

Summer Term Newsletter 1 – Friday 26th April 2024

Key Dates

April 2024	
Monday 29 th April	Kingfishers class to Somerset County Cricket club
May 2024	
Monday 6 th May	Bank holiday – school closed
Wednesday 8 th May	Year 3 trip to Seaton Tramway
Monday 13 th to Thursday 16 th May	Year 6 Assessment Week
Monday 20 th May to Friday 25 th May	Year 6 enrichment week
Tuesday 21 st May	Year 3 trip to Sidmouth Donkey Sanctuary
Friday 25 th May	Break up for the Half Term holiday



Welcome to our school community!

We would like to send a very warm welcome to the children and their families who received notification last week that they will be starting their education in our Foundation Stage classrooms in September. Mr Talmage enjoyed spending time telephoning parents to answer any questions that they may have and if parents couldn't answer the phone, he left a voicemail for them to listen to. We can't wait to meet you!

Year 2 Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra performance

Year 2 travelled to Westlands in Yeovil to watch the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra perform last Tuesday. We listened out for the brass, woodwind and percussion sections and the children used their conducting fingers to help the musicians perform.



Year 6 KS2 SATs week

As you will be aware the end of Key Stage 2 tests are fast approaching. During the week of the tests, it is especially important that we have 100% attendance in Year 6, we will be offering a free breakfast club throughout the week to every Year 6 child (more information to follow soon). Please ensure that no appointments are made during this week and that your child arrives in plenty of time. Please see this timetable for the week.

Monday 13 th May 2024	Tuesday 14 th May 2024	Wednesday 15 th May 2024	Thursday 16 th May 2024
English Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling	English Reading	Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic) & Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning)	Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)

Design and Technology Careers Day

This career focus this half term is **Design and Technology**. We will be holding a careers afternoon with selected parents who work in that sector on Monday 20th May. If you work within the Design & Technology sector and would like to get involved please contact Mrs Wilkins or the school office for more information.

Year 6 'Make £5 grow project'

The Year 6 children had a brilliant morning working in teams last Saturday morning with the intention to make as much profit as they could as they participated in the Virgin Money – 'Make £5 grow challenge'! Any profit that the children make will go towards an end of year treat that they will decide upon via a vote.

The children had worked in groups to make before the market and during the market



sold a variety of items to those passing by and enjoyed enticing people to their stalls. The items on sale included home-made bath bombs, bath salts, lip balms, slime, candles, plants that they had grown, a selection of jewellery, and a traditional lucky dip and tombola!



We received a lovely message from a local resident of Chard who visited the stalls ON Saturday. "Visted the stalls this morning. Well done to all of the children; helpful and polite. Congratulations to each of the staff for providing excellent extra-curricular

projects!"

2024-2025 Term Dates

We have set our term dates for the 2024-2025 academic year. These can be found at the end of this newsletter and on the parent section of our school website.

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

Red, White & Blue Day

We had a colourful – Red, White & Blue Day - on Tuesday as we celebrated St George's Day together and learnt about St George, why he is the patron saint of England and considered more of our British Values in our classrooms.



School shoes and ties

We have noticed that several children are coming to school each day wearing trainers or ankle boots. This is not school uniform or appropriate footwear for the children to be wearing to school. We have also noticed that some children have not been wearing their school tie to school on a regular basis. Please be prepared for a member of staff to mention the tie and footwear to you at the end of the school day.



Class teacher vacancy

We are recruiting for a class teacher to join our team at Manor Court in September and for teachers to work in other schools in PPAT (our family of schools that was ranked as the second highest performing MAT in the United Kingdom). Please do share the advert (that can be found at the end of this newsletter) for this role, with those that you know would like to teach in our hard-working, high achieving and friendly school.

Mrs Terry, Mr Clode or Mr Talmage would love to show potential candidates

around before the closing date.

Punctuality

We are observing a number of children who are regularly late to school and missing the vital learning at the start of their school day. We appreciate that on occasion this cannot be helped but have explained to the children that are regularly late that they will need to stay in at morning break or lunchtime to catch up on any work that they have missed. If your child is late to school, we know that this is the responsibility of the parent so please help us to educate your child by ensuring that they get to school on time every morning.



EYC news from Sophie

Preschool have had a fantastic start to the new term. We had a lovely walk around Snowdon Park as part of our Manor Court 48. The children were able to spot many signs of spring. We will also be looking after caterpillars for the next few weeks. We are excited to learn about their lifecycle and see them hatch into butterflies. We have also begun the transition to school, for those who will be beginning Foundation Stage in September, by visiting Squirrel's and Hedgehogs outdoor area to play!

New school website address

Please be aware that we have changed our school website address, as the previous website domain was owned by Somerset County Council and there was a risk of the school website being lost if the County Council goes further into administration.

Our school website address is now: www.manorcourtcommunityprimary.co.uk



Year 6 advance warning – A message from the Y6 team

It is a busy time of the school year for the Year 6 children with a focus on their end of KS2 assessments. Very soon after this week our focus will turn towards further curriculum enrichment, your child's transition to their Secondary school and the traditional school play – this year it is *Pirates of the Curry Bean!*

We've been asked by a few parents to inform them of these important dates at the end of the school year so that time off from work can be booked. Please put these dates in your diary so

that you do not miss out.

1. Thursday 11th July – Afternoon performance of *Pirates of the Curry Bean!* in the school hall a 13:30 start.
2. Thursday 11th July – Evening performance of *Pirates of the Curry Bean!* in the school hall a 18:00 start.
3. Wednesday 17th July – Year 6 Leavers assembly in the school hall a 13:45 start.

Somerset Science Festival – A message from Mr Staddon

On Monday 6th May, some Year 5 pupils will be leading a stand at the Somerset Science Festival, to be held at Haynes Motor Museum. The pupils have been taking part in an after-school science club this term, led by myself and will be sharing their knowledge and understanding of science with a focus on sustainability. The day will be a perfect opportunity for children and adults alike to learn about science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and explore the various STEM-based careers and industries that are available in Somerset. Last year, over 4800 people attended the festival. Visitors had the chance to take part in exciting hands-on activities, watch live demonstrations and discover inspiring projects. The day is completely FREE for you and your families to attend, and you can learn more about the science that is taught here at Manor Court. Please see the flyer for more information at the end of this newsletter.

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Conclusion of the Foundation Stage Living things unit

Foundation Stage were excited as they were able to release the butterflies which hatched last week. The children loved watching them use their wings to fly into their spring flowers.



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 each pupil 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 or ask in the school office for a form that we can send off for you.

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



Online safety news from Miss Hamilton

Internet Matters have put together some great interactive stories/lessons covering a range of issues from self-image and identity, online bullying, relationships and more. The interactive stories can be used in the classroom and would also be useful for parents to go through with their children. You can find more information here at [Online safety topics to teach children key skills | Digital Matters \(internetmatters.org\)](https://www.internetmatters.org)

Community Safety workshops hosted by Holyrood Academy

Holyrood Academy is hosting a community safety evening on Tuesday 30th April between 19:00 and 21:30 in their Upper Site School Hall. The aim of the evening is to enable parents of children within Chard to have the skills and knowledge to keep their child safe in the community, understand more about drug and knife crime, recognising the warning signs of danger and knowing where to go for help.

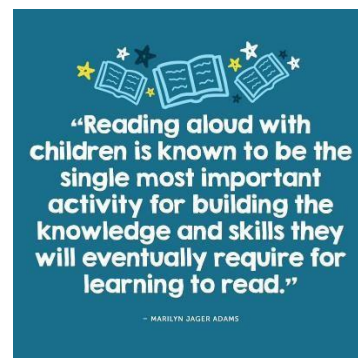
We have included a flyer at the end of the newsletter to provide more information to you about the event.

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 frequently 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 pass through the text or illustrations allows them to dive into the story’s meaning, preparing them for more complex narratives down the road. Children who progress from the banded scheme to ‘free readers’ can 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.



Creativity and innovation week

This week, throughout the school, there has been a lot of product design using computers and simple, old fashioned, pen and paper! Our Year 2 children were especially proud to use computer technology to design and create Mr Men and Little Miss characters. These new characters then starred in short animations!



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Year 5 STEM morning

Our Year 5 pupils enjoyed a STEM event last Thursday morning, where they were presented with a glider challenge. They explored the future of aerospace and flew their gliders outside to test them. Some of the children's designs flew a great distance!



Attendance our school expectations – A message from Miss Gregory

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.

After School Enrichment clubs

Our wide range of after school enrichment clubs (twenty-five clubs!) started again on Monday, with a number of new ones such as Hama Bead! Hama Bead was a great success for Foundation Stage and Year 1 children who practiced their fine motor skills by placing the beads onto the beads to create their wonderful designs.



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

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 Designated Safeguard leads are Miss Gregory, Mrs Terry, Mrs Wilkins, and Mr Talmage.

Deputy

The school Safeguarding and Child Protection Governor is Mrs Sue Wakeman

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.



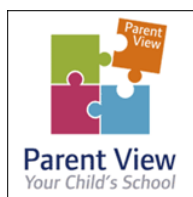
Wrap around care booking reminder from the school office

Our wrap around care provision is very popular but we are having an increasing number of children attend who have not been booked on to sessions. Whilst we make every effort to accommodate them, we cannot always guarantee that there is space.

Please may we remind you of the following booking deadlines:

After school care – 2.00 pm on the day

Breakfast club – 2.00 pm the day before.



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

More volunteer readers needed – A message from Mrs Terry

Do you have spare time that you could commit to volunteering at our excellent school in 2024?

We are looking for more adults who can spend time listening to our children read. Full training (including safeguarding) and lots of friendly children and staff will be provided! Each volunteer will require a DBS (paid for by the school) before they can start. If you'd like to find out more information, please contact the school office to speak to me, Mrs Terry (Assistant Headteacher), or Mrs Hunt (Business Manager).



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Year 5 Mixed Football match against Tatworth Primary School

Our Year 5 mixed football team enjoyed a 'competitive' friendly football match against Tatworth Primary on Tuesday afternoon. They battled back from 3-0 down at half time, to a tie, before finally losing.

The opposition team had academy players for teams such as Exeter City. Well done children!



Year 5 Anglo Saxon Art

Completing their Anglo Saxon topic in Art, Year 5 have made clay brooches in the Anglo Saxon style. These are oversized at around 12cm in diameter, to allow the children to include intricate detail. But it turns out that some brooches were actually about this size.



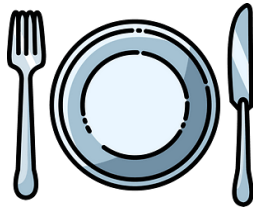
The FMCA needs you!

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.



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.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr Luke Talmage
Headteacher



Mr Alan Clode
Deputy Headteacher and Inclusion Leader



Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2 Class Teacher
Manor Court Community Primary School, Chard
www.manorcourtcommunityprimary.co.uk

Salary: MPS 1 – 6 or Upper Pay Scale (A TLR may be offered for the correct candidate)
Full Time

Manor Court Community Primary School (proud to be part of PPAT - the Preston Primary Academy Trust) is a large fourteen class community primary school. We are a busy, inclusive, and friendly school. We take pride in giving each of our children a love of learning through a variety of opportunities. Our school ethos is built upon 'caring and learning together' and we believe that this is evident in all that we do for our children and staff.

We are looking to appoint a talented teacher to work within our school from September 2024. This position would be suitable for a colleague at any point in their teaching career.

The successful candidate will:

- Have high personal and professional expectations especially in achievement and attainment.
- Be able to work collaboratively and positively with all colleagues.
- Be adaptable, innovative, and willing to use a range of teaching styles.

Manor Court Community Primary School has:

- A skilled and supportive Senior Leadership Team.
- Dedicated professionals who readily support each child and each other.
- A commitment to your professional development.
- A well planned and creative curriculum.
- Well-resourced learning environments.
- Welcoming and well-behaved children who have eager minds and wish to learn.

Please apply by letter, outlining your skills and experience relevant to the post and complete the application form which is available from the school and the PPAT website. In your application please clearly state which Key Stage you would wish to be considered for.

Visits to the school are warmly welcome and we would be delighted to show you around. Please also consider looking at our school website and social media accounts (Facebook and X) to gain an understanding of our fun, academically high achieving, and friendly school.

Your completed application form and letter can be posted to the school or emailed to office@manorcourt.ppat365.org Please address it for the attention of Mrs Diana Hunt, Assistant school Business Manager.

Closing Date: Midday on Friday 10th May 2024
Interview Date: Week beginning Monday 20th May 2024

Please note: Early applications are encouraged. Manor Court Community Primary School reserves the right to interview and appoint prior to the closing date, should the school be able to appoint a suitable candidate.

Due to the expected number of applications we will only inform applicants if they have been shortlisted and invited to attend an interview.

PPAT is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will require an Enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service check, medical clearance, and references.

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HOLYROOD
ACADEMY

COMMUNITY SAFETY EVENING

TUESDAY 30TH APRIL

7PM - 9:30PM

Do you want to hear more about:

- Keeping your child safe in the community
- Understanding more about drug and knife crime
- Recognising warning signs
- Knowing where to go for help

Guest Speakers:

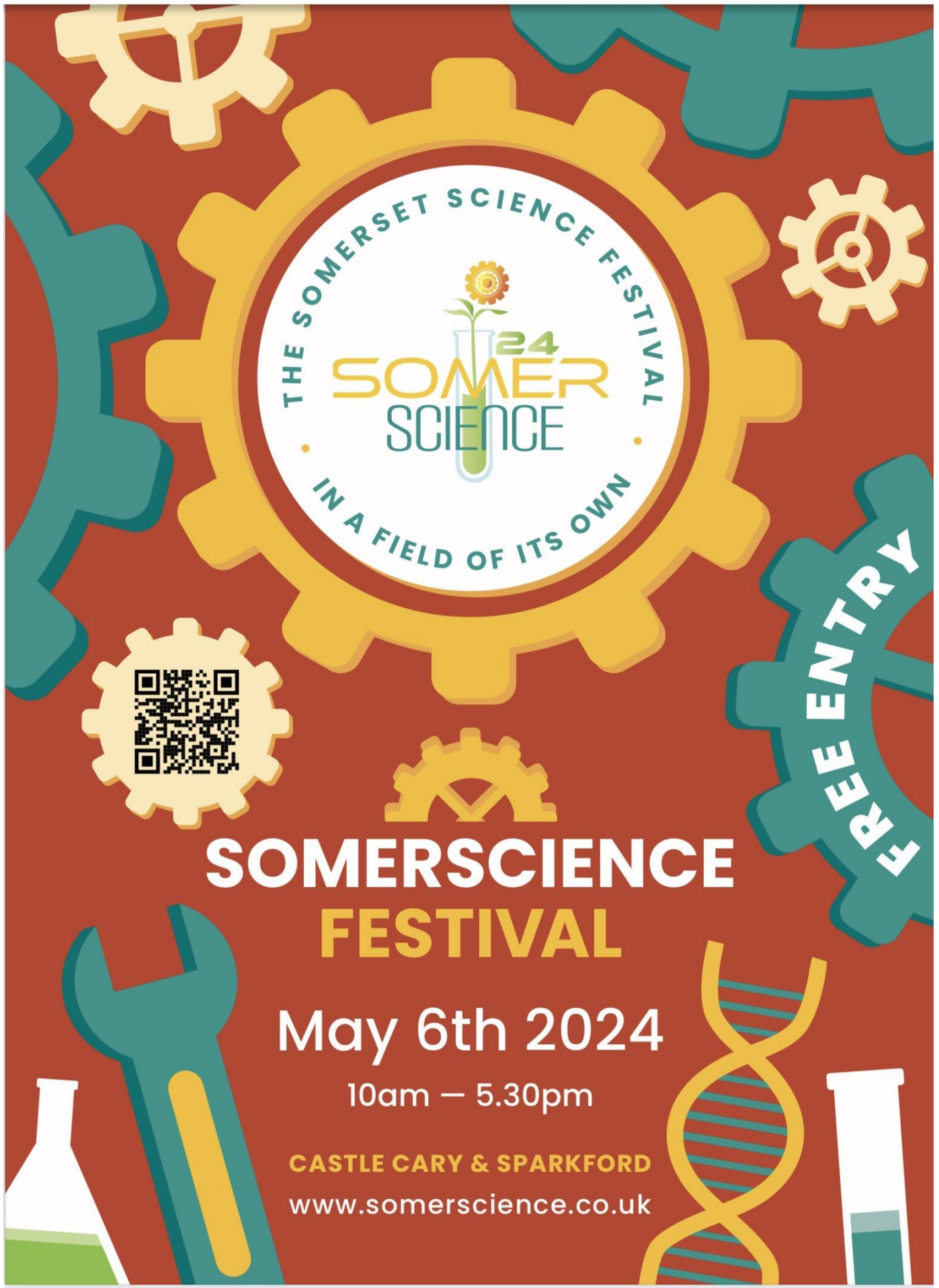
Paul Hannaford, Drug and Crime Lecturer

Andri Nicolaou, Child Exploitation Prevention
Officer and Coordinator from Operation Topaz



HOLYROOD ACADEMY (VISITORS RECEPTION)

CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION



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Manor Court School Council would appreciate any donations of unwanted children's books for our upcoming book sale in May (Date yet to be confirmed). All proceeds will go to our school charity of the year.

Please send any books in with your child, FAO Mrs Burns.

Thank you.



twinkl



Manor Court Community Primary School School Terms and Holidays 2024-2025

September 2024						October 2024						November 2024								
M		2	9	16	23	30	Mo			7	14	21	28	M			4	11	18	25
Tu		3	10	17	24		Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu			5	12	19	26
W		4	11	18	25		We		2	9	16	23	30	W			6	13	20	27
Th		5	12	19	26		Th		3	10	17	24	31	Th			7	14	21	28
F		6	13	20	27		Fr		4	11	18	25		F		1	8	15	22	29
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		2	9	16	23	30
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		6	13	20	27		Su		3	10	17	24	
December 2024						January 2025						February 2025								
M		2	9	16	23	30	M			6	13	20	27	M			3	10	17	24
Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu			7	14	21	28	Tu			4	11	18	25
W		4	11	18	25		W		1	8	15	22	29	W			5	12	19	26
Th		5	12	19	26		Th		2	9	16	23	30	Th			6	13	20	27
F		6	13	20	27		F		3	10	17	24	31	F			7	14	21	28
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		4	11	18	25		Sa		1	8	15	22	
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		5	12	19	26		Su		2	9	16	23	
March 2025						April 2025						May 2025								
M		3	10	17	24	31	M			7	14	21	28	M			5	12	19	26
Tu		4	11	18	25		Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu			6	13	20	27
W		5	12	19	26		W		2	9	16	23	30	W			7	14	21	28
Th		6	13	20	27		Th		3	10	17	24		Th		1	8	15	22	29
F		7	14	21	28		F		4	11	18	25		F		2	9	16	23	30
Sa	1	8	15	22	29		Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		3	10	17	24	31
Su	2	9	16	23	30		Su		6	13	20	27		Su		4	11	18	25	
June 2025						July 2025						August 2025								
M		2	9	16	23	30	M			7	14	21	28	M			4	11	18	25
Tu		3	10	17	24		Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu			5	12	19	26
W		4	11	18	25		W		2	9	16	23	30	W			6	13	20	27
Th		5	12	19	26		Th		3	10	17	24	31	Th			7	14	21	28
F		6	13	20	27		F		4	11	18	25		F		1	8	15	22	29
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		2	9	16	23	30
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		6	13	20	27		Su		3	10	17	24	31

Key:	
	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Term Time
	Inset Days

Term dates summary:	
Term 1: 03 September – 25 October 2024 (39 days)	
Term 2: 04 November – 20 December 2024 (35 days)	
Term 3: 06 January – 14 February 2025 (30 days)	
Term 4: 24 February – 04 April 2025 (30 days)	
Term 5: 22 April – 23 May 2025 (23 days)	
Term 6: 02 June – 23 July 2025 (38 days)	TOTAL = 195

Bank and public holidays 2024/25			
Christmas Day	25 December 2024	Easter Monday	21 April 2025
Boxing Day	26 December 2024	May Day Bank Holiday	05 May 2025
New Year's Day	01 January 2025	Spring Bank Holiday	26 May 2025
Good Friday	18 April 2025	Summer Bank Holiday	25 August 2025

Academy, Free Schools, Foundation & Voluntary Aided schools can set their own term dates and may differ from ours. Please check with the individual schools for their term dates.

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23RD JUNE 2024

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AMETHYST PRESENTS

TOP SECRETS

Memo

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