



Manor School

Summer 2 Newsletter 2025/26

Headteacher's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another fantastic school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our pupils, families and staff for everything they have contributed over the past year.

This has certainly been one of the busiest and most exciting years in Manor School's long history. Alongside continuing to develop our existing provision, we have expanded Manor School Early Years Centre, prepared for the opening of our new Manor School Kilburn site in September, welcomed many new pupils and colleagues, and continued to strengthen the high-quality education and support that our children receive every day. None of this would have been possible without the commitment, flexibility and partnership of our entire school community.

This time of year is always tinged with a degree of sadness as we say goodbye to some of our incredible pupils and staff. A special congratulations goes to our wonderful Year 6 pupils as they prepare to begin the next stage of their journey. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved during their time at Manor School. They have grown in confidence, independence and resilience, and we know they will continue to flourish in their new schools. We wish them every success and happiness for the future.

I would also like to thank those members of staff who are leaving Manor School this summer.



Their dedication, care and contribution have made a lasting difference to the lives of our pupils, and we wish them every success in the next chapter of their careers.

Finally, thank you to all of our families for your continued trust, encouragement and support throughout the year. We hope you all enjoy a restful, safe and well-deserved summer break. We look forward to welcoming pupils back to our Kensal Rise site on Thursday 3rd September, and pupils attending our new Manor School Kilburn site from Monday 7th September, as we begin another exciting chapter in the Manor School story.

Have a wonderful summer!

Kind Regards,

Steve Thompson - Head Teacher



Neuroinclusion, Personal Development and Community partnership

Looking back on the past academic year, we are proud to reflect on the neuroinclusive journey our community has taken together. Central to this has been our ongoing championing of pupil voice—seen powerfully in annual reviews, where children share their views, talents, and aspirations. This growing advocacy is shaping pupils' short-term targets and, over time, their outcomes within their EHCPs.

Our PSHE team has led exceptional work developing our Young Mental Health Champions, a new project this year that has supported peer wellbeing, fostered empathy, and built confidence. We are excited to extend this initiative next year.

Partnerships have strengthened too. Families joined us on site for inclusive events, and our community partners supported both our Stay and Play sessions on site, and provided additional opportunities in the community—deepening trust and continuity for children. We are especially grateful to Motion for Kids, BANG edutainment, Royal Albert Hall and our colleagues at the Brent LCEP Young Brent foundation for sending so many projects our way. They along with many other providers have supported additional enrichment opportunities and expanded learning beyond the classroom, widening access to neuroinclusive experiences across our city for our pupils and families.

These achievements reflect a shared commitment: pupils, families, staff, and external agencies working as a team around each child and each family. We are deeply thankful for your partnership. Our pupils' progress—and their growing pride in themselves—speaks to what we can accomplish together. We look forward to building on this next year.

Angela Boast - Deputy Head Teacher





Early Years

We have had such a busy year at Manor School Early Years Centre. We worked very hard to expand from 3 classes to 5 classes. We are so happy to share that we welcomed new staff and eight more families to our school in April.

The construction work started in January. Our pupils were excited to watch the builders using diggers to create a wonderful new playground. The final part of the playground was just finished last week! The new classrooms and the playground look amazing and the pupils have adapted incredibly well with all the noise and the changes around them. A big thank you to all the staff and the families for their support and patience with the ongoing changes this year.

Wishing all a lovely summer break.

Mala Neves - Early Years Lead



Literacy

There has been lots of lovely learning happening in literacy this term. We have started to roll out some new resources to encourage writing such as clear 'whiteboards' and magic LCD writing screens. Those class that have trialled them have reported great success, and the novel ways to make marks has encouraged some of those learners who may not enjoy writing as much to write.

We have also begun exploring a new writing app that we are going to roll out to classes in September, again trying to make writing accessible for all our pupils, taking into account different written communication preferences. Phonics teaching and learning has continued to be great across the school, with good progress shown across the board in children's phonetic awareness and their decoding skills.

Suggestions for Literacy activities over the holidays:

Phonics:

- Highlight initial sounds of items or objects your child is interested in, or anything related to new experiences (i.e. 's' for 'sea' if you go to the beach)
- Ask children to give you objects by sounding out each sound (i.e. 'can you find your 'h' – 'a' – 't')

Writing:

- Keep a diary of activities over a day or week.
- Write or sign a postcard to friend or family

Alex Oldham - Literacy Lead



Maths and STEM

It has been another busy and exciting term for STEM learning at Manor School.

As part of our science lessons on plants and the natural world, we were delighted to receive a Silver Award from the London Children's Flower Society. Pupils worked hard throughout the year to care for our classroom plants, learn how they grow and take pride in looking after them. It was wonderful to have their efforts recognised.

This term, the STEM team introduced our new Communication Maths approach across the school. Staff joined training sessions, watched demonstration videos and had opportunities to see the approach in practice. It has been fantastic to see this begin to support pupils in developing their mathematical language and understanding.

Maths Week was once again a highlight of the term. We enjoyed interactive Maths Mystery Shows, took part in the ever-popular Capacity Challenge, visited our pop-up Big Shop, and finished the week with our annual Great Get Together.

We wish everyone a safe, happy and STEM-filled summer full of exploring, creating and discovering!



STEM Summer Holiday Ideas

- Try growing something at home, like cress or sunflower seeds. Keep a simple diary or take photos as it grows.
- Write step-by-step instructions (an algorithm) for a fun summer activity, like building a sandcastle, making an ice lolly, or setting up a picnic. Ask someone to follow your instructions and see if they work!
- Go on a nature walk or explore a park and see how many different plants, insects, birds, or shapes you can find and count.

Samira Choaibi - Maths and STEM Lead



Engagement

This term we have been focussing on engagement for pupils at EYFS, in preparation for their transition in September! Our EYFS pupils have been joining in lots of exciting Attention Autism sessions, and our staff have been training and learning how to improve their Attention Autism delivery. All pupils are now engaging with Stage 1 (The Attention Grabber), where the lead adult sparks their engagement through demonstrating different toys. Followed by Stage 2 (The Attention Builder), where the lead adult demonstrates a longer, multi-step activity. Many pupils are now accessing Stage 3, where they get to take turns in an Attention-based activity themselves. different toys and items. We will continue these sessions as the pupils move into Key Stage One.



Our Engagement and Foundations for Learning Lead has also worked alongside the therapy team to introduce Curiosity Program sessions, where the pupils engage in quick sessions designed to spark their curiosity and interest in

Developing our pupils' engagement is one of the most important building blocks in our foundations for all learning!

Ailish Casey - Engagement Lead

Therapy Team

This term, the Therapy Team has thoroughly enjoyed being part of many whole-school events (including Sports Days, International Days, community trips, stay and play sessions, transition activities) and supporting pupils' communication, regulation and engagement across such a range of meaningful experiences.

We have also continued to deliver training to staff across all of our school covering topics such as play, use of fidgets, facilitation of total communication in the classroom, and exploring of activity and environmental adaptations to help maximise pupils' engagement, participation and independence in school activities. We look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with pupils, families and staff in the new academic year. Wishing you all a wonderful summer.

The Partnership Trust Therapy Team



PSHE

The summer term has been another exciting and successful term for PSHE at Manor School. We are incredibly proud of the pupils who completed the One Goal Mental Health Champions Programme this term. Having successfully finished the programme, they are now our school Mental Health Champions. As part of their role, they confidently spoke during a whole-school assembly and also shared their learning with members of the Local Authority Board, highlighting the importance of positive mental health and the different ways we can all look after our wellbeing.

Across the school, pupils explored our termly theme of 'Changes'. Through a range of engaging activities, they reflected on changes within themselves and their lives, recognised that change can bring both positive and challenging emotions, and developed strategies to help regulate their feelings during periods of transition. Pupils also had opportunities to experience and prepare for moving to a new classroom or school, helping to build confidence and resilience ahead of September.

This term, we also delivered the Manor Growing Up Programme for our Upper Key Stage 2 pupils, supporting them in understanding the physical and emotional changes associated with puberty. The programme included tailored sessions delivered alongside our school nursing team, focusing on puberty, personal hygiene and emotional wellbeing. In addition, specialists from NuKnow led interactive workshops on healthy relationships, personal boundaries, consent, safe touch and managing conflict with peers. Pupils engaged enthusiastically in discussions and role-play activities, demonstrating thoughtful understanding and maturity when exploring these important topics.

Eva Bourmpaki - PSHE Lead

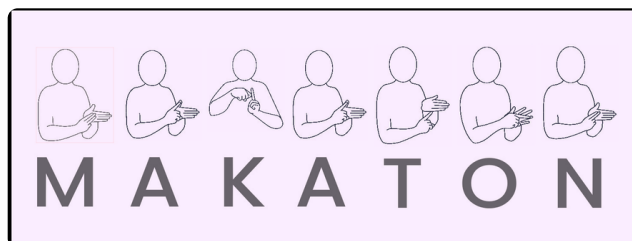
Year 6 leavers

We want to wish all of our year 6 pupils the best of luck as they transition to their new secondary schools in September. It has been a real privilege to be a part of their lives, supporting them and their families.

Our pupils will be moving on to: Wembley Manor, The Avenue, Woodfield, The Village, St Marylebone Bridge & College Park (Westminster), Chiltern Wood (Bucks).

Every year a few of the Year 6 children participate in the SATs and this year was the first time we were moderated by the Local Authority who shared that we supported the children to be able to engage in national tests in a caring and positive way.

Al Miller - Assistant Head Teacher



As another school year draws to a close, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the huge impact using Makaton has in supporting communication for all our pupils across The Rise Partnership Schools.

It has been truly inspiring to see staff, Makaton champions, parents, and most importantly our pupils embracing Makaton and incorporating signing into functional everyday routines, facilitated play sessions, books and stories, singing, talking mats and much much more!

This is huge in helping to build confidence, understanding and meaningful connections with one another.

♦ Makaton Friendly

We continue to maintain our Makaton Friendly Status at Manor School and The Avenue School. This year we launched our exciting Makaton QR project. This project initiative has brought communication to life, giving staff, and YOU our families easy access to videos of Makaton signs from the core vocabulary, that will support the learning and use of Makaton signs being put into practice. It has been wonderful to see how positively this has been received across our whole school community.

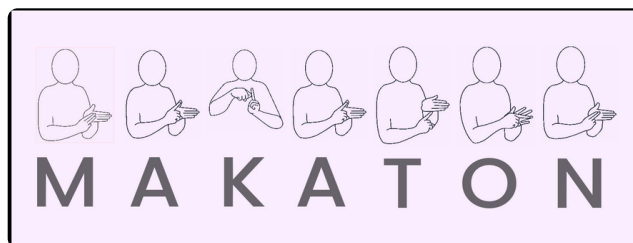
♦ Pupil Support and Engagement

We continue to see the positive impact of our Makaton Phrase of the week. This term our Speech and Language team's focus was on sharing a Question: some examples of these questions included, "What is your name?", "Who's turn is it?", "Are you hungry?", "What is in the box?", "How are you feeling?" and many more! We hope that you find these useful over the summer.

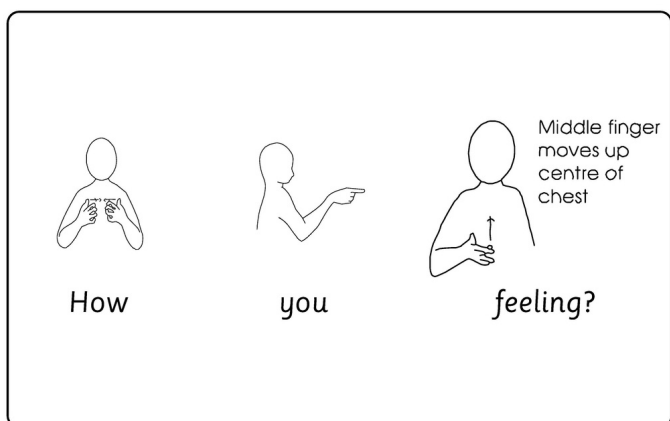
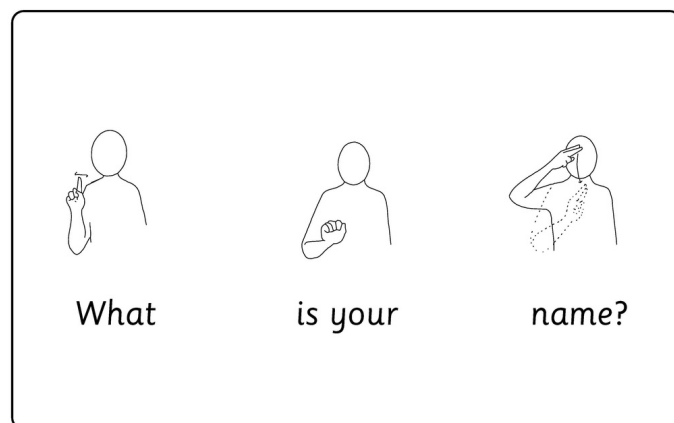
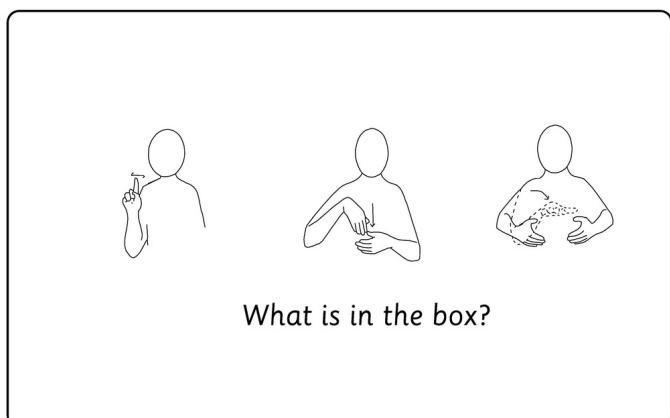
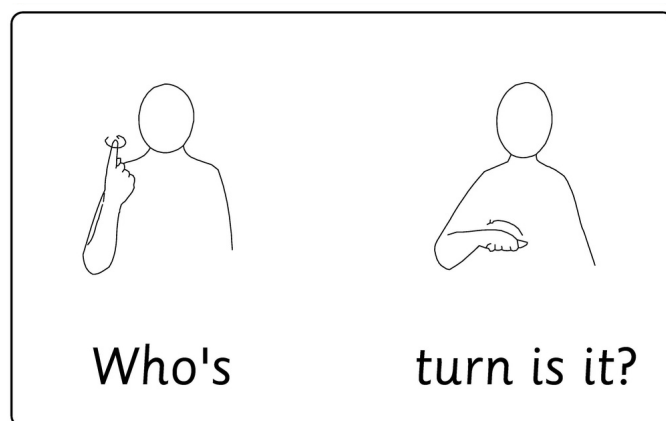
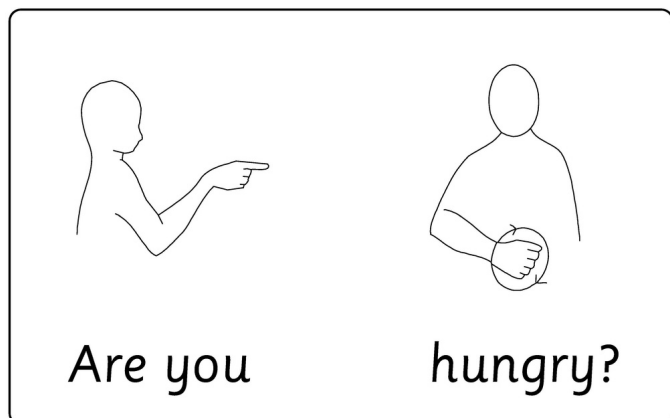
It has been lovely to hear from our parents and class teachers that our pupils have boosted enthusiasm and skill development by using signing more at home, this brings huge smiles to our faces!

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing commitment and support. Wishing you all a wonderful summer.





Summer signs of the week





Diary Dates

 On Friday  24th  July  school  is finished  for the summer holidays.  No school on:					 Saturday	 Sunday
 Monday	 Tuesday	 Wednesday	 Thursday	 Friday	 Saturday	 Sunday
 Monday	 Tuesday	 Wednesday	 Thursday	 Friday	 Saturday	 Sunday
 Monday	 Tuesday	 Wednesday	 Thursday	 Friday	 Saturday	 Sunday
 Monday	 Tuesday	 Wednesday	 Thursday	 Friday	 Saturday	 Sunday
 Monday	 Tuesday	 Wednesday	 Thursday	 Friday	 Saturday	 Sunday
 Monday	 Tuesday	 Wednesday	 Back to  Manor School  on Thursday  3rd  September			

[Click here for a printable PDF!](#)

Summer recap 2026

Manor School



Summer 2026
End of term recap

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