MANOR WAY MAIL

JULY 2026 - ISSUE 17

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER....

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's hard to believe we have reached the final few weeks of another fantastic school year. As always, this half term has been incredibly busy, with our children enjoying a wide range of exciting experiences and opportunities. From Sports Days and Dads and Doughnuts to choir performances, educational visits and special events, it has been wonderful to see so many memorable moments taking place both in and out of school.

There is still plenty to look forward to before the summer holidays. Our Year 6, Reception and Pre-School children are putting the finishing touches to their Graduation and Leavers' celebrations, and we look forward to welcoming families to share these special milestones as we celebrate everything they have achieved.

Inside this newsletter you will find all the key information about the end of the school year and your child's transition into their new class in September. This includes details of class teachers, transition activities, our Parent Transition event where you will have the opportunity to meet your child's new teacher, and important information about the final week and last day of term. Please take a few moments to read through everything carefully, and if you have any questions, we are always happy to help.

Next week you will also receive your child's end-of-year report. There will be an opportunity to arrange an optional meeting with your child's current teacher should you wish to discuss their progress or ask any questions.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support throughout the year. We are incredibly proud of all our children and everything they have accomplished. The end of the school year is always a time of celebration, reflection and excitement, as children say goodbye to their current class and begin looking forward to the opportunities that await them in September.

We are looking forward to enjoying the final celebrations together, including our Graduation and Leavers' assemblies, Awards Assembly, Year 6 Sleepover, Silent Discos, Manor Way's Got Talent and many more special moments before we wish everyone a happy and well-deserved summer break.

Best Wishes
Miss Buffery Executive Headteacher

REMINDER

Don't forget to sign up your children up for Manor Way's Got Talent!!!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Believe in your potential. The effort you make today shapes the opportunities you'll have tomorrow."

TRANSITION INFORMATION

New Year - 2026/27

At this time of the year whilst we celebrate your children's success our thoughts also turn to the children's next class and their new teacher. We are keen to ensure that we make the transition for children from their present class to their new class a smooth one and as such we have planned a series of transition activities for the children. These activities will help them become familiar with their new teacher and prepare them for a happy and successful start to the new school year. As always, at this time of year, there are sometimes changes to staff due to both promotion and family & personal commitments.

We are pleased to share that next year's staffing will look like this:

Sept 2026	Teacher	Classroom
Preschool	Mrs Kate Howard	Preschool
Reception	Miss Grace Edmonds (Mrs Banner)	Reception
Year 1	Miss Syeda Ahmed	Current Year 1
Year 2	Miss Holly Marriott	Current Year 2
Year 3	Miss Cassie Thompson	Current Year 3
Year 4	Miss Fern Timmins	Current Year 4
Year 5	Miss Carly Wall	Current Year 5
Year 6	Miss Laura Harris	Current Year 6

After a very thorough and extensive interview process, with over 50 applications to work at Manor Way, we are pleased to say congratulations and welcome our new teachers. Please meet - Miss Marriott, Miss Thompson & Miss Timmins. We'll let them introduce themselves:

Hello, my name is Miss Marriott, and I am so excited to be joining the Manor Way family this September! I am passionate about creating a positive, inclusive classroom where every child is supported to do their best.

Outside of teaching, dance is a huge part of my life. I've trained in everything from ballet to street dance since age two, led university teams to national success, and still perform and teach workshops today. I also love staying active with netball, football, and badminton. I am looking forward to getting involved in the dance and musical theatre clubs.

My journey here includes diverse roles—from tutoring Maths and English to managing a McDonald's—which taught me invaluable skills and introduced me to so many friendly faces. When I'm not active, you'll find me with my nose in a book; I love trips to Waterstones and always get fully involved in World Book Day! I can't wait for all the exciting lessons and school events ahead, and I'm really looking forward to meeting everyone soon.

TRANSITION INFORMATION

Hello, I'm Miss Thompson and I cannot wait to become part of the Manor Way team!

I am a qualified primary school teacher who has gained experience teaching EYFS, KS1 and KS2. In my previous school, I taught across primary, as well as leading clubs such as cooking and running club and leading the school council. I am incredibly passionate about fostering a classroom where every child feels safe and valued, and my overall goal is for every child to become a happy, confident and successful learner.

Outside of school, I have a passion for running and have taken part in several half marathons and a marathon. I am bringing my passion into school!! Please sign up for my running club on a Thursday after school!

I cannot wait to join Manor Way Primary Academy and I look forward to meeting you all!

My name is Miss Timmins, and I am absolutely delighted to be joining the Manor Way team as your child's class teacher! This will be my third year of teaching, a career I love because it lets me help children develop a true passion for learning. I studied Primary Education at University College Birmingham before completing my PGCE at Newman University. I also love sharing languages and cultures, and have previously led Spanish across my school.

In the classroom, I love learning new things alongside my pupils. My goal is to make lessons engaging, creative, and memorable through hands-on experiences, exciting science experiments, and a little bit of messy fun! As a keen reader and storywriter, I can't wait to share my love for books and creativity with the children.

Outside of school, I love spending time outdoors. My favourite colour is yellow because it reminds me to always look on the bright side. In my free time, I enjoy going for long walks, swimming, and paddle boarding. I also have a dog called Peg who keeps me busy, and I compete on my horse, Steve, whenever I get the chance.

I am so excited to get to know all of the children and families. Get ready for a fantastic year of learning, laughter, and new adventures together! (and I'd love to see you at my netball club on a Tuesday)

TRANSITION INFORMATION

<table>
<tr><th>Date</th><th>Transition Arrangements</th></tr>
<tr><td>Meet The Teacher
Current Year R, 1, 2, 4, 5
Wednesday 8th July</td><td>‘Meet the Teacher’ meeting with parents and carers. Each teacher will host two transition meetings in order for parents with siblings to attend their meetings. If you have three children in school we will make separate arrangements for your third meeting with the teacher. The meetings will be face to face in school with your new teacher in your child's new classroom on Wednesday 8th July

Meeting 1 3.35 - 3.55pm
Meeting 2 4.00 - 4.20pm

Year 3's parents meeting will be held on Thursday 9th July at 3.35pm - not on the 8th July</td></tr>
<tr><td>Book Return

Wednesday 8th July</td><td>We would be grateful if you could please return reading books on Wednesday 8th July in order for them to be reorganised ready for next year.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Optional Parents’ Evening
Wednesday 15th July
3.30 - 4.30pm</td><td>An optional end of the year parents evening only if you wish to discuss your child’s end of year report. This is a one hour open evening. Please ring the office to book a slot.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Transition Days
Monday 13th (pm) - Thurs 16th July</td><td>On these days your child will come straight into school into their new classroom and be taught by their new teacher on Monday 13th (afternoon), Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th July
We do this to support the children so they will be familiar with their classroom and their teacher before they break up and reduce any questions, queries or worries they may have over the Summer.
Year 6 will have a series of activities planned for them on these days both to support school and to have fun!

<table>
<tr><th>Next year, if your child is in:</th><th>For these two days they will enter the building as below:</th></tr>
<tr><td>Year 1</td><td>Into the current Y1 classroom through the door on the KS1 playground</td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 2</td><td>Into the current Y2 classroom through the door on the KS1 playground</td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 3</td><td>Through the side entrance to the building into the link corridor</td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 4</td><td>Up the fire escape at the front of the building</td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 5</td><td>Up the fire escape at the front of the building</td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 6</td><td>Into the current Y6 classroom through the door on the KS1 playground.</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
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TRANSITION INFORMATION

LAST DAY arrangements	
Friday 17th July	Children will return to their current class teacher for their last morning Parents can enter the playground at 1.00pm to give our annual send off to our Year 6 pupils.

If you have any questions about transition please talk to Miss Buffery or Mrs Brettle on the gate, Dojo your teacher or contact the office.

We hope these transition arrangements will ensure a happy holiday for your children and a successful start to the new school year. We can't wait!

STAFF FAREWELLS

As we come to the end of another school year, we are sad to say goodbye to several valued members of our staff. Each has made a wonderful contribution to our school community, and we thank them for their dedication, care and commitment. We wish them every success and happiness in their next chapter. Below, they share a few words of their own as they say farewell.

"It is with a heavy heart that I say goodbye to Manor Way after nine wonderful years. Serving our community as EYFS Lead, Deputy Head, music teacher, and choir leader has been an absolute honour. This time has flown by, filled with incredible achievements and truly unforgettable memories.

As I step into my next chapter, I am looking forward to spending more time with my family and enjoying long walks with my dog, Basil. I am also excited to join Sandwell Inspired Partnerships, where I will continue my passion for music by teaching across the Sandwell borough two days a week.

I am deeply grateful to the pupils, parents, and colleagues who have made my time here so special. Thank you for everything, and I wish the entire Manor Way family every success for the future.

Best wishes, Mrs Whitmore

As we approach the end of the school year, I want to share some personal news with you all. I will be leaving my role at Manor Way Primary Academy at the end of this term. Since joining the school back in October, I have had a truly wonderful time, but I have made the decision to step away to spend more time at home with my three beautiful young children.

I am leaving with a heart full of fond memories. I have loved celebrating all of our pupils' wonderful achievements. One of my highlights includes seeing so much talent on display during our lunchtime Chess Club—especially during our 'Chess World Cup' where I was happily beaten by a couple of incredibly strong players! Cheering everyone on at sports day and seeing my group work so brilliantly as a team was fantastic, as was the unforgettable water fight where Year 3 and Year 5 took great delight in completely drenching me! I also want to share how incredibly proud I am of Year 3 who have made phenomenal progress in their end-of-year tests.

Thank you all so much for your warmth, support, and kindness during my time here. I will greatly miss the children and the brilliant team at Manor Way, and I wish you all the very best for the future. Miss Newton

STAFF FAREWELLS

It has been a pleasure to work alongside the students, staff and parents of Manor Way during my secondment as Assistant Headteacher. Over that time, I have had the privilege of working closely with our Year 6 to support them in their preparation for SATs and more recently with our Year 4 students to help them prepare for their transition to Year 5. What has stood out to me during that time is our children's love of learning but more importantly their thirst to improve and get 1% better each day.

Aside from working closely with students, one of the highlights of my current role both at Manor Way and across Windsor Academy Trust is working closely with teachers to help them reach their full potential and I am excited to be taking on a new role with Steplab, a professional development platform delivering professional development with schools and trusts across the UK and beyond.

Thank you to the Manor Way community for welcoming me with such open arms and I wish you all the very best in the future.

Mr Wells

TERM DATES 2026-27

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
26th 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

SCHOOL NEWS & EVENTS

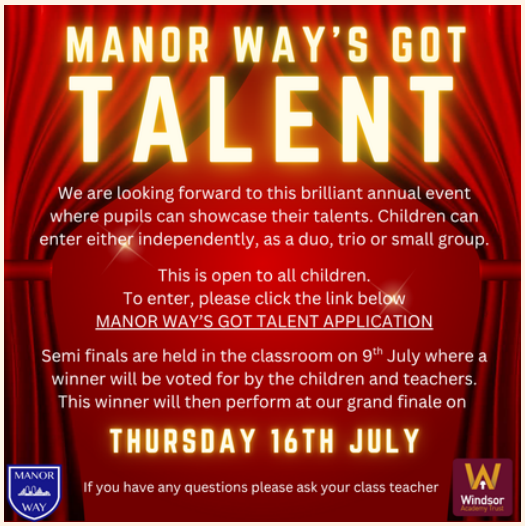
Reception and Preschool Graduation

It's almost time for our Reception and Preschool children to graduate! We'd love for parents and family members to join us in celebrating their amazing journey and achievements this year. Their graduation ceremony will be held on Monday 13th July and we'll have refreshments and sweet treats to enjoy together. We can't wait to see you there to mark this special milestone with your little ones!

Manor Way's Got Talent

We are really very excited to share this exciting event with you! On Thursday 16th July we are holding teh final of 'Manor Way's Got Talent'. Open to children from Reception to Year 6, this is a time to shine and show us all the extraordinary talents of our brilliant children. Whether it be singing, dancing, comedy, or a keepie up challenge, if you can do it on stage, we would love to see it!

To enter sign up, click the image that will take you to our application form.



UNIFORM UPDATE

We are pleased to confirm that Maple Workwear has been reappointed as our main school uniform supplier from September 2026.

Following a thorough review of local suppliers, Maple Workwear was selected because they have kept their prices unchanged while continuing to offer excellent value for money. We also compared the quality of their garments with other suppliers in the same price range and found Maple's uniform to be of a noticeably higher standard.

To help families prepare for the new school year, representatives from Maple Workwear will be attending our Parent Transition Evening on Wednesday 8th July. They will bring a selection of uniform samples in a range of sizes allowing parents and children to try items on before placing an order.

We look forward to welcoming Maple Workwear on 8th July.

REPORTS AND SAT'S

Reports

Due to the recent period of exceptionally warm weather, some planned assessments were disrupted to ensure the wellbeing and comfort of our pupils. As a result, additional time is needed tocomplete these assessments and ensure that each report accurately reflects your child's progress and achievement.

We look forward to sharing reports with you on Friday 10th July.

Year 6 SAT's Results

We are disappointed to share that there has been a national delay to the release of this year's Year 6 SATs results. The Department for Education has confirmed that schools will now receive the results later than originally planned due to technical issues with the national marking and reporting system.

This means that we are unable to include SATs results in Year 6 reports as we had intended. Please be assured that, as soon as we receive the results, we will do our utmost to share them with parents and carers as quickly as possible.

If you would like to read more about the national delay, you can find further information from the Department for Education here:
2026 Key Stage 2 National Curriculum Tests: Information for Parents

We appreciate that you may have been expecting reports by now, and we apologise for any inconvenience this delay may cause. Our priority is to provide you with reports that give a fair and comprehensive overview of each child's learning and progress.

Thank you for your patience, understanding and continued support.

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26th 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
31st May	Bank Holiday
21st July	Last Day of Term