



Weekly

NEWSLETTER



01 May 2026

Deputy Headteacher's Message: Mrs Parrott

This week in assembly, we have been learning about inspirational people and about what we can learn from these people. We learnt that we need to work hard — keep trying, even when it's tricky. It isn't always about getting it right first time but never giving up and trying again. We need to be curious, asking questions and exploring. Mistakes help us grow, we shouldn't fear mistakes they are steps to help us grow. Finally, we need to believe in our ideas, we might change the world! If we keep trying, stay curious, and believe in ourselves, we can achieve incredible things! We welcomed parents and carers into school on Thursday afternoon for Penguins class assembly, thank you to all who were able to join us. The end of the week has brought lovely sunshine! It has been fantastic for the children to get outside and enjoy the sun. We hope you enjoy the bank holiday weekend, we will see you again on Tuesday.



Mrs Scott, our new Deputy Nursery Manager

Mrs Plester, Teacher in Bears

Mr C Firth, Cleaner

Class Attendance



The class with this week's highest attendance is:



Bears Class
89.42%



Emus Class
96.32%



Raccoons Class
93.92%



Penguins Class
98.08%



Elephants Class
97.46%



Yaks Class
92.91%



Geckos Class
93.75%



Roadrunners Class
91.88%



Macaws Class
94.12%



Hummingbirds Class
95.94%



Star of the Week



Reception

Laura Lupa
Lena Szymanska

Key Stage One

Gerda Povilenaite
Scarlett Drewery
Louis Bannister
Asma Gul

Lower Key Stage Two

Martha Talbot
Sofia Fernandes
Kaya Drozdowska

Upper Key Stage Two

Anna Zheng



Work Hard. Be Kind. Be Brave



Dates for your Diary



School Events

Year Three
(Geckos and Roadrunners)
Maths Workshop
Tuesday 5th May
2.00pm
(parents invited)

KS1
Hunstanton Sea Life Centre
Educational Visit
Friday 8th May

Year One
(Penguins and Raccoons)
Maths Workshop
Tuesday 12th May
2.00pm
(parents invited)

Hummingbirds Class Assembly
Thursday 14th May
2.30pm
(Parents invited)

Term Dates

Summer One Term

Bank Holiday
(no school)
Monday 4th May

Half Term Break
25th May – 29th May

Enriching Curriculum

Nursery Team

We have had some wonderful learning opportunities for our Water topic developing our understanding of capacity and the properties of water. Using tubes, funnels, and a range of containers to pour with, developing their creativity and curiosity. We also coloured rice and then used this to learn about filling, emptying, half full, nearly full enabling the children to understand more about the mathematical concept of measuring liquids and solids. We have enjoyed picnic snacks outside in the glorious sunshine. We also noticed that the beans we are growing are become more thirsty as the temperature rises which is the same as our bodies getting warmer when we are outside reminding us that we need to drink water to keep our bodies hydrated.

Reception Team

Reception have been learning all about the Seaside and holidays this week. We have had lots of activities based around our topic! We have been learning about and making Rock Pools out of playdough. In the creative area, we have made ice creams out of paper and card as well as using our handprints to make sea creatures. Our home corners have been made into an ice cream shop, it's been lovely seeing the children use their imagination. In Writing, we have been using a seaside scene photo to write simple sentences using our phonics. We have been focusing on our number bonds to five and using rhymes and resources to help us. It has been a lovely week!

Key Stage One Team

This week in Key Stage One, the children have become authors, writing their own narratives linking to their current focus stories. Year One linked theirs to 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers and Year Two linked theirs to 'The Dragon Machine' by Helen Ward. In indoor PE, we have been exploring dance linking to different topics such as toys and animals. In History, we have been learning about Bernard Harris Jr and in Science, we have continued to think about different objects and their materials.

Lower Key Stage Two Team

Year Four continued their work on coordinates, learning to write them correctly and using them to draw and translate polygons, while Year Three focused on the 4 times table, practising multiplication facts, spotting patterns, and applying their knowledge to solve problems; in Science, both year groups explored photosynthesis by planting cress seeds and setting up a fair test to investigate the role of light, and in History, the children revisited the Stone Age, showcasing their understanding of the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic periods through detailed reports and illustrations.

Upper Key Stage Two Team

This week, Year Five used Microsoft PowerPoint to create vector drawings, developing their digital design skills with shapes, lines, and colours; in Science, they compared the life cycles of insects and birds, identifying growth stages and similarities between species; and in Maths, they explored prime and composite numbers, enjoying activities such as creating factor trees to break numbers into their prime factors and deepen their understanding of number patterns.



farewell

Mrs Collins has been at the heart of Manor Drive Primary Academy since our earliest days, helping shape our Nursery into the outstanding setting it is today. From Breakfast club to home time, she has been a constant source of care, creativity and dedication. She welcomed every child with a smile, brought learning to life through imaginative experiences, and made every pupil feel valued. As a supportive and inspiring colleague, she helped build the nurturing community we are so proud of. As she begins her well-earned retirement, we will miss her deeply, but we're thrilled she'll have more time with her family and to enjoy her love of sports. Thank you, Mrs Collins, for everything. You've made a lasting difference, and you'll always be part of the Manor Drive family.