

Manorbrook School and Community Newsletter



Aiming for Excellence

No. 13 27th March 2026

Dear parents, carers and friends,

It is amazing to think that we are already nearing the end of Term 4 - this academic year seems to be flying by and before we know it, we'll be approaching the sports days which are scheduled for next term!

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent Parents' Evenings. I hope that you found them useful and informative. It was lovely for me to circulate on both evenings and talk to so many of you about various different things. As the weather was also lovely on both evenings, it was great to see quite how many children were outside playing on the grounds.

I also appreciate the number of you that were able to respond to our annual parent survey. Once all the responses have been analysed, I will share an update around the survey in due course.

Wishing you a lovely weekend,

Paul Medlicott

Youth Speaks

Congratulations to Sammy and Lucas, who both represented the school at the area finals of the Youth Speaks competition in Olveston Parish Hall, delivering excellent speeches on 'The Wildlife of the Galapagos Islands' and 'My story: moving from Hong Kong', respectively. They received numerous positive comments about their presentations, and both received a cash prize and a certificate for the participation. A special well done to Sammy, who came third. We are extremely proud of them both.



Getting About In Thornbury

You may already be aware of the 'Getting About In Thornbury' project that is looking to improve the safety and ease of travelling around parts of Thornbury for those walking, cycling and wheeling (wheelchairs, mobility scooters, buggy etc). Proposals for this include improvements around the Park Road area including outside Manorbrook and Castle School. There are further details available online, however below is a link to a map of the project and specific details regarding the proposed improvements in the Park Road area.

[Map](#)

[Details](#)

School Expansion

As the school continues to grow, I thought I would bring you a very short update on where we are. Currently the Local Authority is awaiting the outcome of their planning application for works that they hope to complete this summer at Manorbrook. Once the planning has been confirmed, the project team will then be able to accurately timeline when specific actions are undertaken, as any thinking is currently provisional based upon the planning outcome. I will then share further updates with you when I know more.

Use Of Grounds After School

As more people have been using the grounds after school for the children to play, we wanted to just share a quick reminder that the children need to be supervised by parents during this time and the grounds/facilities are used at your own risk. Unfortunately, the school cannot accept any liability for accidents that may occur during this time. We thank you for your support with this.

Clubs Next Week

There will be no teacher-led clubs next week as it is the last week of term. Knitting and Future Stars will take place as usual, however.

Y3 Virtual Workshop

On Wednesday 1st April Y3 will be taking part in the Roman Baths Virtual Workshop.

Y3 Swimming

A reminder that today is the last swimming session for Y3.

Collection Notifications

We appreciate that there may be occasional instances where parents are stuck in traffic and have to call to advise of a last-minute change to collection. However, for all other notifications regarding someone else collecting your child, it really helps us if you can contact the office no later than 2.30pm whenever possible. Many thanks in advance for your help with this.

Rainbow Teddies

Please can we ask parents to ensure that they leave the school grounds via the schools exits – the side gates by Chatsworth Park and the streamside or the middle gate by MOSC. We politely ask that parents do not use the Rainbow Teddies garden as a route to exit the grounds.

Open Classrooms

Please note that there will be no Open Classrooms before the end of this term as the recent Parent Consultations have already given families the opportunity to review their children's learning. There will be Open Classrooms again towards the end of Term 5. Dates will be shared ASAP.

Additional Club

As you are aware, we are looking to enhance our after school club offer and we are pleased to let you know that after we return from the holidays, an additional club will be running. This will be provided by 'Pride In Play' who also work in other local schools such as Gillingstool and will give the children opportunities to play in different ways within our grounds and use the different parts of our site. Examples of activities that they might be involved in include whittling twigs, camp fires, climbing trees and activities that the children direct, so as you can see this is different to other offers we currently have. Dave, who runs the club is an experienced leader and is passionate about giving the children new experiences that we might not otherwise be able to offer. If you are interested, this will be a paid club and will run every Wednesday from the end of the school day until 5pm. Leaflets with further information and how to book a space will be sent home with the children during next week.

Sports Days

KS2/Junior sports afternoon will be held on Tuesday 19th May and KS1/Infants on Wednesday 20th May.



If possible, could you please send your child in a plain T-shirt to represent the colour of their 'house' and ensure they have a water bottle, sun cream and hat.

Mill - blue

Brook - red

Quarry - yellow

Willow – green

Sponsored Read

This year's Sponsored Read form will be coming out on Monday, and we hope as many children as possible will be able to take part. We will be excited to hear about how many minutes of reading the children have accumulated over the Easter break. All instructions can be found on the form that will come out next week.



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.**

Last week's winners were Sparrows with 72%

This week's winners were Starlings with 84%

Allotment Wish List – Thank You

We'd like to say a **huge thank you** to the people who have already helped us out with generous purchases of seeds, gardening tools and more; your kindness really makes a difference to what we can do down in the allotment.

The children are buzzing in school at the prospect of being able to grow all sorts of exciting vegetables again this year.

Details of the link for our Amazon list of the things we need for the allotment, if anyone is able to contribute:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/38RFHA8R9WAJ3?ref=cm_sw_em_r_un_un_fbUMlhE8SfG1R

Inset Day

A reminder that Thursday 2nd April is an Inset Day and therefore the last day of this term is Wednesday 1st April.

'Friends of Manorbrook' News

FOM Sponsored Read: During the last week of term, your child will be coming home with a letter, sponsorship form and a bingo card of reading-related challenges for the FOM Sponsored Read.

During the Easter holidays, we are challenging the children to complete as many of the challenges as possible and ask family and friends to sponsor them in return. Examples include 'Read in your pyjamas' and 'Make a den and read inside'. The idea is to encourage the children to have fun whilst practising their reading skills and is accessible no matter what a child's reading level.

When the children come back to school after the Easter break, they just need to return the sponsorship form and bingo card to the school office, along with any money raised if it can't be paid by bank transfer (which is preferred). Further details are to be found in the letter.

Every child who has completed at least 5 challenges on the bingo card will win a magnetic bookmark and be entered into a prize draw for a selection of book tokens totalling £100. A trophy will also be awarded to the class in Reception/Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 with the highest total number of challenges completed.

There will also be a separate prize for the most extreme photo from a Reception/KS1 child and KS2 child taking part in the reading challenge. Perhaps your child has read in an unusual place or in a strange position?! To enter this part of the competition, please take a photo and email it to friendsofmanorbrook@gmail.com.

FOM 'Quiz + Chips': Our ever-popular 'Quiz and Chips' returns to the School on **Friday 8th May** (7pm doors open, 7.30pm start). Join us for a pub quiz with fresh fish and chips (or other food options) from Parky's Chippy, prizes and a well-stocked bar. Teams of 4-6 adults or individuals welcome (we can pair you up on the night). Please buy your tickets in advance at <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofmanorbrook>.

Summer Fair: the Summer Fair will take place on **Friday 19th June** - please save the date! Planning has already begun and we are reaching out to our school community to see if anyone has access to a PAT-tested **generator** that we can use on the day or any **discounts on food or drink** that they could help us with in advance. If you can help with either of these things, please let your FOM class rep know or email us on the address below.

Thank you to everyone that supported the Mother's Day event. The children loved being able to select their gifts, and the event raised **£527.55!**

Email friendsofmanorbrook@gmail.com

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

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

[Remaining Inset days – 2 April 2026, 1st May 2026](#)

APRIL		
Wednesday 1 st		Last day of term
Thursday 2 nd		INSET DAY
Friday 3 rd		BANK HOLIDAY
Monday 6 th		BANK HOLIDAY
April 7th – April 17th EASTER HOLIDAY		
Monday 20 th		Children return to school

MAY		
Friday 1 st		INSET DAY
Thursday 7 th		Class Photographs
Friday 8 th	19:00	FOM Quiz & Chips
Tuesday 19 th		KS2 Sports Day
Wednesday 20 th		KS1 Sports Day
Friday 22 nd		Last day of Term