



Manuden Primary School

A small school with big ideas ... Growing **Hearts**, Growing **Minds**, Growing **Dreams**

Weekly Newsletter

Thursday 23rd October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a long and busy half term, I want to take a moment to reflect on just how much our children have achieved and how proud we are of them all. Every day, they continue to live out our school vision — *growing hearts, growing minds, growing dreams* — in everything they do. Whether it's through their kindness towards others, their determination in lessons or their enthusiasm for new challenges, our pupils consistently show what it means to be part of our Manuden community. None of this would be possible without our wonderful teaching staff, whose care, dedication and creativity make such a difference each day. I would also like to thank our parents, carers and the wider Manuden community for their ongoing support, encouragement and involvement in school life. Together, we continue to make Manuden a truly special place to learn and grow.

Manuden's Harvest Highlights

Our Harvest celebrations this year were a fantastic occasion! On Friday 17th October, we were treated to a wonderful Harvest Breakfast, lovingly organised by our amazing PFA - a huge thank you to them for all their hard work, support and for making it such a warm and welcoming event for our children and families. The morning led perfectly into our Harvest Assembly, which was a true celebration of creativity, community and fun. The children amazed us with their beautiful artwork, thoughtful poems and heartfelt songs - all reflecting the spirit of harvest and gratitude. Heath and Joe set the assembly off with their signature humour during their opening introduction, keeping everyone smiling from start to finish! We were also grateful to Rev Gary for sharing his reflections and thoughtful remarks, which added a lovely sense of meaning and reflection to the event.

Hawk Owl Class reminded us of all about the importance of giving back and we are still collecting donations for the local food bank. We will keep donations open until after half term, so if you haven't yet had a chance to contribute, there is still time to bring in items and help support families in our community who may need a little extra this season.





Thank you again to everyone - staff, children, parents, and the PFA - for making our Harvest celebrations so memorable and full of joy.

Celebrating Black History Week

During the week beginning Monday 6th October, we celebrated Black History Week at our school, culminating in a special assembly on Friday 10th October led by our History subject lead, Mr Chesterman. Throughout the week, our pupils explored the lives and achievements of remarkable individuals such as Rosa Parks, Sir Trevor McDonald, Nelson Mandela and Katherine Johnson.



Pupils learned about **Rosa Parks** in **Pygmy Owl Class**, who became a symbol of courage and determination when she refused to give up her seat on a bus, helping to spark the civil rights movement in the United States. **Tawny Owl Class** explored the incredible work of

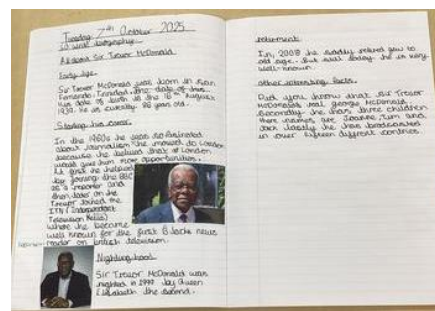


Katherine Johnson, whose pioneering contributions to mathematics and NASA helped send astronauts safely into space, demonstrating how persistence and intelligence can change the world.

The week also highlighted **Nelson Mandela**, studied by **Hawk Owl Class**, who devoted his life to fighting for equality and justice in South Africa, showing the impact of resilience, forgiveness and leadership in creating positive change. Finally, **Eagle Owl Class**

learned about **Sir Trevor McDonald**, a trailblazing journalist and broadcaster whose dedication and professionalism opened doors for greater diversity in media, helping pupils reflect on the importance of representation and the power of telling stories that matter.

These inspiring stories gave our children the opportunity to reflect on courage, determination and the impact that one person can have on society. While Black History Week offers a dedicated time to focus on these important contributions -



learning about the histories, cultures and achievements of people from diverse backgrounds is an integral part of our curriculum all year round. This ensures that pupils develop a broad understanding of the world, respect for others and a genuine appreciation of the diverse voices that shape our society.

Supporting Every Learner: SEN at Our School

At our school, we are committed to ensuring that all children, including those with additional needs, can access high-quality learning alongside their peers. Over the past term, we have been developing new systems and processes to further strengthen our support for pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN), with a focus on Quality First Teaching - ensuring lessons are carefully planned to meet the needs of all learners.



Many of the strategies that support our SEN pupils are “ordinarily available” approaches - what works for children with additional needs often benefits all pupils. From adaptive lessons to targeted scaffolding, we aim to create a classroom environment where every child can thrive. Visitors regularly comment on how effectively we enable children with SEN to participate fully in lessons alongside their peers.

In line with the updated Ofsted framework, we are proud of the systems already in place. Inclusive teaching, early identification of needs and ongoing monitoring ensure that every child can access the curriculum effectively, with meaningful interventions and support when needed.

Our staff will also be engaging with training on neurodiversity during the second part of the Autumn term, ensuring we continue to meet the evolving needs of our pupils with knowledge and understanding.

To strengthen partnership with parents, we are hosting a **Coffee Morning for SEN Families** on **Tuesday 11th November**, hosted by Mrs Jarmain, our SENCo. This is an opportunity to share information, celebrate successes and discuss how we can continue to work together to support every child.

We are proud of the way our whole school community works together to ensure every child can access learning, develop their strengths and feel valued. Supporting children with additional needs is at the heart of our inclusive approach and something we celebrate every day.

2Johns Online Safety Workshops – 6th November 2025

Next term, all our pupils will be taking part in the 2Johns Online Safety sessions on Thursday 6th November. These sessions are designed to help children understand the digital world safely, exploring important topics such as screen time, online behaviour and staying safe on social media.



We are also offering a parent session online in the evening, giving you the opportunity to learn practical ways to support your child at home. Attending this session is highly recommended, as it will provide strategies for monitoring online activity, setting healthy boundaries and understanding the challenges children face in a digital environment.

We all understand the impact of excessive screen time on mental health, sleep and overall wellbeing. The parent session will also include discussion of the TV programme "Adolescence", which offers insight into the pressures young people face today and ways to support them. I hope you will be able to attend - we will send the link out after the half term break.

Reception 2026 Open Morning

We are looking forward to welcoming prospective families to our **Reception 2026 Open Morning on Tuesday 4th November**. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents and carers of children due to start school in September 2026 to visit Manuden Primary, meet the staff and pupils, and see our engaging classrooms in action.

If you know families who have a child due to start school next year, please do share this date with them — we would love them to come along and experience what makes our school such a special place to learn and grow.

I hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved, restful half term break. Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to welcoming all our pupils back refreshed and ready for an exciting second half of the term.

Have a lovely Half term break.

Best regards –

Andrew Price
Headteacher

CANVAS CLUB
Art classes for children aged 6-16 years

**Paint with us
October Half Term**

Monday 27th October
Manuden Primary School
10-12pm

To book or for more info contact
07530388738 or follow us on

FULLY INSURED **£15**



Week beginning Monday 3rd November 2025 = Week 1
of the 2nd Half Autumn Term Menus (see below)

SCHOOL LUNCHES - 2ND HALF AUTUMN TERM 2025



Week One:

Menu Choice	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Tomato Pasta Bake (V)	Sweet & Sour Chicken	Roast Gammon	Margherita Pizza (V)	Omega 3 Fish Fingers
Option 2	Creamy Macaroni Cheese (V)	Cheese or Vegetable Quesadillo (V)	Roast Herby Fillet (V)	Rainbow Pizza (V)	Crispy Vegetable Fingers (V)
Option 3	Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayo	Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans
Sides	Garlic Bread Slice with Sweetcorn & Carrots	Wholegrain or White Rice & Green Beans	Hasselback Potatoes with Choice of Seasonal Vegetables	Sweetcorn & Pasta Salad	Oven Chips with Peas or Baked Beans
A healthy SALAD BAR available EVERY DAY					
(V) Vegetarian (GF) Gluten Free					
Dessert	Fresh Fruit Wedge	Pear & Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Sauce	Fruit Crumble with Custard	Fruit Salad	Homemade Orange Cookie
Fresh Fruit available EVERY DAY					
Fresh Milk and Water available EVERY DAY					

Week Two:

Menu Choice	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Meat-Free Pasta Bolognese (V)	Chicken Korma Curry	Roast Turkey	Baked Local Butchers Sausages	Bubble Cod Fillet
Option 2	Cheese & Leek Pasta (V)	Meat Free Tacos (V)	Vegetable Parcel (V)	Quorn Sausages	Boston Bean Burger
Option 3	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayo	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese
Sides	Garlic Bread Slice & Broccoli	Wholegrain or White Rice & Peas	Hasselback Potatoes with Choice of Seasonal Vegetables	Crispy Potato Cubes & Baked Beans	Chips & Peas
A healthy SALAD BAR available EVERY DAY					
(V) Vegetarian (GF) Gluten Free					
Dessert	Fruity Flapjack	Chocolate Fudge Cake	Jam Crumble Slice	Fruity Whip	Ice Cream Tub
Fresh Fruit available EVERY DAY					
Fresh Milk and Water available EVERY DAY					

After School Clubs List for the Autumn Term 2025

Clubs marked with £ require fees

Day	Club	Years	Times	Teacher	03/11	10/11	17/11	24/11
Monday	Karate £	R to 6	3:15pm-4:00pm	Chelsea Sydes CHKA Karate	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tuesday	Stingers Netball	5 & 6	3:15pm-4:15pm	Miss Grant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tuesday	KS1 Football Skills	1 & 2	3:15pm-4:15pm	Miss Evans	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wednesday	Musical Theatre Choir £	1 to 6	3:15pm-4:15pm	Rosie James DeRosa Music	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wednesday	Sewing £	2 to 6	3:15pm-4:15pm	Mrs Ingham & Mrs Parr	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wednesday	KS2 Football Training	3 to 6	3:15pm-4:15pm	Mr Chesterman & Mr Price	NO	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thursday	Street Dance £	R to 3	3:15pm-4:00pm	Jess Smith Jenny Myhill Dance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Friday	Hockey	4 to 6	3:15pm-4:15pm	Mrs Fox @ MVCC Muga	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes



fab science
HOLIDAY CAMPS

Join us for 5 hours of Fab Science fun in the holidays! Camps run 10am to 3pm and are open to all children aged 5-11 years.

For more information visit the Fab Science website.



£38 per child

Sibling discount available

HORRIBLE SCIENCE

Fake blood, snot, goo, poo and all sorts of general ickiness...all in the name of science! Perfect for Halloween week.

- Monday 27th October
Cambridge (Queen Edith)
- Tuesday 28th October
Hertford (Hertford St Andrew)
- Wednesday 29th October
Bishop's Stortford (Thorn Grove)
- Thursday 30th October
Saffron Walden (RAB)
- Friday 31st October
St Albans (Garden Fields)

BOOK NOW AT: WWW.FABSCIENCE.CO.UK ...AND WE DO FAB SCIENCE PARTIES TOO!

Diary Dates for the Autumn Term 2025

New/Amended Dates in **RED**

Tuesday 4th November	R26 Open Morning 9:30-11:30am
Wednesday 5th November	Stansted Y3/4 Dodgeball at FHS 1:00-3:30pm
Thursday 6th November	Online Safety Training with The Two Johns – details to follow
Friday 7th November	English Showcase Morning from 9am – details to follow
Monday 10th November	CPR Training for Year 6
Tuesday 11th November	SEN Coffee Morning for SEN Families at 9am
Wednesday 12th November	Posiive Noticing Day
Thursday 13th November	Odd Sock Day for Anti-Bullying Week
Thursday 13th November	Stansted Y5/6 Dodgeball at FHS 1:00-3:30pm
Friday 14th November	PFA Movie Night 3:30-5pm
Wednesday 19th November	Parent Coffee & Questions with HT at 2:30pm
Friday 5th December	PFA Christmas Fayre – details to follow
Tuesday 9th December	Pygmy Owl & Tawny Owl Class Nativity Play at 5pm
Thursday 11th December	Pygmy Owl & Tawny Owl Class Nativity Play at 2pm
Monday 15th December	Christingle Service in the Church at 1:30pm
Tuesday 16th December	Christmas Jumper Day and School Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 16th December	Santa Dash with Jackie Coleman
Thursday 18th December	Whole School Panto Trip to Harlow Playhouse 'Sleeping Beauty'
Friday 19th December	Last Day of Term – FINISH AT 1:30PM
22nd December to 2nd January	CHRISTMAS SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
Monday 5th January 2026	INSET (Non Pupil) Day

Are you looking for a challenging and fulfilling volunteer role?

Volunteer Adviser Training Programme
Wednesdays starting January 14th, 2026
📍 The Manor House, Buntingford

If you can offer one day a week, we'd love to hear from you! No experience needed - Just bring:
 An appetite for learning
 Competent IT skills

Training includes:
 12 classroom sessions, one per week, in Buntingford
 Shadowing experienced advisers
 Supporting clients by phone or in person
 Learning how to help with housing, employment, benefits, debt, and more

Interested?

Email training@citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk before end of December to join the course, or call 01920 459944 and leave a message for a call back.



East Herts



Carer Money Matters



Do you live in the district of Hertfordshire and support or care for an adult or child with a disability or health condition who would struggle without your help?

Our qualified advisers can give one-to-one advice to unpaid family and friend carers and can help with the following areas:

- Benefit check and application process
- Household bills and maximising income, reducing expenditure
- Debt assessment and options
- Budgeting advice
- Housing
- Advise on what other organisations/groups can support you

We may refer you to your local Citizens Advice office for ongoing help such as benefit applications, debt solutions and help with housing issues.

You'll need to be (or live in a household with) a carer who is resident or working in Herts or cares for someone who is resident in Herts or is registered with a GP in Herts.

If you're not already registered with Carers in Herts we can help you with this process.

To find out more or to book an appointment, call Carers in Hertfordshire on 01992 586969 or Citizens Advice East Herts on 01920 459944 and mention the Carer Money Matters project or email contact@carersinherts.org.uk