



Dear Parents and carers

## Autumn Term Newsletter 6 – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024



### Key Dates

| December 2024                        |                                      |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December     | Last day of the Autumn Term          |
| January 2025                         |                                      |
| Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2025  | INSET Day                            |
| Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025 | Children return to school or the EYC |

### Mr Talmage's review of 2024

2024 has been a busy and exciting year for Manor Court as a school community. The children and staff have continued to work hard to achieve excellent academic outcomes and throughout the year the children have enjoyed many opportunities of simple childhood fun.

In July we said farewell to a number of longstanding colleagues as they gave birth to their first child, received promotion within PPAT (our family of schools) or relocated with their families to different parts of the country. Their departures, although sad, allowed us opportunity to welcome new colleagues to the staff team who have freshened the team and provided new perspective and skills.

We also said farewell and thank you to Dr Matt Reed who had been a governor at Manor Court for nearly two decades, thirteen of these as Chair of the Local Governing Body. Matt is a highly skilled professional and has recently been promoted to the position of professor within the University that he works at. He has also been



recognised for his skills as a Manor Court governor and become a director of PPAT. Matt has been a wonderful support to me during my time at Manor Court and has been succeeded in the role as Chair of the Local Governing body by Mrs Sue Wakeman, who was previously Vice-Chair of Governors.

This year has also seen the start of the building of the long awaited and planned classroom extension. These two classrooms should be finished in March/April 2025 and will ensure that each Manor Court child continues to be educated in purposeful classroom environments.

This October saw Ofsted return to Manor Court to complete their expected 'ungraded' inspection. As a staff team we had anticipated that this inspection would be this year and quite possibly during this Autumn term. It was our immense pleasure to share with you the outcome

of this exemplary report, which was the very best outcome that we could have achieved. I truly believe that the report and findings of the inspector sums up our school and is wonderful. My first line manager at Manor Court was an experienced colleague - Steve McShane. He said to me *'This summary is underpinned by children talking with glee about the amazing school and the parents telling Ofsted that they believe it is a fantastic school – this is what everyone at Manor Court is all about'*. In 2025 we will continue to provide each Manor Court child with happy memories of childhood and will continue to care for them extremely well!



On behalf of the Manor Court staff team and myself I would like to thank you for your continued support this year and wish you a very happy Christmas and a joyful new year.

### Whole School Art exhibition – Save the date!

Our annual Whole School Art exhibition, where every child from Foundation Stage to Year 6 will exhibit their work, will be held at The Guildhall on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January. Do Save the date for this special event in your diary.

### Choir performs at Wells Cathedral

On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December, twenty-six children from the school choir had the unique opportunity to perform at the iconic Wells Cathedral. They joined twelve other schools in a heartwarming celebration of music, where young voices filled the grand Cathedral with holiday spirit.

The highlight of the performance for the children was the school choir's song, A Winter's Carol, a beautiful composition that added a personal touch to the event. The children's voices resonated through the cathedral, captivating the audience and creating a magical atmosphere. This memorable performance marked a special occasion for the choir, showcasing their talent and bringing joy to all who attended.



### Foundation Stage nativity

Foundation Stage performed a fantastic nativity last week. The children spent several weeks learning the words to sing the songs and act their lines. Hedgehogs and Squirrels thoroughly enjoyed performing to the whole school and to their adults. Many of the adults who came to watch have said how beautifully the children sang, how brave they were and what a brilliant performance it was. The children were very confident in retelling the nativity story, well done to all!

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](mailto:childrens@somerset.gov.uk)

## Living nativity – Christmas Memory Day

Last year our children experienced an open bus tour of the town and this year the children have enjoyed a visit from the animals from Drift Education (a local farm offering educational experiences for children) as part of our living nativity on the Christmas Memory Day 2024. It was wonderful seeing so many children petting and enjoying being with the farm animals and dressing as characters from the traditional nativity scene. If you haven't already seen the photos on Facebook, please do take the time to look at the children (and staff) in their costumes.



### Key Stage 2 carol services

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December the Key Stage 2 children led us in two traditional carol services. The children led the congregation, filled with their parents and grandparents, through the Christmas story; they sang with gusto and read the Bible readings clearly and confidently. The choir, led brilliantly by Miss Prater and Miss Smith, also sang a fantastic repertoire of Christmas carols and songs to the busy audiences. We were also treated to a version of the Twelve Days of Christmas performed by the Drama Club. Do take the time to look at our Social Media accounts for recordings of the choir and drama club performances.

### FMCA Quiz Night

The FMCA are hosting a Quiz Night on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January in our School Hall. The quiz will be hosted by Mrs Morton and costs only £3 per adult and £1.50 a child. There is a maximum of six people per team.

### A message from Mrs Sue Wakeman – Chair of the Local Governing Body



As we approach the festive season, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all of you for your continued support and hard work throughout the year. It has been a wonderful time, and I am proud of everything we've achieved together as a school community.

It has been a busy year. In September, we bid farewell to Dr Matthew Reed, who had been the Chair of Governors for the past 13 years. During his tenure, he saw the school through many changes, and he will certainly be missed by us all. The Local Governing Board, which is made up of volunteers from our staff, parent body, and local community, plays a key role in asking useful and challenging questions to drive ongoing improvements in standards across the school. We also ensure that legal requirements in safeguarding, SEND, and health and safety are met. The Governors are always

keen to hear the views of the school's stakeholders—pupils, staff, and parents. If you wish to get in touch with the LGB, please contact our Clerk via email at [hroper@manorcourt.ppat365.org](mailto:hroper@manorcourt.ppat365.org).



In October, we had an ungraded visit from Ofsted. We were pleased to meet with the HMI Inspector, Phil Minns, who took the time to understand the work of the school. We are delighted to share that he recognised the hard work of our entire school community and gave us an exemplary report with no points for further development.

Christmas is such a special time at the school, with the nativity plays, Christmas jumper days, and the traditional festive lunches. However, I hope that each of you finds a moment to reflect on the past year and all that has been achieved with your child or children.



On behalf of all the Governors, I want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone:

- To our dedicated staff, whose commitment and passion have made this year such a success.
- To our wonderful parents, thank you for your unwavering support and partnership in the growth and learning of our students.
- To our amazing pupils, we are incredibly proud of your hard work, enthusiasm, and achievements.

achievements.

While we don't know what 2025 will bring, I am confident that, together, we will continue to nurture and educate all the children in our school community.

Our very best wishes to you and your loved ones this festive season.



### Do you think your child needs a Health Care Plan? A message from Mrs Terry

Parents of children with medical conditions are often concerned that their child's health will deteriorate when they attend school. This is because pupils with long-term and complex medical conditions may require ongoing support, medicines or care while at school to help them manage their condition and keep them well. Others may require monitoring and interventions in emergency circumstances. At Manor Court Community Primary, we want our parents to feel confident that we will provide effective support for their child's medical condition and that our pupils feel safe. In making decisions about the support, we provide;

we may need to have a meeting with you to discuss your child's needs. Since September, I have taken on the responsibility of meeting with parents to ensure that Medical Health Care Plans are in place for those children who need one, but if you are unsure or if your child has a health condition that you don't feel the school is fully aware of, please speak to your child's class teacher or make an appointment through the Office to speak to me.

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## Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas performances

Years 1 and 2 confidently performed 'Beep Beep Bethlehem' in this year's Christmas production. Each child was wonderfully enthusiastic and practiced so hard to perform all seven songs to the whole school, as well as parents, carers and members of their wider family. A huge well done to each of the Year 2 children who put a lot of effort into speaking so clearly, to the Year 1's for being such a brilliant chorus and to each Year 1 and 2 staff who helped create such a wonderful production!



## Christmas lunches

Last week over 400 delicious Christmas Dinners (on Thursday and Friday) were provided by our catering team for the children in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. The children enjoyed sitting together in the school hall, listening and singing along to Christmas music, telling jokes from their Christmas crackers and getting into the Christmas spirit. We are extremely grateful to the FMCA who agreed to pay the price of the additional meals again this year.

## Please help us – A message to all parents (especially our new Foundation Stage parents)

Please be mindful of parents and children trying to get past the Foundation Stage area and into the main school. Please try to not block the pathway as it is exceedingly difficult for wheelchair users or parents with buggies and prams to get past. Thank you.

## Olivia in Magpies

Olivia, in Magpies Year 2, has braved a big chop in aid of The Little Princess Trust. As well as cutting her hair to donate, she has also raised a phenomenal £1000 in sponsorship money for the charity.

We are all incredibly proud of her bravery and kindness. If you would like to support Olivia and help her surpass her target of £1000, please donate through her just giving page. [https://www.justgiving.com/page/olivia-bower-1730647337661?utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=page%2Folivia-bower-1730647337661&utm\\_source=copyLink&utm\\_campaign=pfp-share](https://www.justgiving.com/page/olivia-bower-1730647337661?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Folivia-bower-1730647337661&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share)



## Year 1 trip to the Panto

Each of our Year 1 children enjoyed a trip to the theatre in Yeovil on Monday where they watched the performance of Jack and The Beanstalk. The children had front row seats and enjoyed participating in the pantomime in all the traditional ways.

## 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 me if you require any further information about this place of support.

## Father Christmas visits

On Wednesday afternoon each class within the school were delighted to receive a visit from Father Christmas and a gift hand delivered, with the support of the FMCA. Each class were so pleased to see him and to find out that they had each made Father Christmas's and Mr Talmage's 'Good' list!



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

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

## Year 1 History

Thank you to the parents who allowed their children to share objects from the past in the Year 1's recent history lessons. The children loved learning about old irons, toys, books, cameras, teddy bears, and a WW2 radio!



## Christmas parties

The children enjoyed the Christmas spirit in their Christmas parties on Wednesday (EYC, EYFS & KS1) and Thursday (KS2) afternoon. They enjoyed playing traditional Christmas games in their classrooms, including pass the parcel, musical bumps, musical statues and many games of sleeping lions, before going to the hall to enjoy their party food together. During their time in the hall the festivities continued with singing and dancing along to Christmas songs together.



### 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.

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

**Safeguarding  
is everyone's  
responsibility**

### School uniform provider – A message from Mrs Hunt (Assistant School Business Manager)

As you will now know, our school uniform provider is South-West School wear. The uniform can be purchased from the Taunton store, or online. Please see the letter that was sent home via ParentPay and can be found on our website for further details about the service that will be provided to Manor Court families.

### Year 2 workshop with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

Year 2 were very lucky to be visited by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra on Monday. They listened carefully to some different styles of music and instruments and even got the chance to compose their own songs in small groups. This will all come together at the beginning of next year, where the children will be able to see their songs performed live by the band themselves!



### Staff car park – A message from Mr Talmage

Can we please remind all parents that the staff car park at the rear of the school is not to be used by parents at any point as a place to park during drop off or collection times. The school does provide free parking permits for parents to park in Sainsbury’s carpark at the start and end of the day.

**COME  
AND  
SEE**

### Come and join us in September 2025

The application process for starting Foundation Stage in September 2025 has now opened through the Somerset County Council portal. If you would like your child to join our happy, caring, fun and academically achieving (the highest results in Chard for many 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.

### Year 5 Bikeability

A big well done to each of our Bikeability students who over four days were all successful in completing their Level 2 certificate. A big thankyou to Nick, Neil and David our instructors.

Some of the children were engrossed in stories of Mr Talmage when he was a child in Year 5 and being taught by one of the instructors Mr Neil Harris at Manor Court! Thankfully he didn’t tell all the ‘really bad stories!’ Neil Harris was one of Mr Talmage’s favourite teachers when he was a pupil at Manor Court Community Primary and it was so nice for them to catch up.



### Online safety news from Miss Hamilton

With Christmas just around the corner, the holiday period is a great time to take stock of the devices they have (plus any new Xmas devices) and ensure they are set up correctly with any parental features you feel are appropriate for your child. Internet Matters have good, non-techie guides which you can follow as part of their ABC Checklist. ABC stands for: A - Activate parental controls. B - Balance screen time. C - Check and chat.

You can find a full explanation, set up guides and advice: <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/abc-online-safety-checklist/>

### Rock Steady assembly

Miss Prater arranged for ‘Rocksteady’ to come into school recently to lead a fun assembly. The children learned about many different genres of music and had a go at playing we will rock you. Some of the staff even had a ‘jam’ on the instruments in front of the children. Who’d have thought that Mrs Terry would be so great on the drums?!



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](mailto:childrens@somerset.gov.uk)

## 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 extremely 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 – 14:00 on the day.

Breakfast club – 14:00 the day before.



## Celebration Assemblies

Family members are very welcome to join us at our EYFS & KS1 and KS2 celebration assembly each Friday. The EYFS & KS1 Assembly will start at 08:50 in the school hall and the KS2 Assembly will start at 10:50 in the school hall.

Please enter the school site through the main gate at the front of the school and enter the hall via the normal door, after crossing the Key Stage 1 playground and walking around the back of the hall.

## Otter class assembly

Otters class led our class assembly on Monday morning. They shared, with us, their knowledge about sight and vision. They even showed us some cool optical illusions!

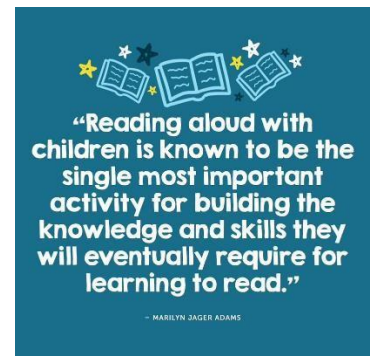


## Reading expectations – A message from Mrs Terry

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 five 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.





### Foundation Stage visit to St Mary's

Foundation stage enjoyed their visit to St Mary's Church last Friday. They learnt about the story of The First Christmas. The children explored the Church and met Reverend John for the first time. They enjoyed looking at the stained-glass windows and in the afternoon some of the children created their own.

### Holiday breakfast Bags

Our friends at St Mary's and The Lords Larder are offering free breakfast bags that will last each week of the Christmas holidays. Please see the poster at the end of this newsletter for more information about this brilliant and much needed initiative.

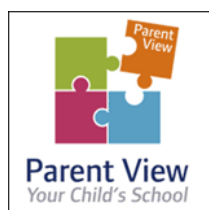
### EYC News from Miss Warren

The preschool children have enjoyed a wonderful few weeks learning about Christmas and taking part in some lovely activities. We very much enjoyed the 'living nativity' on Wednesday. The children were very excited to be able to see and touch the animals - what an amazing experience. Our EYC Christmas party was also great fun and they were able to meet Father Christmas! The children also had the opportunity to fly a kite as part of our MC 48, last week. There was some fantastic perseverance from our children. We look forward to seeing you all in the new year. Happy Christmas!



### School Council Christmas Joke Competition

The school council have recently held a Christmas Joke competition with the children. The winners were announced and read out in our Christmas assembly today and can be found at the end of the newsletter. Enjoy reading them!



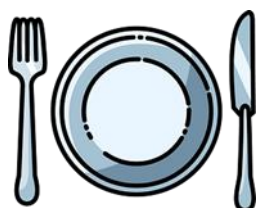
### Ofsted Parent view

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](http://www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk)

### 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](https://secure1.somerset.gov.uk/forms/PortalShowForm.asp?fm_formalias=freeschoolmeal)



### Hot meals parental feedback – A message from Mrs Hunt

Our onsite kitchen is now providing a hot meal for average 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.

### Sound, pitch and volume lesson with Year 4

On Monday morning, Miss Prater worked with the Year 4 children to discuss instruments and how we can change pitch and volume, linked to their science topic of 'Sound'.

Miss Prater was very impressed with what the Year 4 children already knew! She brought along some of her own instruments and shared the different ways in which we can change the pitch and volume. This included electrical and acoustic instruments.

Miss Prater shared a video of people playing the Harry Potter theme tune using only glasses of water! The children learnt that when a glass is filled with more water, it makes a higher pitch as the vibrations move much quicker. The children then worked with Miss Prater as a whole team to write our very own Christmas song!



### Year 5 visit to St Mary's

Year 5 visited Reverend Nick at St Mary's Church on Tuesday afternoon for a Christmas symbol treasure hunt followed by a question-and-answer session.

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](mailto:childrens@somerset.gov.uk)

## Chard Hockey Club

Chard Hockey Club are looking for new youth players. Please see the poster at the end of this newsletter for information.

## Remote learning in case of the need to close our school this winter

We are in the time of the year when the weather becomes unsettled and schools may require closing because of poor weather, treacherous driving conditions or heating failures. If we do require to shut the school at any point, work packs are available on our school website and can be printed at home.

<https://www.manorcourtcommunityprimary.co.uk/remote-learning-in-case-of-school-closure/>

Please do make sure that your child is equipped with the correct clothing for cold weather.



## 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.



### 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](mailto:contactfmca@gmail.com) or contact them through their Facebook page.

## Christingles at St Mary's Church

Our friends at St Mary's Church are holding two Christingles on Christmas Eve. The first Christingle service is at 16:00 and the final Christingle service is at 18:00. They will both be busy, so do get there early to find a seat. There is more information about the Christingles in the poster at the end of this newsletter.



### 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.

We would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.



Mr Luke Talmage  
Headteacher



Mr Alan Clode  
Deputy Headteacher and Inclusion Leader

# CHRISTMAS JOKE WINNERS!

What do you  
call an old  
snowman?

A puddle!

*Seren - year 5*

What does an  
elf use to read?

The elf-a-bet!

*Harlie - year 2*

KNOCK, KNOCK

Who's there?

ANNA

Anna who?

ANNA PARTRIDGE IN A PEAR TREE!

*kaecie - year 6*



Which reindeer  
has bad  
manners?

Rude-olf!

*Bernie - year 6*

What does a  
snowman like to  
drink at  
Christmas?

Iced tea!

*Gordon - year 6*

What do  
snowmen eat for  
breakfast?

Frosties!

*Amelia - year 5*  
*Thett - year 2*





**JOIN US**



**Come along and have some fun while raising money to help fund amazing experiences for the students at Manor Court.**

**Prize for the winning team, plus a raffle on the night.**

**Special welcome to our guest quiz master... Janet Morton**

**To book a table, please email [contactFMCA@gmail.com](mailto:contactFMCA@gmail.com)**

**Friday 31st January 2025**

**Doors open at 6pm for 6.30pm start**

**Adults £3.00 Children £1.50 Maximum of 6 per Team**

**Alcohol, soft drinks and snacks will be available.  
Only alcohol purchased onsite can be consumed.**

# Chard Hockey club

Junior Training for ages 7+

No experience  
needed and sticks  
available

Wednesdays 7-8pm  
Girls training

Thursdays 7-8pm  
Boys training

Contact: [welfare@chardhockeyclub.co.uk](mailto:welfare@chardhockeyclub.co.uk)



CHARD COMMUNITA  
**WAFLE**  
A PLACE FOR EVERYONE

# WARM MEALS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

*Starting from Tuesday the 10th of December we will be offering hot meals between 2:30pm- 4:30pm to help those who don't have access to warm and nutritious meals.*

*This is aimed at helping families and individuals have access to:*

- Nutritious food
- A warm space
- Friendly company
- Affordable filling meals

## PAY WHAT YOU CAN IF THAT IS NOTHING THAT IS OKAY

*Come along, enjoy a hot meal and connect with your community.  
Together, we're here for each other.*

*6a Holyrood Street Chard, Ta20 2ah  
Contact us on: 01460 497578*



The  
Children's  
Society



# Let's come together to **celebrate** **Christingle**

Christingle is a great way for communities everywhere to get together this Christmas to catch up, make some special memories, and have fun.

**Come and join us!**

St. Mary's Church, Chard

Christmas Eve

4pm and 6pm

[christingle.org](http://christingle.org)

Scan the  
QR code  
to find  
out more.





## Holiday Breakfast Scheme.



Holiday Breakfast Bags are back for the Christmas Holidays. Do you think it may help you and your family to start the day with a good solid breakfast?

We will give you a free, no questions asked bag/s, to last a week, which will contain everything that is needed, regardless of your family size.

Just turn up at the St Mary's Centre on  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> December  
8.00 - 10.00

Anyone from the family can come to pick them up.

Stay and join us if you would like for coffee and toast while you are here.



# FMCA



# Events Calendar

## 2024-2025

**23 Oct**

FMCA Annual General Meeting

**22 Nov**

Christmas Wreath Workshop

**03 Dec**

Break the Rules Day

**14 Dec**

Children's Table Decoration Workshop

**31 Jan**

Winter Quiz

**12 Feb**

Non School Uniform & Disco

**06 Mar**

World Book Day- Talmage Treat Bar

**28 Mar**

Easter Bingo

**16 May**

Colour Run

Other events TBC



# 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)         | <b>TOTAL = 195</b> |

| 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](mailto:childrens@somerset.gov.uk)

# **TOGETHER ON TUESDAY**

A club for primary school children  
and their parents, carers & siblings

**Join us for Crafts, Cooked Tea,  
Songs & Story**

New craft each week

Cooked tea provided

Short bible story and song

**Every Tuesday during term  
time**

**Starting the 10th September**

**3.30pm - 5pm**

**St Mary's Church rooms**

**THIS IS A FREE CLUB BUT DONATIONS ARE WELCOME**

# FREE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

FEATURING: LYME REGIS TOWN BAND



FREE  
ENTRY



**AXMINSTER GUILDHALL**  
**22ND DECEMBER 2024**  
**15:00**

TICKETS NEEDED FOR NUMBERS  
[WWW.AXMINSTER-GUILDHALL.CO.UK](http://WWW.AXMINSTER-GUILDHALL.CO.UK)

All profits made will support:  
 children's hospice SOUTH WEST & arc

Scan QR code for info and tickets

**PLYMLUG** presents  
**AXMINSTER BRICKTACULAR**

28th December 10am to 4pm  
 Axminster Guildhall, 5 West St, EX13 5NX



Axminster's first LEGO® charity event

Children's activities and prizes

A range of fantastic displays - Quiet session 10 to 11.30

This event is officially sponsored by Unique Displays, the perfect solution for your premium display needs  
 LEGO® is a trademark of the LEGO Group of companies which does not sponsor, authorize or endorse this group/event

# Christmas Eve Movie Night



Tuesday, December 24th

3 PM - 4:30 PM

Axminster Guildhall

£1 per ticket

(includes drink and mince pie)\*

\*see booking page for more details

[www.axminster-guildhall.co.uk](http://www.axminster-guildhall.co.uk)



# Activity Calendar

Community Inclusion  
and Activity Team

Christmas Holidays  
Saturday 21 Dec - 3 Jan 2025



Somerset  
Council



For ALL children and young people in Somerset with a disability or additional needs  
\*You DO NOT have to be referred to any service to access these activities, unless otherwise stated.

## SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER

### Wilderwoods

Wilderwoods Forest School, Drayton, TA10 0JZ. Midwinter Candlelit Celebration- Decorations, candles and songs in the woods with refreshments around the campfire afterwards. 3-6pm. For ages 0-16. £5 per child. £10 per family (max 1 adult and 3 children).

**To book, please call Hannah Aitken 07970 883264 or email [hannah@wilderwoods.org](mailto:hannah@wilderwoods.org)**



## SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

### In the Mix Project

The Hub Centre, Hartswell, South Street, Wiveliscombe TA4 2NE. A Christmas treat - Baking fudge and making chocolates, and truffles, christmas crafts and creating your own gift box. 10am-12:30pm. For ages 11-18. £2 per person.

**To book, please email Jemma. [lay@inthemixproject.org.uk](mailto:lay@inthemixproject.org.uk)**



## FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY

### Green Goblins Games Club

Riverside Church, The Exchange, Hamilton Rd, Taunton, TA1 2EQ. Tabletop games including Pokemon Trading Card Game, Board Games and D&D Roleplay Games. 6-10.30pm. For age 10+ (under 10s may attend when accompanied by a parent carer). £3 entry. First time free. Parent carers free.

**To book, please call Michael Ford on 07733066157 or email [email@greengoblinsgamesclub.co.uk](mailto:email@greengoblinsgamesclub.co.uk)**



## FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY

### Minehead Eye

1A Mart road, Minehead, Somerset, TA24 5BJ. include games, music, lights, lego and a water and sand tray activity area in our pod. The centre includes a café style space for parents. Children and parents can use both spaces throughout the 2 hour session. They will be supported and advised by our 2 qualified youth workers. One in each area. 3-5pm. For ages 0-10. £1 per family.

**To book, please email [reception@minehead-eye.co.uk](mailto:reception@minehead-eye.co.uk)**



## MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER

### Purple Elephant

The Assembly Rooms, Christchurch Street West, Frome BA11 1EB. Family holiday fun - Christmas party! With festive crafts, Santa and a hot meal followed by a silent disco. 10am-2pm. For all ages. £2 suggested donation per child but free to those on FSMs.

**To book, email [rebeccaharrison@purpleelephant.org.uk](mailto:rebeccaharrison@purpleelephant.org.uk)**



## THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY

### Community Inclusion Activity Team Family Day

Sanders Garden Centre, Brent Knoll, Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, TA9 4HJ.

In the festive Big Top prepare to be mesmerised by spinning fairies, elf on a shelf mischief, incredible aerialists, acrobats, rollerskaters, the heart stopping wheel of death and the adrenaline pumping motorbikes in the globe. Even Santa makes an appearance! Venue has a limited number of ear defenders which can be borrowed for the duration of the show, so please bring your own if you think you'll need them. Show includes flashing lights. 5:30-7:30pm. Please arrive at 5pm to allow time to be seated. For all ages. £5 per person. Under 2s free but will need to be seated on parent carer's lap. Please make payment by 13th December.

**To book, call 07977 412199 from 10am on Tuesday 3 December.**



## FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

### Neroche

Young Wood, Staple Fitzpaine TA3 5AZ. Seasonal Forest Activities. We will base the sessions on seasonal themes - ID trees, buds and leaves and look for animal tracks. We return for a snack/lunch and have some seasonal craft and play options with child led activities. Families will be asked to bring their own food, and we do a small campfire cooking activity. There are hot drinks 'on tap' for parent carers, and cold drinks are also available. 11am-2pm. For 2-18th birthday. £10 per family.

**To book, please email [sarah@nerochewoodlanders.org](mailto:sarah@nerochewoodlanders.org) or [info@nerochewoodlanders.org](mailto:info@nerochewoodlanders.org) or go to [www.nerochewoodlanders.org](http://www.nerochewoodlanders.org) or call Sarah Holdway on 07784 800641**



# XMAS ACTIVITY PACKS

### Step4ward-in2-growth

Christmas Activity Packs. Each pack will be focused on Christmas crafts, fun and fact, and I will include a letter to Santa kit in their activity packs, along with the tailor-made element. Hand delivered if local to Shepton Mallet or sent by Royal Mail. For ages 3-18th Birthday. £3 per pack.

**To order, please contact Becky on 07737 331174 or email [Step4ward-in2growth@mail.com](mailto:Step4ward-in2growth@mail.com)**


### Community Inclusion Activity Team

Winter' or 'Christmas' themed activity packs, containing arts & crafts, puzzles and more! £3 per pack, to be paid prior to delivery. Please ensure payment is made by 13 December.

**To order, please email [ciateam@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:ciateam@somerset.gov.uk) by 9 December with your child's name, age, nature of disability, address, phone number and where we can safely leave the pack if you're not in. Delivery w/c 16 December.**

**Children's Autism Outreach Team CAOT:** If you are known to CAOT please go to the Local Offer for more details or call your allocated CAOT worker for all CAOT holiday activities.

### Key for activities:

-  **Family Activity** - for all members of the family to attend and enjoy
-  **Child/Young person can attend on their own under group supervision or with parent/carer if additional 1:1 support is required** - please call the organisation to have a chat
-  **Child/young person must attend with a parent or carer**
-  **Staff provided by the organisation to support the child/young person 1:1 if required** - please call the organisation to see what they can provide as this may not include personal care
-  **Some parts of the activity are wheelchair accessible** please call the organisation to find out more
-  **Accessible changing facilities are available** please call the venue to find out more
-  **Activities aimed at young people/teenagers/young adults**

### Useful Information

**Who are the people offering the activities?** Organisations who have experience of working with children and young people with a disability or additional need and their families. Activities can be adapted to suit the children and young people who would like to attend. Please call them to chat about your child / young person's needs.

**Activities offered by the Community Inclusion and Activity Team** - Dependant on the child / young person needs, we can provide a day out without parent / carer as we offer group supervision. If it is the first time your child / young person has accessed a trip with our team, a parent / carer will need to attend. We require payment a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the day. Please note, spaces for children and young people with a disability or additional need will be prioritised first, with spaces offered to siblings once bookings have closed if we have room. Online payment at [www.somerset.gov.uk/cwd](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/cwd)

**Don't forget our Activity Day Passes** - Available to ALL families in Somerset with a child or young person with a disability or additional need - Puxton Park, Noah's Ark, Abbotsbury, Ferne Animal Sanctuary, Hestercombe gardens, Court farm and Wild Place. Please email [CIATeam@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:CIATeam@somerset.gov.uk) to find out more or visit [www.somerset.gov.uk/cwd](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/cwd) to view the flyer.

**Max Card** - A FREE card for all children and young people with a disability or additional need in Somerset aged 0-25 years. This card can be used at many places all over the UK offering discounts and special rates when you show the card. Visit [www.mymaxcard.co.uk](http://www.mymaxcard.co.uk) for more info. Cards can ONLY be issued by Somerset County Council to people living in Somerset. Call 01823 358117 or email [ciateam@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:ciateam@somerset.gov.uk)

**If you would like help with the calendar and how to access activities** please email the team [ciateam@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:ciateam@somerset.gov.uk)