

## Manorbrook School and Community Newsletter



Aiming for Excellence

No. 7 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear parents, carers and friends,

This will be the last edition of the Newsletter before we break up and whilst this term has been very long, it also doesn't feel that long since we were first setting the Infant building up, following the works here over the summer! So many things have happened over the last few months with lots of new experiences for me personally such as the Carols by Candlelight, all of which have been thoroughly enjoyable. Thank you to everyone for giving me such a warm welcome to Manorbrook over these 2 terms. I have very much enjoyed being part of the community and am very excited to see what the future brings. I wanted to take this opportunity to also say thank you to all of the staff and volunteers who have worked tirelessly over these two terms to do their very best for the children and the children themselves who make me proud of them and our school every single day.

I hope that you find this newsletter useful and please do note some of the arrangements for Christmas events that are upcoming (some of which have changed slightly). I'm sure I'll see some of you over the next week or so, but if I don't I hope you have a lovely break and enjoy any time you spend with others during this period.

Kind regards

*Paul Medlicott*

### **Teacher led Clubs/ Knitting Club**

Please be advised that there will be no teacher led clubs during the last week of term. Future Stars & knitting however will continue until the end of term.

### **Infant Nativity**

We want to congratulate the pupils from Sparrows, Blackbirds, Robins and Swifts for putting on such excellent performances of Bundle of Joy this week. A big Thank You to the teaching staff for their enormous efforts to prepare the show, and of course to you the parents and grandparents for being such an appreciative audience. At the end of the shows there was a collection for our chosen charity which raised £58.10. Our chosen charity this year is the pupil that we sponsor in Uganda called Bonyomin. We have sponsored him for over 8 years enabling him to attend school and he is now 15 and supporting other pupils in his community by taking on the role of the teacher.

### **Christmas Parties**

A reminder that our Christmas parties will take place in the afternoon of the 18<sup>th</sup> of December. Following further conversations with both staff and questions from parents, **we have decided that the children can wear the clothes they want for the party all day.** This saves the need for changing and also then maximises the time the children have to enjoy the party itself. Please remember however that they will still be outside during the day and so encourage them to

choose clothes which allow them to run around easily without slipping and that will keep them warm when they are outdoors. We are really looking forward to the fun and games that these parties bring!

### **Christmas Dinner**

On Christmas dinner day (Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>), children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper/t shirt to school or maybe something festive to decorate themselves e.g. tinsel. Please can we request however that they still wear normal uniform shoes, trousers, skirts etc with their item of choice.

### **Y3 Swimming**

Year 3 will be swimming at Tockington from Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January; letters have been sent home with further information. We are currently organising cover and parental support for this and would be very grateful to hear from any Year 3 parents who are happy to support us taking them on the coach and for the lessons. Even if you are only able to support for a few weeks, or are happy to be on standby, that would be great! We may need to obtain DBS checks for anyone without one, but if you already know you have one that would also be helpful for us to know.

If you think you might be able to help out, please could you contact the school via our email address: [enquiries@manorbrook.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@manorbrook.org.uk) or 01454 867225 or speak to Miss French.

### **Thornbury in Bloom**



We are delighted to have been awarded the School Shield for our Spectacular Contribution to Thornbury in Bloom! The children were presented with the shield and certificate in today's assembly.

A big thank you to everyone involved and a special thank you to all the families who support the continuing allotment project.

### **Carols by Candlelight**

Thank you also to everyone who participated to make this year's Carols by Candlelight. The evening was hugely successful and a very festive experience for all. Well done to everyone who took in the music, singing and recitals- you were amazing! Thank you also to Miss Drayton for organising the events, the admin team for ticketing the event, FOM for their support and providing refreshments and Mike Burnell, who came to support the children. Thanks also goes to Ian Senior, a school governor, who supported the event by playing the piano. Well done all!

### **EYFS applications for 2026**

If you are applying for an EYFS place for September 2026, or know someone who is, then please remember that the closing date for applications through the South Glos Citizen Portal is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

Submitting applications after the deadline greatly reduces the chances of being offered a place at Manorbrook and therefore applications must be submitted before midnight on 15 January 2026. We have also been asked to remind parents that even if your child attends a very local pre-school e.g. Rainbow Teddies or having a sibling in attendance at Manorbrook does not automatically guarantee an offer.

### **Walk to School Wednesdays and Fridays**



We count Walk to School numbers on Wednesdays and Fridays. Please try and support this if you can; if you drive to school, you may be able to stop the car a distance from school and walk the rest of the way. ***We award the golden***

***trainer to the class with the highest percentage of walkers.***  
**This week's winners were Jackdaws class (Y6) with 88%.**

### **School vaccination service feedback survey**

We have been asked to share the following with you:

'Help us improve school vaccination services

We have been asked by the NHS to share feedback about school vaccination services, and they would like to hear about your experiences of when your child / children have had their vaccinations.

Here is a link to the survey for parents / carers: [BNSSG Parent / Carer Survey](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=sITDN7CF9Ueylge0jXdO43-c-XKWX2FCt4KyQvARe41UMVBFNUIMR0VLOVcwM1Q5ODdDRlhVWlpQWS4u&route=shorturl). or <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=sITDN7CF9Ueylge0jXdO43-c-XKWX2FCt4KyQvARe41UMVBFNUIMR0VLOVcwM1Q5ODdDRlhVWlpQWS4u&route=shorturl>

Your responses are completely anonymous, and they will help us to make vaccination sessions work better for families and schools.

Please complete the survey by 16th January 2026.

If you need the survey in a different language or easy-read format, please contact us via [england.swvast@nhs.net](mailto:england.swvast@nhs.net).

Your feedback is very important to us and will help us improve vaccination services for school communities.

Thank you for your help'

### **'Friends of Manorbrook' News**

#### **Christmas Fair**

Tonight is the night! We are really looking forward to welcoming you to the **Christmas Fair** tonight from **6pm to 8pm!**

It's not too late to book your **raffle tickets!** We have some incredible prizes to be won, including theatre tickets, passes to family attractions, holiday clubs and some generous hampers. Be sure to buy yours at <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofmanorbrook> now before the draw at 8pm tonight!

If you haven't booked a **Santa's grotto** slot yet, online bookings have closed. However, you will be able to book the remaining places on the 7.15pm and 7.30pm slots this evening on a first come, first served basis. See a friendly elf in Wrens classroom to arrange this. You can pay with cash (please have the right money - £5 per child) or pay at the bar in exchange for a token.

None of this could be possible without your support. Thank you so much for all your generous donations and to those that have offered to give up their time to help with the preparation or to run a stall at the fair. We hope to see you enjoying the event tonight!

#### **Jolly Jars**

Thank you for all of the jolly jars that you contributed to the Christmas Fair. We are pleased to announce that the winners of the class competition were as follows:

Key Stage 2 - **Year 4** with 61 jolly jars

Key Stage 1 - **Year 1 Swifts** with 33 jolly jars.

Congratulations to the winners!

## Christmas Movie Night

This year's Christmas movie night went brilliantly, with over 100 children enjoying a film and snacks. This event raised **£478.21** to go towards new laptops for the school.

Finally, we hope you all enjoy the festive break and have a well-earned rest. If anyone would like to make volunteering with FOM their New Year's resolution, we would love to hear from you!

email [friendsofmanorbrook@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofmanorbrook@gmail.com)

Facebook: [friendsofmanorbrook](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofmanorbrook)

Instagram: [@friendsofmanorbrook](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofmanorbrook)

### Remaining Inset days – 2 April 2026, 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026

<b>DECEMBER – Term 2</b>		
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	18:00-20:00	FOM Christmas Fair
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>		Christmas Lunch
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	13:00-15:00	KS1 & KS2 Christmas Parties
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>		Last Day of Term 2

<b>JANUARY – Term 3</b>		
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>		Children return to school