**Manorbrook School and Community Newsletter**

Aiming for Excellence

**No. 5 13th November 2026**

Dear parents, carers and friends,

It has been another busy and exciting few weeks at Manorbrook, with lots happening around the school as we continue to develop and improve our environment for the children. Over half term, we were delighted to see the sensory pod finally arrive and take its place on site. We are now looking forward to the furniture and equipment arriving so that we can get everything in place and start making full use of this fantastic new space. Alongside this, the PE shed has been relocated, the Infant Hall has had a fresh coat of paint and there is a brand-new kitchen in MOSC. It is great to see these improvements taking shape and helping us to make our school an even better place for everyone.

We have also welcomed lots of prospective families into Manorbrook recently for our EYFS 2027 parent tours. It has been lovely to meet so many parents and share a little of what makes our school such a special place. I have been particularly proud of our Year 6 House Captains, who have been fantastic in showing families around, talking confidently about our school and sharing their experiences. They have been wonderful ambassadors for Manorbrook and should feel incredibly proud of the way they have represented our school.

Finally, it has been lovely to see the children getting involved in Children in Need today, filling the school with bright colours and plenty of smiles! It is always wonderful to see the enthusiasm with which the children embrace opportunities to support others and think beyond themselves. As ever, thank you for your continued support and for being such an important part of our Manorbrook family.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

*Paul Medlicott*

**Fleeces**

As the weather gets colder, we would like to confirm that we are happy for children to wear Manorbrook embroidered fleeces in classes as an addition or alternative to school jumpers. However, pupils must still have a waterproof coat to wear outside at playtimes so that they do not end up wearing damp fleeces indoors.

**Parent Pay**

This is a polite reminder that ordering of pupil meals needs to be undertaken by parents at home and must be done before 8.00am on the day of the meal. Parent Pay allows booking of meals up to 3 weeks in advance, providing plenty of opportunity for parents to ensure that children's meals are booked in a timely manner, thank you.

## Anti-bullying Week 16th - 20th November
## Featuring Odd Socks Day

The above week is national Anti-bullying Week. We will discuss this important subject in an assembly. The theme this year is 'Break the Silence'.

We will also be joining in with **Odd Socks day on Monday 16th November**, so please send your children into school in uniform but with 'odd socks' if you can. This is to signify that being different/ individual is something to be celebrated. Throughout the week the children will learn to identify bullying and to know what to do if they feel they are being bullied or worried. It may be helpful for you to know that we ask them to think of 'Five Trusted Adults', namely people they can go to for help or reassurance, not only in cases of bullying, but whenever they are upset, worried or unsure. They should all also know our anti-bullying rhyme, which is: "If you think you're being bullied, here's a simple rule; tell a friend or parent, or anyone at school." this is displayed in every class and used in conjunction with the "Five Trusted Adults" messaging to remind them not to keep their worries to themselves.

## Non-Uniform Day

On Friday 4th December children are invited to come to school in non-uniform in exchange for donations towards the fair, such as wine, chocolates, biscuits, hamper gifts, teddies, tombola items and unopened toiletries. We rely on these donations for some of the most popular stalls – thanks in advance for your support!

## Carols by Candlelight

For those of you who don't know, Carols by Candlelight is an entry-by-ticket evening event, which is a long-standing fixture in Manorbrook's history. The evening begins with mince pies and mulled wine being served (kindly provided by FOM). There is a mixture of traditional singalong carols, songs sung by the choir, and instrumental pieces by some of the children who take music lessons and are at a level where they are ready to perform. This year it will happen on Thursday 3rd December. We will offer tickets initially to families of all the musicians and choir members. Once we know numbers, we will let you know whether other spare tickets are available, so you can join in the event.



**This year we would again also like to invite children in KS2 to perform a seasonal poem or reading.** This was an idea tried by FOM when they did a virtual Carols by Candlelight during COVID, and it was a real delight, with children reading or reciting well-known Christmas poems or stories, contributing to the festive feel. They don't have to be solo performances; if siblings or friends wish to prepare something together they may do so. Parents, please help them to prepare at home to give them the greatest possible confidence and chance of success.
The deadline for asking to perform a poem or reading is Friday 21st November. Please email the office to say what your child would like to perform and to confirm you think they will be ready. We will use the assembly slots the following week to practice, ready for Thursday 3rd December. Thank you.

## Infant Nativity

This year's nativity is called 'Nativity'. There will be three performances as follows:
Tuesday 8th December at 6.00pm
Wednesday 9th December at 1.45pm
Thursday 10th December at 6:00pm

**Nativity Year Groups**

Due to our school growing over the last few years, we can sadly no longer fit all our infant classes all into the hall to perform the Nativity play together. **Therefore, this year, the Nativity will be performed only by Robins (Y1), Swifts (Y1), Sparrows (Y2) and Blackbirds(Y2).** Having just the four classes will allow the necessary space in the hall for lots of families to come and watch.

However, we don't want our reception children to miss out on the pleasure of performing for an audience, so the pupils in Wrens and Chiffchaffs will prepare and put on a different performance for their families sometime in the Spring term. Information about this will follow in the new year.

**Christmas Parties**

Our Christmas parties will take place in the afternoon of Thursday 17th of December. Please can children come to school in their normal school uniform and bring their party clothes in named carrier bag to hang on their peg. The children will then get changed for their parties during the day. Please encourage them to choose clothes that they won't get too hot in and footwear that allows them to run around easily without slipping. We are really looking forward to the fun and games that these parties bring!

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**MOSC News**

With these darker nights we are super excited for the winter season at MOSC, as this means increased crafting activities and games for the children

**Session Availability & Fees**

We currently have regular spaces available across our sessions, except for Thursday mornings, which are fully booked.

If you would like to book a regular spot, or take advantage of our newly increased ad hoc spaces, please find our session times and rates below.

**Regular Bookings**

- **Monday to Friday (AM):** 7:45 am – 8:40 am | **£5.20**
- **Monday to Thursday (PM):** 3:20 pm – 6:00 pm | **£11.50**
- **Friday (PM):** 3:20 pm – 5:00 pm | **£9.25**

**Ad Hoc Bookings**

- **Monday to Friday (AM):** 7:45 am – 8:40 am | **£6.20**
- **Monday to Thursday (PM):** 3:20 pm – 6:00 pm | **£12.50**
- **Friday (PM):** 3:20 pm – 5:00 pm | **£10.25**
    - *Please note: To secure an ad hoc booking, payment must be made at the time of booking.*

If you would like to book any of these slots, please get in touch with us at manorbrookosc@gmail.com

**Join Our MOSC Committee: Two Trustee Roles Available!**

We are actively seeking two new Trustees to join our friendly committee and help shape the future of our club. To help balance our team, we are specifically looking for:

- **A Treasurer:** Someone with **accountancy experience** to oversee our financial health.
- **An HR Trustee:** Someone with **HR experience** to support our staffing and compliance.

If you have these skills and could spare a little time to support us behind the scenes, your help will make a massive difference. To express your interest or ask any questions, please contact our Chair directly at Chair@MBOSC.onmicrosoft.com

**‘Friends of Manorbrook’ News**

**Quiz + Chips:** Booking is still open for this old-favourite event – a great pub quiz, chippy takeaway and a well-stocked bar – on **Friday 20th November** from 7pm. Tickets only available until **18th November**, so get yours now!

**Christmas Movie Night:** this will be taking place on **Friday 27th November.**

We have 3 separate showings, so something for everyone.

🎬 **Reception and Year 1 - Stickman (U)**

Time: 3.20pm

Pick up: 4.00pm Playground

Price £3.50 includes sweets

Straight after school, no need to bring a change of clothes.

🎬 **Year 2 & 3 - Arthur Christmas (U)**

Location: KS1 Hall

🎬 **Year 4, 5 & 6 - Elf (PG)**

Location: KS2 Hall

Arrival time for showings for Year 2 and 3, and Years 4, 5 and 6: 4.30pm

Film starts promptly for both: 4.45pm

Pick up for both: 7pm

Prices for both:

Movie only deal - £4 (includes film, sweets and drink).

Movie and food deal - £6 (includes film, sweets, drink and hot dog).

‼*Please be aware that the film Elf carries a PG rating. Please read the disclaimer on PTA events. We are also encouraging parents to watch the film to make sure they are happy with the language used in the film before purchasing a ticket.*

‼*The majority of Christmas films are about believing in Father Christmas. Please make sure you are happy with the film before purchasing a ticket.*

Please let your class rep know if you are able to help at any of these events, as we can’t run events like this without your support.

You can book tickets to these events at https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofmanorbrook

**Christmas Fair:** the Manorbrook Christmas Fair will be taking place on **Friday 11th December** from 6pm to 8pm. It is the perfect way to have some festive family fun, so keep the date free!

**Raffle tickets** are on sale now at https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofmanorbrook . There are some magnificent prizes to be won, including days out with the family, restaurant and cafe vouchers and treats for all!

**Santa’s Grotto tickets** will also be going on sale soon. Details to follow!

Please also make a note of these dates for your diary:

- **Donation day** - please bring in your donations for the fair in return for your child wearing non-school uniform on **Friday 4th December**.
- **Jolly jar day** - please send in your jolly jars (think party bag in a glass jar!) on **Monday 7th December**.

If you are able to help at the fair, please sign up for a stall here:

https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10C094CADAE2EA0FBC25-67078049-manorbrook?useFullSite=false

**Discos:** Thank you to everyone that supported the disco, either by buying a ticket or helping on the night. The discos raised a brilliant £782!

**Fundraising opportunity:** FOM is in the running for a £1,000 in a draw by The Benefact Group. The more nominations we receive, the bigger the chance we will be successful! Please nominate us at https://movementforgood.com/draws/1000 . It only takes a minute!

email friendsofmanorbrook@gmail.com
Facebook: friendsofmanorbrook
Instagram: @friendsofmanorbrook

**Inset Days remaining – 4th January 2027, 25th March 2027, 30th April 2027**

| **NOVEMBER** | | |
|---|---|---|
| Tuesday 17th | 09.15 | Prospective Parent Tours |
| Friday 20th | 19:00 | FOM Quiz & Chips |
| Friday 27th | | FOM Movie Night |

| **DECEMBER** | | |
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| Thursday 3rd | 18:00 | Carols by Candlelight |
| Tuesday 8th | | Choir at the Memory Cafe |
| Tuesday 8th | 18:00 | Nativity |
| Wednesday 9th | 13:45 | Nativity |
| Thursday 10th | 18:00 | Nativity |
| Friday 11th | 18:00 | FOM Christmas Fair |
| Thursday 17th | 13:00 | KS1 & KS2 Christmas Parties |
| Friday 18th | | Last day of term |