



MANOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

Spring Term Newsletter



Parent Forum Feedback

PTA Family Fun Night

Thank you to all who supported the PTA quiz and film night last week. It was a great evening and was enjoyed by all.

World Book Day

The children enjoyed making their book character headbands in school and sharing their favourite characters in assembly. After a year off from making costumes we expect extra special efforts next year!

Mothers' Day Lunches

Thank you for your support at our Mothers' Day lunches this week. It was great to see the dinner hall so full and we hope you enjoyed your meals!

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We had our second very successful parents' forum meeting this week and the following are some of the key agenda items and a summary of responses to them.

Staffing: Concerns were raised about the turnover of staff this term but most parents understood the reasons behind them and were satisfied with the information they had received at the previous meeting and through letters.

Forest School: Parents asked about the current provision and future plans. They were assured that Forest School is continuing with Mrs Denby due to complete her training in May. She will then be able to train other staff such as teaching assistants to take groups. The forest area is available to other classes in the meantime to use for outdoor learning. The kind offer of volunteers to help with forest school groups was passed on but, until Mrs Denby is fully qualified she will only be allowed to take small trial groups. She will request volunteers if they can be of benefit.

Lunchtime Policy: Some parents asked about lunchtime supervision policy. We discussed how children are encouraged but not forced to eat their dinners and about the policy of sending uneaten packed lunches home. There was also discussion around timings and organisation of lunchtime. I have observed a lunch time with an eye to the issues raised this week. A written policy is now being put together and will be put to governors at the next opportunity. This will then be added to the policies on the website. Lunch time clubs were also brought up. These had been a popular addition to lunchtimes in the Autumn term but were difficult for some staff to fit in to their busy lunchtimes. It is certainly something we will revisit after Easter when we have new staff in place.

School Gates: The issue of congestion at the school gates was brought up. It was proposed that one of the tall black gates be opened at the end of school to ease the flow on the narrow pavement outside the gates so parents arriving as others are leaving can get in without going onto the road. Mrs Mason has been doing this since Monday. Has it helped? Let us know.

Attendance Certificates: Rewarding 100% attendance is always a difficult issue and there were mixed opinions among parents. As a school we want to encourage and reward children for good attendance but the reasons for not having full attendance are in almost all cases due to genuine illness and not getting the certificate can be taken as a punishment for being sick! We still want to reward those who have excellent attendance so we are changing to a letter that goes home at the end of a term. This is based on a traffic light system with best attenders being green. It will be up to parents to share with children as they see fit. We will still have certificates in assembly at the end of a year, though it is yet to be decided whether we will include for example, 95% attendance too.

This is just a summary of the discussions but the meeting was excellent for providing us with feedback from parents and hopefully the outcomes will be of interest and benefit to you. If you have any other suggestions around these or any other issues then please come and see us or drop a note in the suggestion box in the reception area.