



MANBY LODGE INFANT SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER: MISS M. MORRIS

Headteacher Newsletter – 2025 – 2026 - Number SIX – FRIDAY 21st November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy week and there is certainly a feeling that Christmas is getting ever closer... in all year groups children have started rehearsing for their Christmas Nativities and we are already hearing the first snippets of songs drifting down the corridors. Staff are working hard to help the children prepare, and we look forward to welcoming you to the performances very soon.

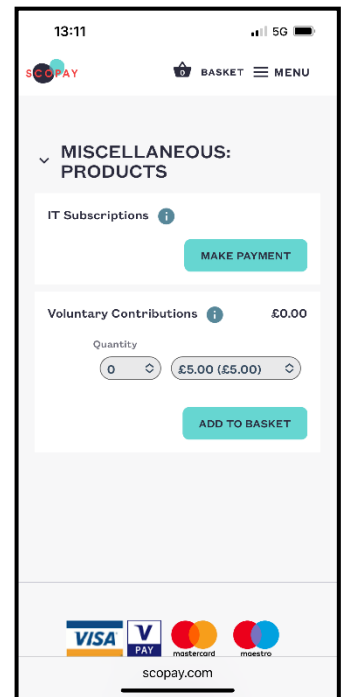
Year 1 children enjoyed their Toy Workshop on Tuesday and I have seen some good pieces of writing by Year 1 children based on toys.

Scopay payments – IT subscriptions

Thank you to those parents who have already paid their IT Subscription via **SCOPAY**. If you have not yet done so, please could payment be made by the end of term. These contributions support our continued investment in high-quality digital resources.

We ask for a **payment of £30 for each child per year** which goes towards subscriptions for platforms such as Tapestry, ELS (Phonics), Numbots, Purple Mash and Twinkl. All these platforms provide staff with a wealth of resources to support children’s learning.

This is paid through the SCOPAY system under Miscellaneous Products and can be paid by credit or debit card. If you don’t have access to your child’s Scopay account yet or have any questions about making payment, please contact the school on secretary@manby-lodge.surrey.sch.uk



Match Funding

Please see the attached poster regarding **Match Funding**. Many companies offer to match funds raised for charitable causes — and this can make a huge difference.

Over the past few years, FoML has received **thousands of pounds** through match funding, thanks to parents who work for companies that participate.

Lucy, our FoML Chair, has compiled a list of companies that offer match funding, included on the flyer.

Please consider checking whether you or your partner work for one of these companies.

Often all that is needed is for you to complete a simple form at work.

If you would like any help or information, please contact **Lucy or Prit** — their contact details are on the flyer.



Road Safety Report

We are pleased to be able to share the Road Safety Report from Surrey County Council’s Road Safety & Sustainable Schools Travel Team. You will find it as an attachment.

There are some next steps listed in the report, and we will continue to chase these as a school. Thank you for your patience and support as we work to ensure safe travel routes for all children and families.



Artsmark Silver Award
Awarded by Arts Council England



Leading Parent Partnership Award

2023–2026





New Anti-Bullying mascot!

Congratulations to **Nico Scott** from year 2 who designed 'Anti-bullying Axy, the Axolotl'.

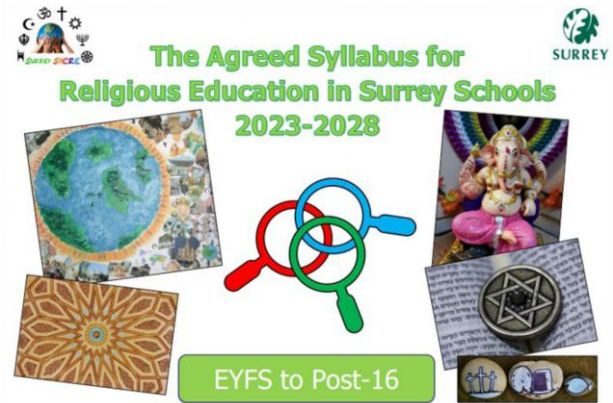
We will share more information with you all soon, about how we will be using the new mascot around school.

RE and World Views (repeated from Newsletter 4 in case you missed this)

Questions came up in the Parent Voice Session in Autumn 1 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 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 Dates

An updated list of Key Dates is being sent home this week. These can also be found on our school website on the [Calendar page](#).

Dates for next year (2026–27), **including INSET Days**, are already available on the same page.

Please note the changes to the term dates for the 2026–27 academic year — particularly the Autumn 2026 Half Term. You can find more information here: [School term dates - Surrey County Council](#)



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Leading Parent
Partnership Award

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ACTIVE SURREY
2018/19



Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated to Children in Need last week. We raised **£293**, which is wonderful. The children enjoyed getting involved and understanding how their contributions help others.



FOML Christmas Fair

I'm really looking forward to seeing everyone at the **Christmas Fair on Saturday 13th December – 3 – 6pm!**

Don't forget that everyone who comes will help to support our school, and ideally enjoy a great day too.

Volunteers Needed

We still need **additional volunteers** for the FOML Christmas Fair.

If you are not already volunteering on a stall but can spare some time on the day, Lucy McGibbon (PTA Chair) would be very grateful. She still needs **2-3 more adults**.

Please speak directly to Lucy if you can help on 07766 122 365



School Council Children

Congratulations to the following children who have been elected to represent their classes on the School Council:

Year 1

Fox Class – Esme MacDonald & Finlay Papworth

Hedgehog Class – Ivy Railton & Zac Akram

Squirrel Class – Chloe Lemon & Ruben Vema

We know they will do themselves — and their classes — proud.

Year 2

Leopard Class – Leo Birkett & Jessica Otto

Lion Class – Alfred Lowe & Chloe Jordan

Tiger Class – Eve Potter & Charlie Miles-Feeley

New FOOD BANK

We are pleased to announce the opening of a new foodbank to support our school community. We realise that times may be particularly difficult at the moment with rising costs on everyday items, such as food and bills, and we would like to offer a helping hand by providing some cupboard staples and necessities.

Our foodbank is currently able to supply foods, some pre-loved uniform, and children's books, free of charge.

This service is offered with dignity and respect, and if you or someone you know in our school community, could benefit from some support please feel free to pop in to 'Mini Manby Lodge' at the front of the school on a Thursday morning between 9 and 9.30am.

As this is a new venture, we are trying to gauge interest and demand. The more demand there is, the more likely we are to improve and increase the items on offer.

Our HSLW, Nickie Tewkesbury, will also be available during this time and throughout Thursday morning should you need any further support or advice.



School rental opportunities

Did you know that you can rent out **Mini Manby Lodge** for children's parties?

Please see this link about Mini Manby Lodge rentals, and other spaces available for rent in school, for more information - [Manby Lodge School Spaces to Hire | Manby Lodge](#)

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Miriam Morris



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