MANOR WAY MAIL

16TH JULY 2026- ISSUE 18

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER....

Dear Manor Way Family,

As we come to the end of another fantastic school year, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our pupils on their hard work, achievements and the many wonderful memories they have created.

ft A huge congratulations to our EYFS graduates, who have had such a successful start to their school journey and we wish them every success as they move on up the school. And to our leavers, our Year 6 pupils, we say goodbye and good luck as they begin an exciting new chapter. Your end-of-year production was simply amazing – full of confidence, talent and humour – and we could not be prouder of each and every one of you.

A huge thank you to our families for going all in to support school again this year! Your ongoing commitment to ensuring your children attend school everyday, smart and ready for learning is much appreciated, because every day in school really does make a difference.

In this newsletter please see the sections on the changes to the school day and an update on the uniform policy which will start from September. Our school day is starting a little earlier and finishing a little earlier. We have listened and acted on feedback from parents, and now all children will be dismissed from school at the same time.

Finally, please look out for the key dates for the next academic year, which are included in this newsletter. Thank you for being such an important part of our school community, and we wish all of our families a happy, safe and restful summer break.

Lisa Buffery
Executive Headteacher

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL DAY

Important Updates: New School Routines for September 2026

Following your valuable feedback regarding an aligned end-of-day time, we are updating our daily schedule starting Wednesday 2nd September 2026.
To align finish times without losing any classroom learning time, we are starting 10 minutes earlier in the morning and reducing lunch by 5 minutes.

New Daily Timings

- Playground Gates Open: 8:30 AM
- Gates Close & Registration: 8:40 AM
- End of School Day (All Pupils): 3:15 PM

Morning Drop-Off Routines (8:30 AM – 8:40 AM)

- Years 1 to 6: Enter through the main KS1 playground gate as usual.
- Preschool & Reception: Enter via the electric pedestrian gate, through the field gate, and follow the path to the Reception/Preschool gate. A staff member will meet you there. (If you have older siblings, please drop them at the main gate first).

Dismissal Routines (3:15 PM)

- Reception to Year 6: Main KS1 playground (unchanged).
- Preschool: Pick up at the Car Park MUGA gate (the same gate used for morning drop-off). Children will wait safely in a new dedicated seating area behind our new electric gates.

Breakfast Club & Wrap-Around Care

- Free Breakfast Club: Doors open promptly at 8:10 AM via the KS1 bungalow gate (staff present from 8:05 AM). Please note: Drop-off is at 8:10 AM sharp, not drop-in.
- Activity Breakfast Club: Arrive through the main front doors as usual (for arrivals before 8:10 AM).
- After-School Clubs: Run from 3:15 PM to 4:15 PM.
- Activity Club (Wrap-Around Care): Runs from 3:15 PM to 5:30 PM.

Parking & Gate Safety Notice

New electric gates are being installed over the summer. Consequently, there will be no parking on the school site for Breakfast Club drop-offs. If you require access to disabled parking spaces, please contact the school office in advance.

Senior leaders and Mr. Flett will be at the gates on Wednesday, September 2nd to direct and support you!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - CHANGES TO UNIFORM

We are sharing an update regarding our school uniform policy for the upcoming academic year.

In line with updated Department for Education (DfE) guidance on the cost of school uniforms, schools are required to ensure that uniform costs remain affordable and that compulsory branded items are kept to a minimum. We fully support these changes, as we want to ensure our uniform builds a sense of community while offering flexibility and value for money for all our families.

What Is Changing?
To keep costs down and give you more choice, we have simplified our list of compulsory branded items. Generic, unbranded alternatives are welcome where it does not state compulsory. We now have three compulsory branded items, listed below. If you would like to order the Royal Blue jumper with logo this is available from Maple Workwear to oredr in store or online along with the three compulsory items.

1. Compulsory Uniform Items
The following specific items remain compulsory:

- **School Tie**
- **PE Top**
- **PE Hoody / Jumper**

Expectations for school uniform

All Year Round (Required - Unless opting for Summer uniform below in Summer term)

- **Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore**
- **White collared shirt**
- **Royal blue sweatshirt or sweat cardigan** (optional embroidered logo available)
- **Clip on school tie or elasticated, bright blue double striped.** (Reception children manage better with elasticated ties) (Compulsory)
- **Smart black shoes** (low heeled/not trainers) suitable for school
- **White or grey socks or plain grey tights**

Summer Uniform (Optional) These items are optional during the Summer term instead of the above uniform

- **White polo shirts instead of a white shirt**
- **Summer dress (blue and white check).**
- **Grey shorts.**
- Summer caps are available to buy from the school office

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - CHANGES TO UNIFORM

PE Kit Reception-6 (Required)

- **Manor Way T-shirt with squad number** (compulsory, this will be allocated to each child)
- **Manor Way hoodie with squad number** (compulsory)
- **Navy skirt or shorts or skort Navy blue joggers** - no branded logo
- **White or black trainers - not coloured**

Jewellery

For health and safety reasons, bracelets, necklaces, dangling earrings, and other accessories are not permitted at Manor Way Primary Academy. This policy aligns with common practice in most primary schools across the United Kingdom.
Pupils are permitted to wear small silver or gold studs in their ears, but these must be removed on PE days for safety during physical activity. If worn on PEdaywe will ask children to remove the items and the item will then be stored and ready for collection at the end of the day. This can be an added task for staff so please support us by removing jewellery on PE days , thank you.

The Association for Physical Education recommends that all personal jewellery must be removed , including earrings for PE lessons to ensure a safe working environment as it poses risks of injury to the wearer and others through tearing and impalement. Taping over earrings is not an acceptable safety measure as the tape can come off and it does not eliminate the risk.

Jewellery worn for religious reasons may be permitted upon prior written agreement from the headteacher.

The following items are not permitted:

- Large earrings or hoops
- Studs or rings in any other part of the body
- Necklaces, bracelets, or rings
- Makeup of any kind
- Coloured nail varnish

Hair/Hairstyles

We kindly request that all long hair be tied up in a ponytail, plait, or another controlled style using a dark-coloured bobble or a single blue scrunchie. A small blue bow may be worn if desired. Headwear worn for religious purposes is permitted.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - CHANGES TO UNIFORM

Manor Way Primary Academy does not permit the following:

- False nails
- Nail varnish or painted nails
- Makeup of any kind
- Extreme colouration of hair

Our Uniform Supplier

MAPLE Workwear
Units 2 and 3 Chapel Street Netherton, Dudley. DY2 9PN
01384 212 151 www.mapleworkwear.co.uk

Parents and Carers can either visit the shop or place an order online, these can then be delivered to your home address or to the school for your convenience.

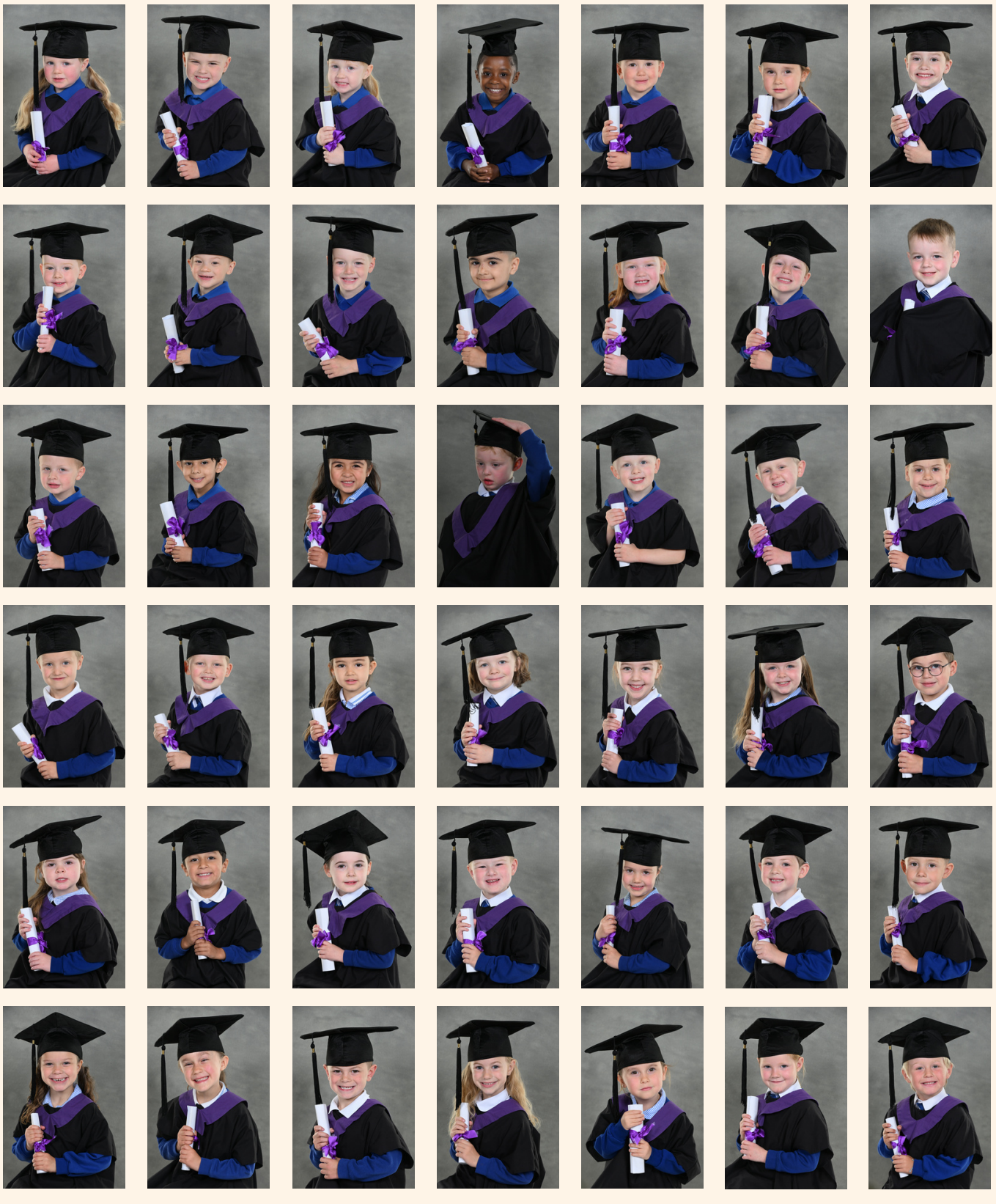
Non-branded items such as trousers, skirts and shirts and be purchased from a variety of supermarkets or local stores. If you need financial support in order to buy branded items, please contact the school for support.

School also have a stock of pre-loved uniform on our Give and Take Rail which is available on Fridays on the playground. Please enquire at the office for more information.

Where to Find the Full Policy
For the complete guide on our uniform (such as trousers, skirts, shirts, and footwear) please visit our website here.

EYFS GRADUATION

Thank you to all of our parents and families who joined us for our EYFS Graduation on Monday, 13th July. I'm sure you'll agree that all of the children did incredibly well and looked absolutely wonderful in their caps and gowns. It was a very special occasion, and we were so proud to celebrate their achievements and the amazing progress they have made throughout the year. Thank you for helping to make the day such a memorable one for our children. Here are a selection of some of the amazing pictures that were taken...



MANOR WAY'S GOT TALENT

Manor Ways Got Talent was a fantastic celebration of the exceptional creativity, confidence and talent of our pupils. We were amazed by the variety of performances and the effort that everyone put into showcasing their unique talents and skills. A huge well done to all of our semi-finalists for their hard work and bravery in taking to the stage – you should all be incredibly proud of yourselves. Congratulations to our finalists:

Year 1	**Anya & Sara**	
Year 2	**Beau**	Singing
Year 3	**Dancing Queens** Nimret, Grace & Isabella Rose	Dancing
Year 4	**Six** Emilia, Quinn & Evie	Singing, Dancing & Acting
Year 5	**The Duck Song** Oliver, Elliot. Zeke & Izaan	Singing & Acting
Year 6	**Dylan**	Comedy

And our Winner was:

KS1 - Beau Hall
KS2 - Six
Creativity Award - The Duck Song

A very special thank you goes to Mr Avery for his incredible help with the set design, which made the event feel even more spectacular. We would also like to thank our staff tribute band, ABBA, who wowed the audience and added plenty of fun and excitement to the show! Manor Ways Got Talent was a fun & memorable occasion and we hope you enjoy looking through the photographs below, which capture some of the highlights from this fantastic event.

PARENT INFORMATION

Dudley SEND Bulletin

The latest Dudley SEND eBulletin includes important updates on SEND services and support across the borough, including improvements to local SEND provision, upcoming events and workshops for families, information from the Dudley Parent Carer Forum and useful resources for children and young people with additional needs and disabilities. We encourage parents and carers to take a look at the bulletin to find out about the support available and opportunities to get involved in shaping SEND services in Dudley. Click the image for more information

Holiday Activity Fund

Families of children who are eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) can access a fantastic range of free activities and healthy meals during the school holidays through the Dudley Holiday Activities programme. With opportunities including sports, arts and crafts, outdoor adventures and much more, there is something for everyone to enjoy. We encourage eligible families to visit the website to find out what's available locally and how to book their places for the summer holidays.

Family Fun Around Dudley this Summer Holiday

There's plenty to keep children and families busy across Dudley this summer! From free swimming sessions and library activities to outdoor adventures, family play sessions and exciting events at local attractions, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Many activities are free or low cost, making it easier for families to make the most of the school holidays. We encourage you to explore the wide range of opportunities available and book early where required. Click on the image for more information

Thriving Together Parent Magazine

The latest WAT Parents Newsletter is out now. Please have a look at see if you can spot out Choir Superstars. You can access is here.

DIARY DATES

Autumn 2026 1st September - 18th December

1st September	Inset Day
2nd September	Children start school
5th October	Inset Day
24th October - 1st November	Half Term
4th December	Inset Day
18th December	Last Day of Term

Spring 2027 4th January - 26th March

4th January	Inset Day
5th January	Children start back
13th - 21st February	Half Term
25th March	Last Day of Term

Summer 2027 12th April - 21st July

12th April	Children start school
28th May	Inset Day
29th May - 6th June	Half Term
21st July	Last Day of Term

Activity Dates

7th September	Academy Photography - Full School Uniform
10th September	Year 1 & Year 2 - Visit to Dudley Zoo
11th September	WAT Primary Games
11th September	Friends of Manor Way Meeting - All welcome
16th - 18th September	Year 6 - Pioneer Centre
24th September	Reception Parents Phonics Workshop - 9am
25th September	Year 3 - Stone Age Day Workshop
2nd October - 8th October	Schoolastic Book Fair
19th October	Flu Vaccinations
20th October	Reception - Sycamore Adventure
23rd October	School Disco
3rd & 4th November	Parents Evening
4th November	Reception September 2027 - Open Morning - 9.30am
4th November	Year 4 - Roman Day Workshop
5th November	Year 5 - Egyptian Day Workshop
11th November	Remembrance Day Assembly
13th November	Bee Kind Day
28th November	Christmas Fayre - 11am - 1pm
2nd December	Reception September 2027 - Open Morning - 9.30am
9th & 10th December	EYFS & KS1 Nativity
11th December	Year 1 - 6 Christmas Theatre Trip
14th December	National Elf Service Day
15th December	Christmas Hat & Dinner Day
16th December	Christmas Jumper & Jeans Day
17th December	Christmas Party Day
18th December	Christmas PJ's Day - finish at 1.30pm

Manor Way Primary Academy

A part of Windsor Academy Trust

Executive Headteacher
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information@manor.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

www.manorwayprimary.org.uk

Back to School Asthma Advice

Information for Parents/Carers and children/young people returning to school in September 2026

Checklist ✓

- Take preventer everyday
- Follow action plan
- Triggers
- School Plan
- School inhalers/ Spacer
- Update emergency contact with school
- Book Flu vaccine

Tips to help manage your asthma well and reduce the risk of symptoms and asthma attacks

- Take your preventer inhaler/treatment everyday, even when you are well.
- Make sure you are using your inhalers correctly. Always use your spacer if this has been recommended for you.
- It is important to get in to a good routine with your inhalers in August before going back to school.
- Know your triggers and manage these to avoid symptoms.
- Make sure you know what to do when your asthma is getting worse.
- Make sure you follow your asthma action plan and know what to do in an emergency.
- Make sure you give school a reliever (blue) inhaler and a Spacer, or a Symbicort inhaler.
- Give school a copy of your asthma action plan.
- Update emergency contact numbers with school office.
- Get the seasonal flu vaccine via school or your GP.

Asthma Attacks are a medical emergency—always seek help if your child is not responding to their reliever medication

Further advice available from your school nurse or you can look at the websites below:

Asthmaandlung.org.uk

www.georgecoller.co.uk