



The Manor

A FOUNDATION SCHOOL WITH A
PERFORMING ARTS SPECIALISM

29th November 2010

All Parents/Carers

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: End of Term Update

Change to End of Term Arrangements

I am writing to let you know the end of term will be Thursday 16th December 2010. The following day, Friday 17th December will be a teachers' training day.

It is necessary to do this as we have had to move the training day on Thursday 7th April 2011 due to a clash with the Year 10 Work Experience dates. Work Experience is from 28th March to 8th April and it would have meant that Year 10 students would have missed a day's holiday and we certainly couldn't have that.

I hope this will not cause you too much inconvenience.

Goodbyes and Welcome Backs

Miss Jenn Lester will be leaving us this term after doing an excellent job covering Miss Gray's maternity leave. We wish her well, thank her for her considerable effort and enthusiasm and very much hope to see her again in the new year (finances permitting). We also welcome Miss Gray back to work at The Manor this term.

Partnership with CRC – and Further Upgrades to the Sports and Leisure Facilities at The Manor

I am delighted to say that we will be working in formal partnership with Cambridge Regional College in relation to all of the sports and leisure facilities on The Manor site (sports hall, MUGA/Astro, pitches, changing rooms, wickets, gymnasium and dance studio) in the new year. We have jointly appointed a fantastic new Sports Centre and Facilities Manager who will be employed by CRC.

CRC are very generously investing over £50,000 in bringing our changing and student and public facilities up to standard and carrying out all of the necessary repairs and updates. This is likely to take place in January and the February half term. They will also be paying for the Sports Centre Manager and Sports Centre Assistants in a package worth over £100,000 in total.

This will mean the facilities are up to date and kept clean and ready for student and public use all of the time. Furthermore lessons will be set up for staff and students and both facilities and equipment will be kept in good condition at all times.

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Principal: Ben Slade BA (Hons) Ed, QTS (Wales), NPQH, FRSA
Chair of Governors: Andy Pellew • Chair of Trustees: Roger Salmon
Founder Member of The North Cambridge Community Trust

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There will be a wide range of curricular and extra curricular activities for students and staff at The Manor. We will always look to subsidise any activities for our students after school. There may also be sponsorship opportunities for our teams and clubs! Watch this space for further details.

Our Achievements this Term

1. Excellent results – doubled from 3 years ago and the best since GCSEs were introduced.
2. A fantastic OfSTED report. We are officially “a good school with an outstanding capacity to improve further”. I would encourage anyone to read this report which is available in hard copy from the school or electronically on the OfSTED website or on ours.
3. Our contextual value added data is extremely positive (report just out this week).
4. We are now eligible to apply for Academy Status should we wish to – before we were barred.
5. The new Trust is beginning to take shape and will shortly set about ‘making a difference’.
6. We have been re-designated as a specialist performing arts college by the DfE.
7. We have been re-designated as a Prince of Wales Teaching Institute school.
8. We have an exciting new relationship with CRC.
9. We may have a new patron – more details to follow.

Positive PR – Yes Positive – for The Manor and Our Students and Staff

We have had over 10 positive articles in the Cambridge Evening News, Cambridge First and on BBC Radio, TV and independent TV and radio. This is a hugely positive move forward for the school.

Your Help Required

- Please try and send your son/daughter/caree into school on time every day. Lateness and absence counts against us and causes students, staff and the school considerable difficulties.
- Please do not encourage your son/daughter/caree to stay off school with minor illnesses.
- Please do not ask for holidays in term time. Due to local and national government policy I am not allowed to ‘authorise’ these.
- If you have a complaint or an issue please try to address it with the member of staff in the first instance via the switchboard on 01223 508742 or via email
- First initial and surname (no space) @manorcc.org.uk
- If this does not resolve the matter please contact the Leader of each Year (Leader of Learning): Year 7 (pedwards@manorcc.org.uk); Year 8 (lparry@manorcc.org.uk); Year 9 (clemoal@manorcc.org.uk); Year 10 (jcollings@manorccc.org.uk) and Year 11 (kmccann@manorcc.org.uk)
- Please be honest and supportive in questionnaires about our work and our effectiveness. If you do have a genuine problem with what we are doing or how effective we are please contact lcrebo@manorcc.org.uk and come and see me so we can talk things through. **I always welcome this opportunity.**

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- Please encourage your son/daughter/caree to attend all of the revision sessions and support sessions offered by the school both in term time and during the holidays.
- If anyone you know is thinking of coming to The Manor in September but has questions, queries or concerns, please ask them to contact my PA, Lucy Crebo, and she will arrange for a prospectus to be sent out and/or a visit to the school to be arranged.

Friends of The Manor

I would like to thank all of the friends of The Manor for their terrific support of the school and for helping to make all of the evenings and events a success. We couldn't manage without this enthusiastic and committed group of parents and ex parents. If you would like to join this group please contact Lucy Crebo, Joy Sinclair or Kevin McCann.

CBBC Filming at The Manor

Please see my separate letter about this. I was extremely disappointed that Channel 4 finally decided to film their documentary at another school in Essex. However Children's BBC (1) are due to film here over the next few weeks. They are following Ethan and his family – a very brave thing for them to do – and we want to support this. The programme will feature The Manor and a disco for students at which Ethan will DJ next week. Please allow your son/daughter/caree to support this event, the school and this lovely family.

Ho Ho Ho!

All that remains is for me to wish all of you a very happy, peaceful and relaxing Christmas and a fantastic New Year. There will be lots of events here before the term ends:

- Arbury Court Christmas Tree event.
- Carol Service at The Good Shepherd with Waterbeach Brass – this should be a lovely evening.
- Senior Citizens Christmas Party.
- End of term Christmas extravaganza.

I hope to see all of you at some point before the 16th December!

Best wishes

Best wishes for Christmas and for 2011!



Ben Slade
Principal

cc: All Governors/Website