



MANBY LODGE INFANT SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER: MISS M. MORRIS

Headteacher Newsletter – 2025-2026 – Newsletter FOUR – Friday 17th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

It feels as though this year's first Half Term has sped by even more quickly than ever! We are so proud of children at Manby Lodge. As it gets closer to Half Term, children will be tired, but they are doing a great job in school – trying their best and sticking to routines.

Harvest Collection

Thank you all so much for donating food this week for the Harvest Festival Collection. We were able to donate a lot of food and hygiene products to the **Walton and Hersham Foodbank**.

Responsible Year 2 children

Dining Hall and Playground Helpers



We're pleased that so many children in Year 2 applied to be a Lunchtime Helper – either in the playground or in the dining hall.

Children in the dining hall help to put out glasses and cutlery, pour out water for the children in the younger years and mop up spilt water. Helpers in the playground will take children to first aid after an accident, help collect resources, guide younger children to the toilet etc.

Their help is really valued by Midday Supervising Staff!

There is a rota so children only do volunteering once a week and Mrs Smith (our Lead Midday Supervisor) has carefully made sure that none of our volunteers miss the clubs that they are involved in. It gives the children a great sense of responsibility.

These are some of the things children said in their interviews. (They were all appointed as Dining Hall or Playground Helpers!)

I want to be helpful now I'm in Year 2

I thought it looked fun

I always wanted to help, I like helping people

To make other people happy when they are having lunch

To help the new Reception children and help them make new friends

I like sweeping, pouring water and putting out knives and forks

I want to see my sister and help her and her friends

I've been waiting for 2 years to do this job!

I've always wished I could do it



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Leading Parent
Partnership Award

2023-2026



Prospective Parent Tours

We have also asked for help from our Year 2 children and 24 of them volunteered to act as Tour Guides for the Prospective Parent Tours. We gave them one training session and this week they led parents around in pairs. The visitors to our school were impressed with how articulate the children were.

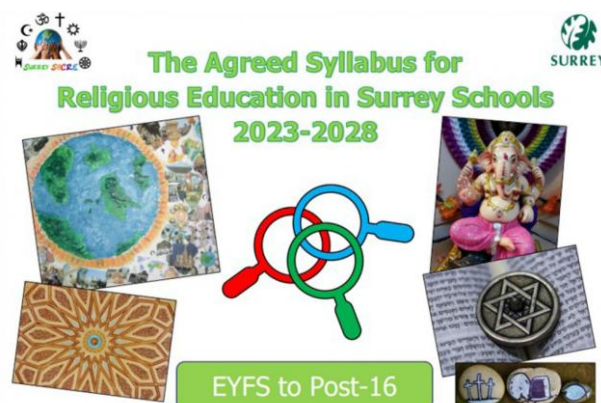
We are very proud of our Year 2 children.

RE and World Views

Questions came up in the Parent Voice Session about how we teach RE (Religious Education) at Manby Lodge. As a Surrey maintained school, we are required to follow the Guildford Diocese Syllabus (2023-28), or the 'Surrey Agreed Syllabus' for RE. RE is now known as RE and World Views.

(In Year 1) with the current focus being on Christianity, what other faiths will become the focus and when?

In KS1, the children will cover Christianity, Judaism and Islam and thematic units in Year 1 & 2 which cover all religions including people who do not observe any faith.



Please see the website for the curriculum overviews which will highlight when the different faiths are covered. [Curriculum Overview | Manby Lodge](#)

RE Progression Overview - [progression-overview-RE-and-World-Views-updated-Feb-25.pdf](#)

In EYFS children will learn about a range of special festivals, and religious events and important figures in different religions. We tend to link this to our cohort. Sometimes parents come into school and talk to children about religious or cultural festivals that they observe at home. For example, this coming week one of our parents will talk to children about Divali. For example, in the past parents have spoken to children about Chinese New Year, Thanksgiving, Eid.

We have also worked with Cleves and Oatlands to create a 7 year Curriculum – [Religious-Education-and-World-Views-7-year-curriculum-07-25.pdf](#). This is also available on the Curriculum page (link above)

Parents also asked:

How are the lesson plans delivered to balance out the approach for the children who are not being raised to observe a faith or another faith?

Teachers will always tell the children that this is the belief of the people who follow that specific religion e.g. Muslims believe, Christians believe...

What advice do you have for parents who are struggling to answer questions generated from the lessons which contradict the faith being observed within the home?

We would encourage parents to have a discussion with your child according to the beliefs you have in your home. It is beneficial to explore the differing beliefs within our school. We draw on ideas from all religions in our thematic unit and, as children grow older, they will begin to question things themselves and discover how this aligns with personal/family views.

We have Progression Overviews available on our website for all curriculum subjects. Please spend time looking at these pages if you want to know more about what, and how we teach your children.

[Curriculum Intent | Manby Lodge](#)

[Curriculum Overview | Manby Lodge](#)

[Key Stage One \(Year 1 and Year 2\) | Manby Lodge](#)

[EYFS / Foundation Stage \(Year Reception\) | Manby Lodge](#)

Attendance

We will be monitoring attendance after Half Term. There are often a lot of bugs going around when children return to school after the Summer Holidays, but there is a useful NHS link on the [Absences page](#) on the website called '[Is my child too ill for school?](#)'

You may also find this link useful: [Children and young people settings: tools and resources - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

If we have concerns your child's attendance is low we will contact you. I will ask some parents to come into school to meet with me. I have found that holding meetings initially, usually helps, rather than sending formal letters to discuss this.



Goodbye to Mia.

Parents whose child(ren) attend Wraparound Rainbows may wish to say goodbye to Mia next week as she is leaving Manby Lodge to go travelling.

We wish Mia safe travels and look forward to receiving the odd postcard or two, from exotic places!

Road Safety Assessment

Another question that was raised in Parent Voice was regarding Road Safety. Last academic year Road Safety Officers from Surrey County came and assessed Road Safety at the front of the school, on Queens Road. They made a few recommendations, including cutting back trees and cleaning road signs, actions which were addressed by the Council soon after.



This academic year, the same Road Safety Team assessed roads at the back of the school on Friday 12th September, at the end of the school day. This included time spent observing:

- how the Cricket Green Car Park is used by parents collecting from school
- parking in Barrington Lodge

Finally, please find attached with this newsletter:

- Parent Voice Minutes and
- Our School Key Priorities

Have a great Half Term Holiday. We look forward to seeing you in November.

Kind regards,

Miriam Morris