

Half Term ending Friday 10th February

Core value: Confident

Head Teacher's Message

The first Spring half term has flown by!

There have been great core stories this term and I especially love hearing all about penguins. You cannot ever get tired of learning about Penguins, and the thought of the emperor penguin growing up to 130cm/4 foot tall is mind blowing.

We have had some lovely parent café sessions this half term, who knew everyone is a budding Picasso or poet. Thank you to everyone who took part and to the staff for organising them.

The word has finally got out that the Ladybird Nursery at Manor Field is the best Nursery in the area. We are now full for this academic year and we are already taking bookings for next year. If you know anyone with a little one approaching Nursery age (3 years old) please tell them not to delay and get in touch.

New links with St Mary's Junior School are being made and I have met with the new Executive Head Teacher Adam Riley again this term. Our plan is to develop strong links between the schools for the benefit of the children and community.

The children are all desperate to win their first or next Dojo badge. I have been displaying the Silver and Gold badges which are strongly coveted and hopefully will act as motivation to earn more Dojo points.

An 'Attendance Ted' has been introduced this term. The class with the best attendance for the week gets to keep the 'Attendance Ted' in their class for the week. The winning class is announced in my Head Teachers assembly on Friday's.

Finally, I'd just like to remind you of the amazing resource for information, support or guidance regarding your child - the Just One Norfolk website is a wealth of knowledge and is being developed all the time. Please follow the link below for more information.

https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/our-services/

Have a lovely half term break!

Mrs Haines

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Around the School

EYFS

We have had two very successful and well attended Learning Cafes. The children (and adults!) all produced some wonderful artwork which we will be displaying in our school hall. They have really captured the polar landscape and colours in their images. The children have mixed and used a range of cold colours to depict the snow, other than white.













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Around the School

KS1

It has been another busy half term in KS1! We have enjoyed sharing 'The Emperor's Egg' as our core story in English. We began by imaging a cold place and then created paintings of what we imagined using water colours. We then used our painting to inspire work on adjectives which then led to writing a description of a cold setting. We have also created posters all about the life cycle of a penguin. As well as learning about penguins in English, we have spent two weeks learning about poetry. We have enjoyed listening to a range of poems and using these to inspire our own poetry writing!

Our work on penguins has also inspired us in our topic work. We have enjoyed creating mixed media pieces in Art. We started by creating patterns which reminded us of Antarctica, we then sketched penguins and added colour using water colour paints, we practiced photography by setting up a small world scene and then finally putting all of this media together.

In History we have enjoyed learning about the significant individual Sir David Attenborough. We have learnt all about his life and thought what it is that makes him significant.

Dates for your Diary!

Next half term we would like to invite you to come along to our parent reader sessions. You will be invited to come into your child's class from 2.40pm-3.00pm every Monday, starting from 20th February. This will be an opportunity for you to share some wonderful books with your child,

We would also like to invite you in to watch a phonics lesson in your child's class. The first session will be held on Tuesday 21st March at 9.00am and will provide you with the opportunity to watch a phonics lesson in action!

Lastly, we would like to invite you to attend your child's Learning Café. This will be held the first week back after the half term, please see below when the session for your child's class will be held:

- Fox-Tuesday 21st February 9.15am
- Otter Thursday 23rd February 9.15am
- Badger- Friday 24th February 9.15am



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Around the School

Holidays or medical absences

Just a reminder to please ensure a holiday or medical form are completed *prior* your child's absence in order for your child to avoid receiving an unauthorised absence.

School Improvements

Work will finally be starting on the school kitchen refurbishment in February. Sue and Holly will continue to cook the school meals in the mobile kitchen and lunches will still be served in the hall. The work is estimated to take 10 weeks and we look forward to moving into the new kitchen after the Easter holidays.

The Easter holidays will also see improvements to the area where the derelict mobile used to be. The area will be cleared and top soiled, ready for seeding in the late Spring.

World Book Day

We are very much looking forward to World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March this year. Our theme at Manor Field is "Traditional Tales". We would love the children to dress up as a book character this year; we are very aware of how this could put an extra financial pressure on families so it would be great if the costumes were home-made. There are lots of ideas online about how you could do thid in an easy, low-cost way.

Traditional Tales are stories which have been told many times over for many years. Examples would be Little Red Riding Hood, The Three Little Pigs, Goldilocks and the Three Bears and Hansel and Gretal as well as many others. There are Traditional Tales to listen to here: Reception/EYFS: Listen and Play-Traditional Tales—BBC Teach—We look forward to seeing lots of children dressed up as Little Red, Gingerbread Men and story time wolves as well as other well-known characters on the day.

To help promote a love of reading, we are excited to let you know that Leanne from Bookbugs and Dragontales book shop will be coming into school that week to lead book themed workshops for each class. You can find out more information about them here: <u>Bookbugs and Dragon Tales- Independent Book Shop, Café and Arts Centre in Norwich</u>

We look forward to sharing all our learning with you.

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Around the School

Our New Parent Engagement Programme

Following our parent survey in the autumn term, we have looked at the results and developed a programme of events for the remainder of the year. These events will be trialled and will inform next year's engagement programme.

Project sessions:

During these sessions, you will be invited into the school to design and make a product to take home. In the feedback from our questionnaire, parents said that they would like to make a piece of artwork and to make puppets to retell a story. These will be held on Friday mornings 9.00am to 11.00am in the school hall. You will need to sign up for these sessions in advance in the office. Sessions will be as follows:

Hedgehog 31st March and 28th April

Squirrel 10th March and 12th May
Badger 17th March and 30th June
Otter 24th March and 19th May
Fox 3rd March and 16th June

Parent Art Club

Parent art club is back! This is an informal session at the end of the day, before school pick up, where you can experiment with a few techniques that we teach in school. These sessions are at 2.30pm on Thursdays. Everyone is welcome and Mrs Mundford will bring the biscuits! If the sessions are successful, more dates will be added. The first dates for your diary are;

Thursday 23rd February

Thursday 2nd March

Thursday 9th March

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Around the School

Our New Parent Engagement Programme

Lunch with your Child

We would like to invite parents to have a picnic lunch with their children. Your feedback said that Tuesdays are preferred so we have made sure that these sessions are on this day of the week. Weather permitting, we will be outside on the field. Sessions will be as follows;

Hedgehog 11.45-12.15 13th June
Squirrel 11.45-12.15 20th June
Badger 12.20- 12.50 9th June
Otter 12.20- 12.50 6th June
Fox 12.20- 12.50 16th May

Forest Schools

Mrs Gowing would like to invite you to join our forest school sessions in the summer term. You will be invited outside between 2.00pm –3.00pm on those days.

Hedgehog 20th June

Squirrel 16th June
Otter 23rd June
Fox 30th June
Badger 27th June

We are also hoping to start parent reading sessions in each year group in the summer term.

These sessions have been carefully planned; ensuring activities are on different days and at different times of the day to provide more opportunities for all parents to attend. We hope that these sessions, as well as our existing Learning Cafes, provide a varied and exciting range of activities for our families. We are very excited about having you back into school and we

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Save the date!

February	
Monday 20th	Return to School
Tuesday 21st	Fox Learning Café 9.15am in the hall
Thursday 23rd	Otter Learning Café 9.15am in the hall
Friday 24th	Badger Learning Café 9.15am in the hall
Friday 24th	PTA Quiz Night at Long Stratton Village Hall
March	
Thursday 2nd	World Book Day– Traditional Tales Dress-Up Day
Friday 3rd	Bug Busting Weekend
Friday 10th	Non- Uniform Day in exchange for an Easter Egg donation
Friday 17th	Red Nose Day—details to follow
Thursday 30th	Ladybird Learning Café 9.15am in the hall.
Friday 31st	Last Day of Term
April	
Monday 3rd– Monday 17th	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 18th	Return to School

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Attendance

There is room for improvement to be made with pupil attendance at school. It is a legal requirement that your child attends school everyday unless they are genuinely unwell. **IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL FOR ANY REASON, YOU MUST INFORM THE SCHOOL ON EACH DAY OF ABSENCE** before 9.00am. In most cases there are very simple explanations for absence, but if you do not tell us, your child's absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Our attendance:

Attendance target: 96%

Last half term's attendance: 93.5%

Class with the best attendance: Fox Class

Minutes lost this half term due to lateness: 628

Punctuality – School starts at 8.55am

Every minute counts! If your child is 5 minutes late each day, they are missing:

25 minutes of learning a week

315 minutes of learning a term

3 whole days off school a year

Attendance Facts:

- Attendance of 95% for the year equals 10 days that your child has been absent, that is 2 full school weeks of your child's learning missed for that year.
- Attendance of 90% for the year equals 19 days that your child has been absent, that is almost 4 school weeks missed.
- Attendance of 85% for the year equals 29 days that your child has been absent per, that is almost 6 school weeks missed.
- Attendance of 80% for the year equals 38 days absent per year that is over 7 school weeks missed.

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