

Dear parents and carers,

As we approach the festive season, I wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude to all the staff members for their continued support throughout the year. Christmas is a time for reflection and appreciation, and I cannot think of a better opportunity to say thank you for the vital role they play in our school community.

To parents and carers, thank you for your involvement and collaboration. Your commitment makes a world of difference to our students. We thank you for joining us on trips, information sessions, various coffee mornings and parent's evenings and we look forward to having you join us for more events in 2025!

As we celebrate this Christmas season, may it bring you peace and time to enjoy with your loved ones. We look forward to the year ahead, knowing that we can continue to work together for the benefit of our children.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



A message from Mrs Donnelly

I'm sure some of you have noticed that I haven't been in school for a little while. Unfortunately, I have suffered a brain haemorrhage, luckily only a small one. Recovery from this is slow, although I am keeping in touch with the school's leadership team and I know that the school is in safe hands. I aim to start returning to work in January, as long as medical professionals agree that I can.

Winter Movie Night

Thank you for supporting our 'Winter Movie' fundraising event. The children enjoyed being able to snuggle up in their onsies and festive clothing, whilst munching on snacks and enjoying the movies. This has enabled us to raise much needed funds for the school, which your children will benefit greatly from.

Online Safety Workshop

On the 4th of December children from Year 4, 5 and 6 participated in an Online Safety Workshop with Sarah Knarr, Prevent Education Officer for Redbridge. Sarah will return in the new year to work with the children on 'British Values' with Year 3-6 and 'Radicalisation and Extremism' for Years 4-6.

Nativity Performance

We are very proud of our Year 2 cohort who put on an amazing performance of the Nativity! A massive thank you to the staff and children for all your hard work. Thanks to all the parents and carers who were able to attend the performance.

Goodbyes

Some of you may be aware that Mr Hall, Glen, is leaving Manford at the end of term. Glen has been an incredibly important member of our team for 16 years. He is moving to a new role in another school and he's looking forward to the challenges it will bring. I'm sure you join me in wishing him well. Miss Bashir is also leaving us to pursue a teaching opportunity abroad, we would like to thank her for her hard work, she will be missed by the staff and children. We wish her all the best for her future. Also, one of our long-serving midday assistants, Mrs Herbert, leaves us on the 15th of January, after 21 years. Again, she leaves with our thanks and best wishes. Finally, Ms Hema Koti in year 2 is leaving us for a new opportunity, we wish her all the best in her new school.

We also welcome Miss Sandhu back from her travels, she will be the class teacher in 5B! We are very pleased to announce that Mr Albright will be joining us as our new sports coach and learning mentor, we look forward to them both starting with us in the new year.



Safeguarding at Manford

You are all aware of how hard we work to ensure children are safe and well cared for at Manford. It's great to report that a School Improvement Professional from London Borough of Redbridge came in to examine our policies, records and day to day safeguarding practices and she was very impressed. Well done to all of the team involved.

Gingerbread Decorating Workshop

Year 3 and Reception had a wonderful time decorating gingerbread biscuits. The children worked beautifully together, sharing the piping bags and the chocolate sprinkles all whilst singing along to festive Christmas tunes. The atmosphere was full of festive cheer and it was wonderful to hear the children complimenting the decorations and designs that their friends had made. It was such a wonderful opportunity provided by ISS our catering company and we look forward to more interactive experiences with them in the future!

Tree Planting Workshop

Year 4 children had a lovely experience planting trees at Hainault Recreational ground. Hainault Rec was covered in forest area many years ago and the idea is to return some of this habitat to how it used to be by planting thousands of trees. Year 4 were lucky to be involved in this process and it will be marvellous for the children to visit (in a few years) to see their efforts mature. They carefully dug holes, spread the mulch and then planted the trees. It was a great opportunity for all to assist in returning some of the natural beauty back to the past.

Christmas Raffle Winners

Congratulations to prize winners of the Christmas Raffle Draw

The winners were as follows

1st Prize - Aurel - Class 2C- 32inch TV

2nd Prize - Maria - Class 1C- £25.00 Christmas Hamper

3rd Prize - Darius-Matei - Red Reception - £20.00 Christmas



Snack for break time

As part of our efforts to encourage healthy eating habits, we kindly remind you to pack a fruit/ vegetable snack for your child to bring to school for their morning break. Other snacks such as crisps/ cereal bars/ etc are not allowed for morning break time.

We appreciate your support in promoting healthy choices for our students!

Pick up / Drop off times

Our school gates open at 8:40 every morning for the start of the day. Children that enter after 8:50 will be classified as late on the register. In the classrooms, learning activities start at 8:40, please ensure that your child arrives on time for their learning and do not miss out. Dismissal time is from 3:10 to 3:15.

Every Day Matters

Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best results. Research found that pupils who performed better at the end of primary school missed fewer days than those who didn't perform as well. At Manford, we will be celebrating when classes have had 15 days of 100% attendance with a non-uniform day. Why 15 days? One for every letter of the phrase, EVERY DAY MATTERS. You will receive a ParentMail message to inform you if your child's class has a non-uniform day. Here's to good health in 2025!

EVERY DAY MATTERS

Diary dates

Friday 20th December, school closes at 2pm, no after school club.

School re-opens Monday 6th January 2025

Thursday 9th January - coffee morning with Mental Health support team in the conference room

Maths workshops in class for parents/carers: January 7th - Year 2 @ 9am, 8th January - Year 3 @ 9am,

9th January - Year 1 @ 9am, 10th January - Year 5 @ 9am - Mrs Clarke

14th January @ 3:15 - Year 5 parents meeting with Mrs James in Infant Hall regarding information about the residential trip in September 2025

Maths workshops in class for parents/ carers, 15th January - Year 6 maths workshop @ 9am, 16th January - Year 4 maths workshop @ 9am, 17th January - Reception Maths workshop @ 9am - Mrs Clarke

22nd January - 0-4 stay and play session@ 9am Infant Hall- Mrs Schooling, for pre-school parents and parents of children under 4.

29th January - Coffee Morning with Marco EP in conference room at 9am

12th & 13th February - Parents evening in the dining hall

14th February - Valentine's performance – Reception classes parents in Infant Hall @ 9am and 2:30pm