

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe we have come to the end of Term 3 already! It has been a fabulous term with lots of great learning and achievements. This week the children have been taking part in lots of exciting science activities, on Wednesday we had the Planetarium in school which was fantastic; the children loved it!

We have also celebrated children's mental health week and safer internet day this week, I hope the children have been able to share some of their learning with you and they continue with these positive mindsets throughout the rest of the year. It is important to remind them that it is **'ok to not be ok'** and their **'voice matters'**, there is always someone who will listen.

In assembly today we had lots to celebrate, the children photographed, achieved the certificate of excellence or the values award for the week in their class. We also had some positive notes given out and lots of children received a 100% attendance certificate for the term – a brilliant achievement!



These children have been awarded their **50 read prize**, choosing a book from the vending machine; Emelia from Reception, Sarayah and Oliver from Year 1, Arya and Connie from Year 3, Zaynab from Year 4, Aiden, Poppy and Gergana from Year 5, Nas, Rebecca, Special, Harley, Chomo and Riley from Year 6 – well done to all of them!

The class winners for the **attendance trophy** goes to Year 5 this week, with a very good 97%. There has been a lot of illness around at the moment due to the time of year, I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you that if your child is unwell and unable to come to school that you are

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Friday 9th February 2024
Value of the Term – Gratitude

responsible for letting school know by 9am each morning of your child's absence. You can do this by phoning school and leaving a message on the answerphone or emailing the school office. Thank you for your support and cooperation with this.

World Book Day this year is on Thursday 7th March, if your child would like to take part, they are welcome to come to school dressed as their favourite character from a story or book. This is an optional dress up day, if children do not wish to dress up then they need to wear normal school uniform.

An important message from The White Horse Federation:

Paul Smith (CEO of The White Horse Federation Trust) will be standing down as our Chief Executive.

Under Paul Smith's leadership, the Trust has made great progress with the delivery of a powerful new strategy dedicated to enabling every pupil to fulfil their full potential and the establishment of a strong and effective central team focused on supporting all our schools.

During Paul's tenure over the last 18 months, the Trust has opened an Associate College of the National Institute of Teaching; been appointed an attendance hub by the Department for Education; and overseen 18 positive Ofsted inspections.

To ensure stability for our staff and pupils and seamless continuity for the ongoing improvements, the Board has appointed Simon Cowley (Director of Primary) and Daniel Smith (Director of Secondary) as interim Co-CEOs to lead the Trust whilst a comprehensive search for a new CEO is carried out.

A big thank you for your support in my first term here at Mountford Manor, it has been a pleasure getting to know your children and families.

Wishing you a safe, healthy and restful half-term break, looking forward to welcoming everyone back for term 4 on Monday 19th February.

With best wishes,
Mrs Helen Wollington
Headteacher

Upcoming diary dates:

Monday 19th February – start of Term 4

Monday 26th February – Oral health talk with Nursery and Reception classes

Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th February – Parents Evenings

Monday 4th March – Friday 8th March – National Careers week

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day

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Attendance – “Every Day Counts”



GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL REALLY DOES MATTER

DID YOU KNOW...?

In a school year, if your child is late every day by...

5 minutes	3 days from school	12 lessons
10 minutes	6 days from school	24 lessons
15 minutes	9 days from school	36 lessons
20 minutes	12 days from school	48 lessons
30 minutes	18 days from school	72 lessons

Your child would have lost approximately... or they would have missed approximately...

PLEASE ENCOURAGE PUNCTUALITY TO MAINTAIN ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

ATTENDANCE DURING ONE SCHOOL YEAR	EQUALS APPROXIMATE DAYS ABSENCE	WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY WEEKS ABSENCE	WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY LESSONS MISSED
95%	9 days	2 weeks	40 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	80 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	120 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	160 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	200 lessons
70%	57 days	11 ½ weeks	230 lessons
65%	67 days	13 ½ weeks	270 lessons

PUNCTUALITY MATTERS!

MINUTES LATE PER DAY DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR	EQUALS	APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF DAYS TEACHING LOST IN A YEAR
5 mins	EQUALS	3 days
10 mins		6 days
15 mins		9 days
20 mins		12 days
30 mins		18 days



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qco.de/minfoc>.

HINTS AND TIPS FOR GOOD ATTENDANCE

- Remember to let your child know how much being ready for school on time helps the whole family.
- Arrange your child's doctor, dentist and hospital appointments for after school.
- Ensure your child is awake in plenty of time every school morning.
- Talk to you child about school and any problems they might have.
- Talk to school if you or your child is finding attending school difficult.
- Tell your child how important school is.
- Implementing no TV some school mornings may be a good idea.
- Encourage your child to prepare their school uniform the night before.
- Take family holidays during school holiday periods.
- Consider the school breakfast club. This way your child will be in school on time and ready to learn!

