

15 SEPTEMBER 2023



Newsletter

This newsletter contains a number of updates and reminders, with dates for your diary at the end.

The year has got off to a great start, your children look really smart in their new uniform and they have settled well into their new classes. The work in their books is showing that they are taking care with presentation, listening and taking pride in their work. I hope that you found the meetings with teachers useful, don't forget you can contact them through the year group emails if you need to.

Apply for school places

It may be early in the year but if your child is in Year 6 you need to apply for secondary school places by **31st October**. The secondary schools are holding their open evenings so go and visit. Use [this link](#) to apply for places.

If your child was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 you need to apply for a primary school place. The deadline is **15th January 2024**, you can [use this link](#).

Manford's Preschool offers 15 hour funded and 30 hour funded places. You can also 'top up' your 15 hours by paying for the extra 15. Call the school office to find out more- 0208 5002143.

World Mental Health Day

Tuesday 10th October is World Mental Health Day and Young Minds and ITV's Get Britain Talking campaign are involving schools in 'a different kind of homework'. This week I attended a harrowing conference for education staff about youth suicide. I had no idea that so many families have to face this tragedy. You can find out more [here](#).

School Dinners

Don't forget to pre-order school dinners on the 'Feeding Hungry Minds' app. if your child has no packed lunch and a meal hasn't been ordered for them we will give them a jacket potato with a choice of filling. Our kitchen is even busier at the moment as we have been asked to accommodate the staff from Mossford Green Primary who can't use their own kitchen because of the RAAC concrete problem.

Missing School

This is a reminder and a plea! Reminder, from our [attendance policy](#):

"No holiday during term time will be authorised. Similarly, medical evidence will need to be provided when a child is absent just before or just after a school holiday. Redbridge LA will issue penalty notices for leave of absence taken without the permission of the Headteacher as a supplement to the existing sanctions currently available under Section 444 Education Act 1996 or section 36 Children Act 1989 to enforce attendance at school where appropriate.

This may be for:-

1. 12 unauthorised sessions in any 12-school week period.

2. Leave of absence taken without the permission of the Headteacher.

*3. **Punctuality:** In cases of persistent lateness a Headteacher can apply to the LA to issue a penalty notice, though a notice will not normally be issued unless the child concerned has had 7 or more lates (after the close of registration) in a 6 school week period"*

Whilst I appreciate the importance of seeing family and having time away together I am not able to authorise situations such as a visit to see a sick relative without proof that it is a **last minute booking**. For medical appointments abroad these should be booked in school holidays or should only require a day or two off school.

I know the thought of getting a penalty notice isn't nice, I would ask you not to expect your children to lie about their time off. It is really awkward for children when we are told they have been off sick and then they come back with a tan and have to pretend they haven't been on holiday!

Manford's website

We have a new website which we have worked on over the Summer holiday-I hope you find it useful. We will be adding to and improving it in the coming weeks. If there is anything you would like us to add to the website just let us know. You may have heard that we had some photographers in this week- they have taken lots of new pictures for us and I'm looking forward to adding them to the new website. If you have not given consent for your child's photo to be taken we won't have included them.

Harvest

Once again we will be collecting for the local [foodbank](#) during harvest this year. We will put the collection trolley out every morning for your donations. Donations will be taken from 25th September. We will send more information about the types of donations which are required.



Dates for your diary

Term dates can be found on our [website](#).

- Monday 18th September-after school clubs start
- w/c 25th September- Year 6 Residential
- 26th September- If you are looking for a Reception place next September, book a place for a school tour

- 28th September 2.40pm Year 1 Harvest Assembly
- 10th October World Mental Health Day
- 12th October If you are looking for a Reception place next September, book a place for a school tour
- 13th October Individual photos (plus siblings)
- 13th October Year 4 trip
- Friday 20th October- break up for half term 3.15pm
- w/c Monday 27th November last week for clubs
- End of Term 2pm finish Wednesday 20th December