



MANBY LODGE INFANT SCHOOL

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Headteacher Newsletter – 2025-26 – Number SEVENTEEN – Friday 22nd May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Ofsted

As you may know, Manby Lodge was inspected by Ofsted last week (from Tues 12th – Wed 13th May). We were expecting Ofsted to call, as it had been almost four and a half years since our last inspection. We were called on the Monday morning and informed that Inspectors would arrive the next day.



In February I wrote to you in a Headteacher Newsletter and shared more information about how Ofsted works because they have introduced a whole new framework. This is how Manby Lodge was judged when inspectors visited our school.

The biggest change is that schools are ***no longer given an overall grade***, instead inspectors looked at 8 areas (because we are an Infant School). The areas are:

Safeguarding, Inclusion, Curriculum & Teaching, Achievement, Attendance and Behaviour, Personal Development and Well-being, EYFS and Leadership and Development. Each area is graded, to identify what we do well, and how we can improve.

The grading terms have now changed as well: **'Requires improvement, Good and Outstanding' no longer exist.**

Instead, each area is graded from **'Urgent Improvement, Needs Attention, Expected Standard, Strong Standard, or Exceptional'**. I'd also like to highlight that in the old framework, there was a 'best fit' model, whereas now, in each area, every bullet point in each area needs to be met.

The Inspectors who visited us also explained how 'the bar has been raised'. This is due to a national initiative to raise standards of education for all children, with a focus on the most disadvantaged children in our society. This short video from Ofsted will provide you with more information: [New Ofsted report cards and grades: a guide for parents](#)

We are happy with the outcome of the Inspection. We felt that it was a fair process and Inspectors worked with us. They provided members of our Senior Leadership Team and our Governing Body with 'provisional grades', but there are very clear that they do not want this information shared with our parent body before the final report goes to Quality Assurance at Ofsted Headquarters, in case any of the grades are changed.

Inspectors said the final report should be ready in approx. 30 days, but that there is a backlog. As soon as the final report is ready to share with you, we will do so! **Please watch this space.**

From The FOML Chair: Summer Fair - Saturday 6th June – (12 - 4pm)

Join us for a lovely afternoon of stalls, games, food and drinks whilst raising much needed funds for the school.

We are rather low on volunteers so please let your class rep know if you can help, even if only for half an hour. We rely on our parent volunteers to put on these events and without more support we will have to scale down the fair.



We hope it will be a brilliant day for the children and parents alike so please get involved and join us on the day.



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Reminder: Transition to a new year group

In case you have missed this, please be aware that we will be mixing children who are moving up to Year 1 and Year 2. We are also in the process of putting Year 2 children into groups ready so that Cleves can create class lists for Year 3.

There are lots of details about how carefully teachers do this in the [Parent Voice Minutes](#). This meeting took place in April, and minutes have already been shared.

We are very considered with our transition plans, and the impact is normally a very smooth transition to the new year group. We will trial the new Year 1 and 2 classes before the day where all children move up to their new class and meet their new teachers. Transition Day (or Move-up Day) is on Tuesday 30th June.

PSHE (Personal Social Health Economic Education) 'Changing Me' Unit and updates to our RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) Policy

We have added an extra date to the Key Dates for a parent presentation about a PSHE unit called 'Changing Me'. This unit is part of our Jigsaw PSHE curriculum, and we always hold a presentation for parents, however this was missed from the Key Dates. I apologise for the late notice.



We hold this presentation for parents as during this unit, we will be teaching children the words for their body parts, including intimate body parts. Some parents are surprised that we teach these words. During the presentation parents will be able to see the resources that teachers will use in class.

The presentation will be held on Friday 5th June (9.05 – 9.45am) and led by Mrs Emma Giles (Lion class teacher and PSHE Lead). It will really help us to be ready for the meeting if you are able to confirm your planned attendance by emailing the school office. Thank you.

Mrs Giles will also be sharing the updates we would like to make to our RSE (Relationships and Sex Education Policy) so that we are in line with DfE Guidance from September 2026.

Schools are guided by the DfE to consult with parents about the changes to our policy. After Mrs Giles has shared the policy during the session, we will send home a copy of it to all parents, along with a survey so that parents can feedback on the proposed changes.

Last time we updated our RSE Policy (in 2020) it was useful to get feedback from parents. For example, parents suggested that we included the term 'consent' in our policy. As a result, we do teach consent to children, at an age-appropriate level.

On our Parent Voice page you can see [the letter we wrote to parents following their engagement in our consultation in 2020](#).

More running events for children and families

Kirsty Finch (the Year 2 parent who organised parent information for the Mini Marathon) has shared some other events that you may be interested to take part in with your children.

Weybridge 10K

Following on from the London Mini Marathon, if children and their parents have been inspired to run more, or missed out on a place and would like to take part in a different event, the Weybridge annual race takes place on 7th June and there is a kids 2k event as part of it:

Weybridge 10K | Fast, Closed-Road Race in Surrey | Run the Weybridge 10K on a scenic, closed-road course in Surrey set against the backdrop of Walton Bridge.

Vitality Mile – London Marathon (Sat 26th September, 2026)

The Vitality Westminster Mile is back and will be the most fun wave yet. This year is an attempt to set a new record for the largest pyjama run. Last year, history was made with 434 superheroes... this year, it's all about showing up in your best PJs on The Mall. Another chance to be part of something unforgettable.

For more information **and to sign up**, click here: [Vitality Mile – London Marathon](#)



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Walk to Schools Week

This week is Walk to Schools Week! As the weather gets better after Half Term, why not try to park further from school and walk or scoot, or bike to school.

This will be better for the environment, and healthier for you and your child.

Sports Day

Sports Day this year is on Wednesday 10th June. We will send further details after Half term, but timings and location are the same as last year:

Year R – approx. 9 – 10am

Year 1 – approx. 10 – 11am

Year 2 - approx. 11am - 12midday

All the events take place in a cordoned off area on the Cricket Green. We will also hold a picnic for children and families in the playground after the sports events. Please look out for further information after Half Term.

Staffing information

I am pleased to share with you that we have appointed a new Key Stage 1 Lead and Mrs Emma Giles was the successful applicant. Emma is currently working as one of the Lion Class teachers in Year 2 and she previously worked covering a maternity cover post in Year R. This means that Emma knows our school really well and we are pleased that she will be joining our Senior Leadership Team. She brings with her a wealth of experience from positions at other schools.

Please see an advert for a 3 day per week class teacher (maternity position). <https://www.eteach.com/job/part-time-class-teacher---maternity-cover-1555817>

We also have an Afterschool Club Supervisor position available. Please see the advert for this post: . <https://www.eteach.com/job/wrap-around-care-assistant-afterschool-club-1549184>

Cleves Junior School have also asked us to share an advert they have for Gap Club (wraparound supervisor): <https://www.eteach.com/job/gap-playworkers-1555855>

Please remember that:

- Monday 1st June is an INSET day with no children in school.
- Friday 5th June is the date for Class Photos

There is an updated Key Dates which we are sending with this Newsletter. We will send Dear Parents and curriculum information on Monday 1st June.

I hope that you all have a great Half Term holiday.

Kind regards,

Miriam Morris

Safeguarding: This is a reminder that you can find lots of information about our Safeguarding procedures and related policies on the Safeguarding page on our school website. Please follow [this link](#).



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