

Dear Parents and carers



Autumn Term Newsletter 3 – Friday 13th October 2023

October 2023	
Saturday 14 th October	Y4 participating in the Children's Carnival as part of their MC48
Monday 16 th October	Parents Evening 1
Tuesday 17 th October	Parents Evening 2
Friday 20 th October	Children break up for October half term Funky Hair Day for The Little Princess Trust
Monday 30 th October	Children return to school after the October half term
November 2023	
Wednesday 8 th November	Collections for shoebox appeal
Friday 17 th November	Sibling photographs



Harvest Festival

Last Monday we joined together in St Mary's Church for our annual Harvest festival. The Church was beautifully decorated with flowers and sunflower pictures created by our children. We sang songs and read poems to celebrate the importance of harvest. Reverend John spoke about the importance of sharing gifts and talents.

We are extremely grateful for the donations of tinned and long-life goods that we received from families and were able to donate to The Lords Larder – there was over a large shopping trolley full of goods!

Celebration Assemblies

Family members are very welcome to join us at our KS1 (not Foundation Stage until after half term) and KS2 celebration assembly each Friday. KS1 Assembly starts at 08:50 in the school hall and KS2 Assembly starts at 10:50 in the school hall. After half term the order of the assembly's swap and KS2 is first thing in the morning and KS1 is after the children's morning break.

Letter of gratitude from the King and Queen

Back in May, our current Year 5 (then Year 4) wrote to King Charles to congratulate him on his Coronation. Last Thursday, we received a letter of thanks in the post from Buckingham Palace.



Young Minds, Hello Yellow day! – A message from Mrs Wilkins



To celebrate world Mental Health Day, the children and staff wore a splash of yellow to school on Tuesday to mark World Mental Health Day and to celebrate Hello Yellow Day that is organised by Young Minds. Young Minds is the UK's leading mental health charity for children and young people.

The Day started with some of Puffins class helping me to lead assembly. We talked about what mental health is and the importance of talking. Children have not been set English and Maths homework this week but have been set the task of talking to an adult about their

worries and feelings as part of ITV's Get Britain Talking campaign.



Year 3 Fundraising

On Tuesday 31st October Y3 will be out on the KS1 and KS2 playground completing some fundraising for their museum trip. There will be a box with lots of tricks or treats. It will be 50p a go and you could pull out some wonderful treats: a chocolate goodie, a new pencil or even a free pass of no homework for the week. What will you pick out? This is open to all year groups, parents, and families. Thank you for your continued support.

Year 6 Optician visit

Year 6 had a fascinating visit from an optometrist last week who explained the intricate workings of the eyes and brain to build on their 'Light' science unit.



Blythswood shoe box appeal

Once more this year we are participating in the Blythswood Christmas shoe box appeal and providing Christmas gifts for children living in poverty in England and in countries abroad. Information leaflets have been sent home that explains more about this appeal. Please remember that all shoe boxes, or individual items to make boxes must be in school by Wednesday 8th November.

We take child protection extremely seriously at our school. If you have a concern, you can speak to any of the school's designated and trained Child Protection officers: Mr Clode, Miss Gregory, Mrs Terry, Mrs Wilkins, or Mr Talmage. Alternatively, you can ring Children Social Care on 0300 123 2224 or email childrens@somerset.gov.uk



Parents Evening

Don't forget to attend Parents Evening on Monday and Tuesday next week. If you haven't booked your appointment, please contact the school office where the admin team will be happy to help. This will be a wonderful opportunity to see your children's work in their books.

Year 4 Carnival

As part of their Manor Court 48 opportunities the children in Y4 will participate in Chard Children's carnival tomorrow morning. Please do come along and support the children tomorrow as they dance throughout the town.



Rock up & Read! – A message from Mrs Terry

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who have attended our Rock Up and Read sessions over the last two weeks; we have enjoyed watching the children share their books with enthusiasm and love. Next week, it is the turn of our Foundation Stage pupils (Hedgehogs and Squirrels) on Monday 16th October, Year 3 (Kingfishers and Owls) on Wednesday

18th October and on Thursday 19th October, it is the turn of our Year 6 (Heron and Otters). Please come into the school hall via the top door opposite the Year 6 block. We also welcome the parents and carers of our littlest learners in the Early Years Centre, who can drop into the EYC building at 11.30am on Monday 16th and 2.30pm on Wednesday 18th, to share a story.



Come and join us in September 2024

The application process for starting Foundation Stage in September 2024 opened this week through the Somerset County Council portal. If you would like your child to join our happy, caring, fun and high academically achieving (the highest in Chard for several consecutive years) school then do apply through this link <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/apply-to-start-school-for-the-first-time/>

If you would like to look around before making your final decision, please contact the school office to make an appointment with Mrs Terry, Mr Clode, or Mr Talmage.

Pupil Premium

The pupil premium is additional funding that the Government provides for each child who they believe may be disadvantaged in achieving their best in education. At Manor Court Community Primary School, we provide high quality education and enrichment opportunities for all our pupils regardless of ability or background. However, it is useful to receive this funding for all children entitled to it. If your children are entitled to free school meals or a member of the household is currently in receipt, or has been in the last six years, of Universal credit then please do apply through this hyperlink.

https://secure1.somerset.gov.uk/forms/PortalShowForm.asp?fm_formalias=freeschoolmeal

School Council Charity of the year – The Little Princess Trust

The School Council have chosen The Little Princess Trust as their charity of the year. They provide free real hair wigs to children and young people across the UK and Ireland, who have lost their hair due to cancer treatment or other conditions such as Alopecia.

The first fundraiser will be **FUNKY HAIR FRIDAY** on Friday 20th October. For a 50 pence donation your child can simply style their hair in any way they like! Style your hair like your favourite star – or your pet! Be creative, try a Mohican or a beehive. The school council are arranging a competition to see whose hair is the tallest, spikiest, craziest, or funkiest!



The FMCA needs you!

The FMCA is a group of parent volunteers who spend time raising money (whilst having fun) for activities or equipment to be used for the children in the school. The work that they do is vital, and the committee needs more volunteers to help them achieve more for the children.

If you would like to find out more about their work and how you can get involved, please do email them on contactfmca@gmail.com or contact them through their Facebook page.

Have we got your correct details? – A message from the school office

To keep your child safe, please make sure that if you have changed your telephone number, email address or home address that you remember to let the school office know so that we can update our records.

Half term holiday

Please remember that Friday 20th of October is the last day of this half term. All children and staff will return to school on Monday 30th October.

We take child protection extremely seriously at our school. If you have a concern, you can speak to any of the school's designated and trained Child Protection officers: Mr Clode, Miss Gregory, Mrs Terry, Mrs Wilkins, or Mr Talmage. Alternatively, you can ring Children Social Care on 0300 123 2224 or email childrens@somerset.gov.uk

Y5 Tom Percival talk

Year 5 enjoyed watching Tom Percival talk about how he became an author and joined in with his draw-along to support their unit on his book, *The Invisible*. They have written his biography to date and listened carefully to follow the steps to draw their own Isabel character!

EYC news from Sophie

For the last two weeks we have been learning all about 'people who help us'. This has resulted in some fantastic imaginative play including the children becoming police officers, doctors, and builders. The children have really enjoyed taking on these roles. Next week, we will be taking part in our first MC 48 experience of the year. We will be making mud pie creatures. Please make sure your child has a full change of clothes in their bags as we expect this to get messy! Our 2nd parents evening is on Thursday 19th October. There are still some appointments available if you have not yet booked one.



Foundation Stage Art Exhibition

The parents and families of our Foundation Stage children joined us on Monday afternoon for their art exhibition where the children shared their 'All about me' creations which has been the topic this half term. The adults also enjoyed looking in their child's English and Math's books and seeing the learning and progress they have been making during this first half term.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the responsibility of everybody. In terms of keeping children safe, please "Don't think "What if I'm wrong Think... "What if I am right" If you have any concerns about a pupil, you should report this to a member of staff immediately. If you feel a pupil is at risk or a subject of abuse, you must contact the Designated Safeguarding Team immediately. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mr Clode and Deputy Designated Safeguard leads are Miss Gregory, Mrs Terry, Mrs Wilkins, Sophie Warren (EYC Manager) and Mr Talmage. The school Safeguarding and Child Protection Governor is Mrs Sue Wakeman.

**Safeguarding
is everyone's
responsibility**



Online safety news from Miss Hamilton

Epic Games (which includes Fortnite, Fall Guys and Rocket League) provide some really useful features for parents to manage their child's gaming experience. This includes 'cabin accounts' which are accounts where the child is under 13 and certain restrictions are applied by default, e.g. talking to other players. Given the popularity of these games it's possible some parents aren't aware of this feature so it may be worth sharing. You can find further details and instructions from

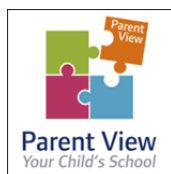
Internet matters by following this link.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/gaming-consoles/epic-games-store-parental-controls-guide/>

PE Days for the Autumn Term

Our PE Days have been set for the next half term and are unlikely to be changed, if we need to change them, we will inform you through your Eylog or ParentPay account. Children should wear their PE kits to school on the days listed below. We have noticed that some children are wearing their PE hoodies into school on different days and on all other days it is important that full school uniform is worn.

Classes	PE Day on which PE Kits must be worn
Squirrels & Hedgehogs	Tuesday
Dragonflies & Bumblebees	Thursday
Nightingales & Magpies	Thursday & Friday
Owls & Kingfishers	Tuesday & Thursday
Eagles & Puffins	Thursday & Friday
Foxes & Badgers	Monday & Friday
Hérons & Otters	Wednesday & Friday



Ofsted Parent view

Parent view is a way in which Ofsted surveys the parents of children within a school to find out their views of the school and how it can be improved further. These opinions become part of the overall judgment of the school. If you would like to pass on your opinions to Ofsted, please complete the survey on the parent view website. The website can be found at www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk

FMCA Bingo

The FMCA are holding their next fundraising bingo on Friday 10th November. This is an evening event for anyone who wishes to book a table. Please see the poster at the end of the newsletter for more information and book a table early to secure your place. They are always such fun events!

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Yeovil Town Football Club –

We sent a letter home earlier this week (and it can be found on our school website) from our friends at Yeovil Town Football Club. This letter explains how to redeem reduced priced tickets for their match against Braintree on Saturday 28th October. This is also their charitable day for the Breast Cancer Unit at Yeovil Hospital - Let's help to paint the park pink!

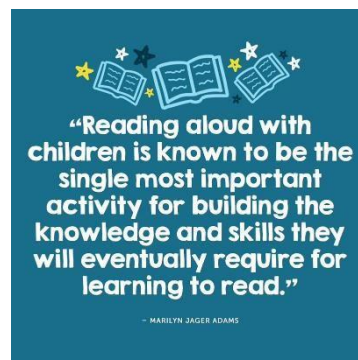
Y6 Art with Mr Plumbley

We welcomed talented artist and teacher Mr Plumbley back to school on Wednesday. He worked with our Year 6 pupils to create a new Remembrance display that will soon be displayed on the school fence at the front of the school. Each of the other classes will make their own display in readiness for our Remembrance assembly on Friday 10th November.



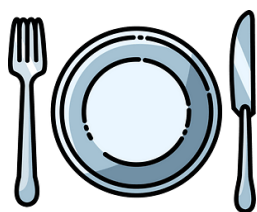
Reading expectations – A message from Mrs Terry

At Manor Court Community Primary School, we seek to ensure that children are supported to be confident, lifelong learners with a love of reading. Reading plays a very important role in developing children culturally, emotionally, and socially and we believe literature plays a key role in such development. Reading enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and build on what they already know. In school children in KS2 are heard reading on a 1:1 basis at least once a week by their class teacher and Learning Support staff and this is much more frequent in Foundation Stage and KS1. Those pupils not at an expected reading level are heard daily. The EYFS and Key Stage 1 reading books follow a clear progression of banding, ensuring fluency is developed. This academic year, you may find your child has a book sent home that they have already read at school, and this is something that is now promoted in all schools. The more a child reads, the larger their vocabulary becomes. When a child reads or hears the same book multiple times, they become familiar and comfortable with a greater number of words. Fluency is the ability to read text “accurately, quickly, and with expression.”



Repetitive reading allows a child to read without stumbling or stopping, and reading time becomes more pleasant for everyone. Once a child masters one book, it makes moving on to another more appealing. Reading comprehension is the ability to understand all the components of a story — from plot to character development to symbolism. Comprehension is “the essence” of reading. Each time your child reads or hears a book read to them; they learn more about the story itself. Each passage through the text or illustrations allows them to dive deeper into the story’s meaning, preparing them for more complex narratives down the road. Children who progress from the banded scheme to ‘free readers’ are able to access their class library, and the school library, and can be supported to select appropriate books by staff. Pupils are encouraged to take home fiction and non-fiction texts.

Children are expected to read at home 5 times a week, ideally daily, as this helps to develop confident and fluent readers. We would recommend 20 minutes of reading a day. Children’s reading logs are checked to ensure this is taking place. Where children are not reading the required amount in school, they are invited to attend a lunchtime reading club. There is also opportunity to read to a member of staff at Homework Club and After-school Club.



Hot meals parental feedback – A message from Mrs Hunt

Our onsite kitchen is now providing a hot meal for over 190 children each weekday and it appears to us that the children within the school are enjoying the meal that is being offered to them and parents have selected for them through ParentPay.

We would like to ask parents to provide feedback, positive or negative, as to the food that we are providing to your child. If you would like to share this feedback with us, please do email the school office.

If for any reason you are unhappy with the meals provided, please do email the office and we can try to rectify this.

Attendance our school expectations

Pupil attendance and punctuality is a key focus and priority within our school. Individual attendance will be monitored and reviewed on a bi-weekly basis. We would like to kindly remind parents that the school’s expectations on individual pupil attendance is 95% and above, with the aim of having 100% pupil attendance. Should your child fall behind the school’s expectations a monitoring process is triggered, and we may ask you to come into school to discuss your child’s attendance with us. Should you have any questions or concerns relating to your child’s attendance please do not hesitate to contact me within the school.



Y5 trip to Magdalen Farm

Our Year 5 pupils had the opportunity for a fun-filled day on the farm this week! Our friends at Magdalen Farm provided the children with a day of meeting the animals (including 10-day-old piglets) and learning about food chains, how and why the seasons change and seed dispersal. The children especially seemed to enjoy the chicken cuddles.



Y3 Manor Court 48

Y3 have completed their MC48 for this half term and learnt what to do in an emergency through a visit from the RNL! The informative talk from the instructors told the children how to keep themselves safe in the water at the beach and how to raise the alarm if they see someone out of their depth.

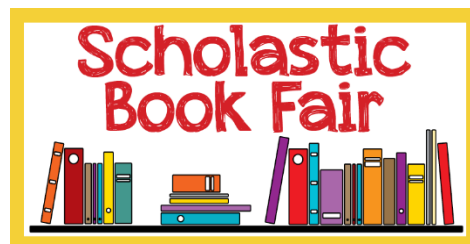


Wrap around care telephone number

The telephone number for our wrap around care provision (breakfast & after school club) is **07471 412147** Please save this telephone number to your phone if you use wrap around care. Breakfast club is held in the school hall and our after-school wrap around care is held in The Den (a room in the Y1 block). To ensure that we have the correct ratios please ensure that you contact the school office the day before you require club. We appreciate that emergencies sometimes happen.

Half Price Scholastic Book Fair!

Our popular Scholastic book fair will arrive in school on Tuesday 28th November. You will be able to purchase all books sold for **HALF PRICE!** The fair will be in school for a week and this time we will be opening it up after school and on some mornings and afternoons - so you can purchase books without prying eyes! Every year we are able to use the commission from our sales to purchase new books to be used in school. Books are the perfect gift for Christmas!



Thank you or your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luke".

Mr Luke Talmage
Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan".

Mr Alan Clode
Deputy Headteacher and Inclusion Leader



• The FMCA •
are hosting

Fall Family Bingo

**FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER
2023**

Doors open at 6pm, eyes
down at 6.30pm

6 game bingo book - £6.00 each
Flyer - £3.00 each
Raffle tickets £1 each

BUNDLE PRICE £10
Includes 1 book, 1 flyer,
2 raffle tickets

Alcoholic and non-alcoholic
drinks & snacks available on
the night, all funds go to FMCA,
so please support us by not
bringing your own!

For more information and to
book a table please email
contactFMCA@gmail.com

£20 all day

PREMIER EDUCATION TAUNTON HOLIDAY CAMPS

9.00am-
3:30pm

Thursday 26th October 2023

Venue: Herne View Primary, Ditton Street, TA19 0BL

Entrance - access to the Gymnasium from south of the school on small school road through blue door, off Ditton St.

GYMNASTICS HOLIDAY CAMP

Gymnastics- Spend the day learning new gymnastic techniques from our amazing qualified gymnastic coaches.

They will support you doing new rolls, balances, handstands and many more new skills.

Enjoy making routines in pairs and small groups which will be presented later in the day.



Work on swinging, climbing and jumping from the amazing apparatus supplied by Herne View school

Refresh your skills before school starts again & come and meet new friends.

Commonwealth Gold Medallist Kelly Simm will be on hand to help launch our first Gymnastics Holiday Club at Herne View PS.



Childcare vouchers accepted

How to book:

Online- www.premier-education.com

Call Andrew- 07776 108281



Be sure to:

Like and follow our Premier Education Taunton Instagram and facebook page!

