for staff only. Please do not use this car park, even when collecting from clubs after school. Sometimes staff need to leave the car park, for example to get to a medical appointment and there have been occasions when staff have been unable to leave due to the high number of parents who have parked in the car park. This is unfair on our staff.

Please also try to be mindful of other people, particularly pedestrians on the footpath when you park your car on the pavement outside the school.

If someone with a buggy or in a wheelchair can't get through the space between a parked car and the fence, then they are put in danger if they are forced to go into the road. Thank you for your cooperation.

Finally, there is a 'Thank you' from Runnymede Foodbank for all the food that was donated at Harvest Festival. I thought that our families had been incredibly generous so a big THANK YOU from me as well. It is important for our children to begin to understand generosity towards those people in our community who need support.

If you are seeing a Firework Display this weekend, take care.

We held an assembly about Fire Safety on Tuesday this week and Mrs Saffer explained to the children how they could call the emergency services. You could ask your child about what they learnt.

**Kind regards,**

*Miriam Morris*



Artsmark  
Silver Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



Leading Parent  
Partnership Award

2023-2026

