



Manor Field Infant and Nursery School

Half Term ending Friday 4th April 2025

Core value: **Community**

Deputy Head's Message



I have had the pleasure of spending a lot more time at Manor Field over the last few weeks than my timetable usually permits which has been absolutely lovely. It also meant I was able to spend time last week with our special visitors as we hosted our three Southdown sheep who we named Wendy, Astro and Astrid as part of the Norfolk Show's "Learn about Livestock" programme. We were responsible for feeding, socialising and keeping them safe - easier said than done when our little girl lamb kept escaping the pen! The programme brings together schools and local farmers who are willing to lend the sheep for a week so that our children can experience livestock close at hand. All the children spent time with the sheep and as they became more confident were able to stroke the lambs and the staff were able to hold them. We hope you also enjoyed coming to visit them.

We are very grateful to Les and Tricia Newman for lending us their sheep and to the PTA for funding our entrance fee so we could take part. Thank you also to Miss Howell for her support with the project this year.



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Head Teacher's Message



It's hard to believe that we are now two-thirds of the way through this academic year and that when we return we will be into the Summer term with all the fun and excitement that it brings. Dates for sports day and transition to Junior School will follow. With the prospect of better weather, please can we remind you that children will need a named sunhat in school. They will also need their coat as it can still be cool in the first half of the term. Suncream should be applied at home, before school.

Have a lovely Easter break. We return on Wednesday 23rd April. Please note that the staff will not check dojo or emails until this date as they too take a well earned break.

Mrs Turk (deputy head)



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Ladybird Nursery

This term we have explored capacity, with lots of real-life practise in the water tray in the sunshine! We have also been curious about our heights, and the length of items in our classroom. We have explored all seasons, with a focus on the season we are heading into Spring. As well as this, we have observed the signs of spring we could spot out in our outdoor areas: blossom, daffodils, birds, nests, green leaves, buds etc. Back in our classroom, we looked at the different parts of a flower and the lifecycle of a seed. We looked at flowering daffodils and we have also begun growing peas and broad beans! In Expressive Arts and Design we have been learning all about our focus artist Yayoi Kusama. The children have been busy exploring sculptures and having a go at their own spotty interpretations using different mediums such as papier mâché, painting, and stickers. We have also talked about Eric Carle's illustrations and took inspiration from his work to create our Mother's Day cards. We have experienced many wonderful events such as our airport day, Pancake Day, World Book Day and Comic Relief. The highlight for the children was meeting our fluffy visitors in the field. The children were able to feed and stroke the lambs, whilst finding out new facts.



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Squirrel Class

Squirrel Class have been very busy this half-term. We have been immersing ourselves in our Core Story 'Little Red'. We have learnt all about instruction writing and have had a go at writing our own instructions about 'How to trap a wolf' using a net, a stick and a big piece of meat! We then had a go at following some instructions and recipes to make chocolate wolf cakes and Easter nest cakes.

In Maths we have been applying our knowledge of the composition of numbers up to 10 and thinking about what happens to numbers if we double them.

We have also been working hard on our Expressive Arts and Design skills and have been practising how to tie a simple knot to make a wolf-den and have taken part in lots of outdoor learning during our Forest Schools session and our Sheep Week.

In class it has been a busy time of celebrating Pancake Day, Mother's Day, World Book Day and the arrival of Spring and Easter. We have read the Easter Story and talked about the significance of some familiar Easter items e.g. hot cross buns and Easter eggs.



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Badger and Fox

Fox and Badger classes have had a lovely half term working on our core story "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak. It's a lovely story of a boy who imagines a journey to a far away island where he tames Wild Things... but gets back home in time for supper! You can hear the story [here](#).

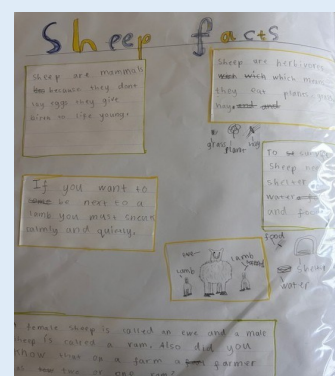
We have written our own versions of the story with different characters travelling to different magical lands. They were brilliantly imaginative! We also wrote an information text about our made-up Wild Things after we had designed our own. This linked to our work on Design Technology where we made moving monsters with working joints.

The children have loved the stories we have been reading in class this half term. If you'd like to find out more, ask your child about either the "Claude" series of books written by Alex T Smith, or the "Rabbit and Bear" series by Julian Gough. Both series are hilarious and have fabulous illustrations.

In Science, we have been working on a series of lessons called "Caring for the Planet." We found out how to look after our world and also learnt about the great naturalist, [Sir David Attenborough](#). We have also learnt about the season of spring, which has been lovely to do now the weather is kinder!

A wonderful part of spring is new baby animals being born. We were so lucky that Miss Howell and Mrs Turk organized for us to have a ewe and her lambs visit is for a week. We all enjoyed feeding them, stroking them and learning all about them. We wrote fabulous information texts about them too. We even got to name them; the ewe is now called Wendy and the lambs are Astrid and Astro. Thank you so much to the PTA for funding this through the "Learning About Livestock" scheme.

We have had a wonderful, busy half term. Thank you to all the children for your hard work! We look forward to seeing you all back on Wednesday 23rd April. Have a lovely break!



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V.E Day 80th Celebration

VE Day Thursday 8th May

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe on 8th May 1945 and the end of the war in Japan on 15th August 1945 (VJ Day). There will be lots of national celebrations and commemorations during the week starting 5th May for VE Day and in school we will be marking this on Thursday 8th May.

We are inviting children to attend in 1940s style clothing or red, white and blue. Costumes do not need to be elaborate or bought especially—have a look in your wardrobe and see what you can find that is close to the style—some information about typical clothing of the period can be found below. We will also be having a VE day themed lunch— more details to follow.

In the run up we will be learning a song that is being released for the commemoration and a 1940s VE Day dance. On the day we will gather to sing and dance together as a school and we will spend time during the day using resources that have been put together by the Royal British Legion to help young people to remember VE and VJ Day 80 years on, with special films including stories from the end of the Second World War.

1940's Children's Clothing Ideas:

Young boys wore shorts or trousers with a blazer or jacket for more formal occasions or sweaters for casual wear.

Girls primarily wore cotton dresses and skirts with blouses or shirts and a cardigan or jumper. Very young girls sometimes wore overalls.

Hand-knitted garments like sweaters and cardigans were easy and popular items for young children.





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From the Kitchen

The children have enjoyed some amazing desserts this half term, made by our fantastic kitchen team—Sue and Holly. The lunch hall has been decorated with lovely Spring flowers and Easter bunnies.

Thank you Sue and Holly for all your hard work this half term !



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School Notices

Change to end of the school day

Manor Field Infant and Nursery school day will be 8:50am to 3:20pm from Wednesday 23rd April (after Easter Holiday). Classroom doors will still open at 8.45am and will close at 9.00am – after which time your child will be marked late. The ladybird Nursery hours will remain at 8.45am to 3.00pm.

Holidays and Medical Absences

If you are planning to take your child out for a holiday during term time, you will need to complete a leave of absence form. Please be advised that the Headteacher is unable to authorise any holidays during term time unless the circumstances are considered to be exceptional.

If your child has a medical appointment that is during the school day and therefore requires a late arrival or early pick up, you will need to complete a medical absence form from the school office. This enables us to keep the school registers up to date, ensure lunch is ordered (if required) and make sure your child is ready for collection. We will ask to see evidence of the appointment for our attendance records. For emergency medical appointments, please inform the school as soon as possible.

School Lunch Menu

Please find attached the new school lunch menu which will come into effect when we return after the Easter holidays. Please go through the new menu with your child/children as there are new dinner choices. New for Spring/Summer– Pasta will available to order everyday with either tomato sauce (weeks 1 & 3) or cheese sauce (week 2).

We will be starting with week 2 when we return on Wednesday 23rd April. Wednesday's lunch choice will be Pizza or Cheesy Bean Pitta. Thursday we will be having Roast Chicken or Quorn Grill. Friday will be as stated on the menu.

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Save the date!

April	
Friday 4th	Last Day of Term
Monday 7th– Tuesday 22nd	Easter Holiday
Wednesday 23rd	School reopens
May	
Friday 2nd	Squirrel Class– Summer Family Friday –TBC
Monday 5th	Bank Holiday Monday– School Closed
Thursday 8th	V.E Day 80th Celebration—details TBC
Friday 9th	Badger Class– Summer Family Friday –TBC
Friday 16th	Fox Class– Summer Family Friday– TBC
Friday 23rd	Ladybird Nursery– Summer Family Friday
Friday 23rd	Last Day of Term
Monday 26th– Friday 30th	Half Term Break
June	
Monday 2nd June	School Reopens
Wednesday 4th June	KS1 Summer Trip to Redgrave and Lopham Fen

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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: 97%

This half term's attendance: 94%

Class with the best attendance: Fox Class

Minutes lost this half term due to lateness: 325

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