

Summer Term Newsletter 6 – Friday 12th July 2024

Key Dates

July 2024	
Monday 15 th July	Building project starts – no access to the Key-Stage 2 playground
Wednesday 17 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly in the school hall starting at 13:45
Thursday 18 th July	M&M production of The Little Princess to the Whole School
Friday 19 th July	Last day of the school year Non-School uniform day and no charitable donation required
September 2024	
Tuesday 3 rd September	INSET Day
Wednesday 4 th September	All children return to school
Friday 6 th September	Year 6 Trip to London to visit the Houses of Parliament and the London Eye



Engineering Leader's award

Over the course of the Spring Term, children across the country participated in an engineering leaders award competition. The children had to come up with a problem and a creative solution using drawings and a letter justifying their choices. At the end of the competition, only a handful of children were chosen and received a special award for their hard work.

Out of tens of thousands of children who applied, Nightingale's own Logan won for his design of the Graze Fixer! This amazing design incorporates an antibacterial wipe inside a sealed plaster, in order to clean and heal a graze quickly after falling.

On Friday the 5th of July, Logan, his Mum, Miss Clarke and Mr Talmage attended the leader's award ceremony at The University of the West of England, in Bristol. Not only was he presented with his framed certificate, he was also awarded with the winners plaque out of all of the children from Year 2 who attended, for his brilliant design and creativity! This was a very proud moment for us all and has inspired him to think about a career in design and engineering. Well done, Logan, we look forward to seeing what you create next!

Year 6 School Play – *Pirates of the Curry Bean!*

This week saw the much-awaited performance of 'Pirates of the Curry Bean' by our wonderful Year 6 pupils. The children have thoroughly enjoyed rehearsals and their hard work culminated in impressive performances to the school and to parents this week. The children performed with great enthusiasm and excellent humour as we all travelled with them on an exciting adventure over the open seas in search of treasure. We hope you enjoyed the performance as much as we did. Congratulations to all the children for putting on a great show.



St Mary's Teddy Bears' picnic

Tomorrow is the Teddy Bears' picnic at St Mary's Church. Please try to attend this wonderful event with your children and their favourite teddy bear. Do see the poster at the end of the newsletter for more information from our friends at St Mary's Church.

Year 5 residential to Magdalen Farm – A message from Mrs Terry

A wonderful three days was had at Magdalen Farm last week. We were very lucky with the weather. The children loved all the activities including our water fight in the River Axe! The animals were fantastic. The children loved being able to feed the cows, chickens, goats and pigs. The food was delicious and fresh as sourced from the farm. The staff were impressed with the children's attitude and politeness and look forward to having us back. Well done to all the staff and children in year 5.



Autumn Term enrichment clubs

Booking for the Autumn Term after school enrichment clubs goes live today at 14:00. Please follow the instructions on the letter sent home earlier in the week via ParentPay to avoid disappointment.

Summer Reading challenge

Katy, from Somerset Library Services, came to speak to us on Wednesday about the Summer Reading challenge. All your child needs is a free library card to enter the challenge and if they read at least six books in the six weeks holiday they will win a prize and a certificate!





Hot weather – please help us to keep your children safe

We are hopeful of having a few more consistent days of warm weather before the end of the term and are ever hopeful that it may continue. Can you please help us to keep your children safe in the sunshine and hot weather by applying suncream to your children before school, sending them into school with a sun hat and plenty of water-based drinks to drink throughout the day.

Trim Trail – A message from Mrs Jones

Can we please remind all parents that children are not to use either Trim Trails at the start, or end of the day, and must only use them under the supervision of school staff during the school day.

Foundation Stage Pirate Day

Ahoy there! Foundation Stage adults and children fully embraced their Pirate Day last Friday. They enjoyed pirate phonics, treasure hunting and ship building. They were even walking the plank!



Multicultural Day – A message from Mrs Gomes

Our traditional annual Multicultural Day was today and was once more a great day! Children have learnt so much about many different countries of the world. This day promotes understanding about other cultures, diversity and inclusion, allowing our pupils to become citizens of the wider world.

Once more the children and staff embraced the day by dressing up, wearing traditional outfits from around the world or by wearing the colours of the flags.

Children had the opportunity to visit an artifacts exhibition arranged by the school with artifacts from a variety of different countries.

It was a pleasure to see children engaged in a variety of learning activities where each class researched about their chosen country and have done many other activities such as baking a traditional cake, learnt a folk dance or even produced some craft activities. We would like to thank two of our parents; Marisa and Carla for providing excellent resources.

We had a special visitor from Poland doing a presentation about the Polish culture, Ella's interaction with the children was amazing. To finish the day we had a parade where each child had the opportunity to show their lovely outfits. Thank you to each parent, child and staff member for embracing our special day brilliantly!



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

Year 5 school trip to Exeter

Yesterday Year 5 spent an enjoyable day in Exeter as part of their Manor Court 48 this term to visit a city. During the day, the children sketched the Cathedral, and we were able to make comparisons with St Mary's Church. They saw the ruins of Roman Exeter and then visited the Royal Albert Memorial Museum where they saw natural history exhibits and thousands of fascinating artefacts including a giraffe, tiger and bison. The children were able to use their geography skills to compare Chard with a city.



Year 2 visit from The Lord's Larder

Last week the Year 2 children were visited by volunteers from The Lord's Larder (Chard's Foodbank). Year 2 enjoyed reading and acting out a story from the Bible that explained why they do this voluntary work in the community. The children were able to link this to their learning in RE about the Christian belief in love and charity.

Chard food pantry – A message from Miss Gregory (Early Intervention Officer)

The cost-of-living crisis is hitting some families hard and the cost of food has increased incredibly. The Chard Community Pantry is a local initiative that provides food and household supplies for only £5 a week. Please speak to Mr Clode or myself if you require any further information.

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, Miss Warren, or Mr Talmage. Alternatively, you can ring Children Social Care on 0300 123 2224 or email childrens@somerset.gov.uk



Year 1 trip to Sidmouth

Year 1 recently had a brilliant day at Sidmouth. As part of their science topic of plants, the children completed some wild garden plant observational drawings and ended the day on the beach.

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, and Mr Talmage. The school Safeguarding and Child Protection Governor is Mrs Sue Wakeman



EYC news from Sophie

The EYC children have completed their last MC 48 for the year - kite flying. We had a lot of fun! The children really persevered and showed their can-do attitude. Although it was tricky, lots of children were able to keep the kite in the air!

Please don't forget our leavers party on Wednesday 17th at 2.30pm. All children and parents who are leaving us to begin school in September can come and join us for our end of term celebration. Any child that does not usually attend on a Wednesday afternoon must be accompanied by an adult.

After school enrichment clubs – A message from Mr Clode

Please can I politely remind all parents that our afterschool enrichment clubs finish at 16:15 and ask you to arrive promptly to collect your children.

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.

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.



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.



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.

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.

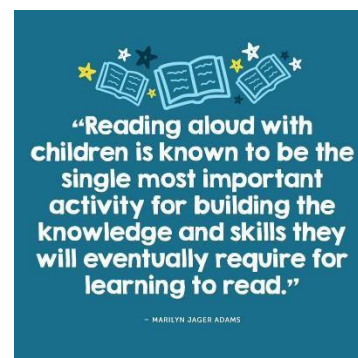


Reading expectations – A message from Mrs Terry

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.



Online safety news from Miss Hamilton

With wellbeing increasingly hot on the agenda, helping children manage their health and wellbeing is a top priority. Nothing can beat getting out in the fresh air, meeting friends and having fun, but some children may find apps useful for things such as learning about emotions, managing anxiety etc. There are thousands of these types of apps, but to cut through the fog Internet Matters have put together a list which gives details such as: suitable ages, purpose, how the app works and (where applicable) the cost.

You can find out more here: <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/wellbeing-apps-guide-for-kids/#wellbeing-apps-stay-active>



Music for miniatures assemblies

Last Thursday, was the last of the Live Arts performances that our pupils have experienced this year, thanks to profits from last year’s Summer Show ticket sales. Harriet and Mike played percussion and brass (and a piece of rubber pipe!) and talked about their instruments to two enthralled audiences.



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 Year 1 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.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Luke Talmage
Headteacher

Mr Alan Clode
Deputy Headteacher and Inclusion Leader



YOUR FAVOURITE
TEDDY BEAR IS
INVITED TO THE



TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC

When : Saturday 13th July 2024

1pm to 4pm

Where: St. Mary's Church , Chard

Dear Teddy, Get ready to zip the wire and
parachute from the Church Tower.

Refreshments, crafts, tombola, raffle, guess
the name of the Panda, games and much
more, too!!

We look forward to sharing this terrific time
with you!

From every one at St. Mary's



In aid of St. Mary's Church Funds



FREE FAMILY COOKING



Registered Charity 1173120

Holyrood Academy, Zembard Lane, Chard

Wed 31 July

Wed 7 Aug and Thurs 8 Aug

Wed 21 Aug and Thurs 22 Aug

10.30am - 1pm



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Looking for something to do in
the holidays?
Enjoy arts and crafts?

10.00AM-12.00PM

TUES 13TH AUGUST

ALL AGES WELCOME

Forefront Community Centre
42 Fore Street



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.

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, Miss Warren, or Mr Talmage. Alternatively, you can ring Children Social Care on 0300 123 2224 or email childrens@somerset.gov.uk

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7TH - 9TH AUGUST

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4PM ON FRIDAY THE 9TH**

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK YOUR SPACE

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