



Year 2 Parent Information - September 2025

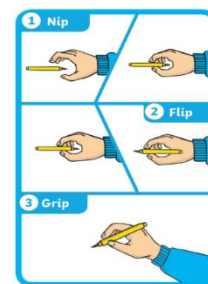


Welcome to Blackbirds Class! It has been great to work with your children over the last few weeks. It has been a delight getting to know them and to help them settle in. Please keep the following information for your records:

Day/Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning teacher	Miss Hodder	Miss Hodder	Miss Owen	Miss Owen	Miss Owen
Afternoon teacher	Miss Hodder	Mrs Bustios	Miss Owen	Miss Owen	Miss Owen
Teaching assistant	Mrs Ponting/Mrs Summers	Mrs Ponting/Mrs Summers	Mrs Ponting/Mrs Summers	Mrs Ponting/Mrs Summers	Mrs Ponting/Mrs Summers
PE		Sports Coach		Miss Owen	

1. If there is something we need to know that is relevant to the day, please pass on a message to the adult on the door in the morning. If you do need to see us after school, we are not available on Wednesdays due to staff meetings. We also ask that you wait until whoever is seeing the class out has dismissed every child before trying to talk with us, so that we can be sure the children are seen out safely, and we can give you our full attention. Please direct any email queries directly to the school office: enquiries@manorbrook.org.uk address. Please read the school newsletter each fortnight.
2. It is important for you to be in view at the end of the day when the children leave as the children are told they are not allowed to go home unless they can see you. We all have emergencies on occasions so please just call the office if there is a problem with pick up. However, planned changes in pick up arrangements can be communicated to the class teacher in advance via a note to the teacher or to the staff member on the back door in the morning.
3. We usually have PE on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. No jewellery should be worn, and anyone who wears stud earrings should be able to take them out themselves, leave them at home for that day or have their own tape in school to cover them up. PE kit should remain in school all term. We will send these home at the end of each term for a wash. (PE kit acts as a spare set of clothes and should include spare socks please). Sports watches must not be enabled for games or messaging during the school day.
4. Children need to have a pair of wellies kept in school and bring in a suitable **waterproof coat every day**, particularly during winter months, as we will be going outside in all weathers. They will also require hats and gloves during the winter, and sunhat and sunscreen during the warmer months.
5. Please ensure all items of clothing (including shoes) are named – especially school jumpers/cardigans and P.E. kits as these are often removed in class and difficult to rehome.
6. Children should bring 'sports top' water bottle to drink from during the day, which must only contain water. Please don't let your child carry these in their book bags as books will get ruined if the bottles leak water.

7. Pencil grip is really important. We would appreciate your support in encouraging the children to hold their pencil correctly at home when you notice an incorrect grip. We encourage 'nip', 'flip' and 'grip'. We are also working hard on correct formation of letters and numbers. If children are not forming letters correctly, it makes the transition into joined writing even more of a challenge.



8. Reading – We have been hearing your children read over the past weeks and assessing their phonic levels following the summer break. Those who were 'free readers' may have been asked to read some of the higher-level books, just to check their confidence and those who struggle more may have been moved down a level in order to revise forgotten phonemes – please do not worry about this! We will continue to assess and move the children as appropriate. Pupils who find it difficult to learn to read are likely to struggle across the curriculum. Therefore, at Manorbrook, reading is one of our highest priorities and we want to ensure children become fluent and engaged readers at the very earliest stage. To achieve this, we have adopted the recommended approach whereby children who are on the reading scheme books will read their text three times before it is changed.

- **The first read** is a focus on blending the sounds to read unknown words.
- **The second read** is to develop fluency, so the child can enjoy reading the book with greater ease.
- **The third read** is to talk about the text and practise their comprehension skills.

We would appreciate your support with this by hearing your child read as frequently as possible (ideally everyday) and ensuring they have their reading books and reading records in school every day. Please number your child's reads at home in their reading record in the margin and sign the name of the adult your child read with. Every 5th read will be rewarded with an entry into a class draw at the end of each term. In Year 2, we encourage the children to be independent, and they need to hand in their book when it needs changing – we will not be checking this every day! As the class teachers, we will listen to your child read in a guided group at least once a week.

9. Home Learning: The children will be given Maths and Spelling homework weekly. Spellings will be sent home on a Thursday and needs to be returned by the following Wednesday. We will use TTRS for the Maths homework – your children will receive their log ins in their reading records.

10. Year 2 children are expected to learn the national 'Common Exception Word' list and the multiplication tables 2x, 3x, 5x and 10x tables (at least). These will form part of both classwork and homework, and we would really appreciate your help in teaching the children these.

11. Punctuality and attendance are really important. There has been a national drop in these since Covid lockdowns, and this is a concern when children miss so much learning and can become unsettled when they are late. Please ensure your child is in school on time and avoid holidays during term time. The Year 2 curriculum is high paced, and they can easily get behind. (Please see the attendance policy on the website if you are unsure.) On the other hand, if your child is genuinely ill, then please keep them off school until they are well enough to return and, in the case of sickness/diarrhoea, abide by the 48-hour rule.

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Owen and Miss Hodder