



Apple Tree Press



Manor Court Primary School

Edition 2

December 2024



Manor Court Choir performed at Wells Cathedral.

Our Second Edition arrives just in time for the Christmas holidays, although Christmas came early to Manor Court when the snow came and since then the festive feelings haven't stopped. There is always a lot of planning involved to make sure that everything goes well.

So far we've had 2 Nativities, 2 Carol services, 2 Christmas Dinners, decorated Christmas trees for the Christmas tree festival and had a Living Nativity on the School Field. The Choir have performed at Wells Cathedral as well as being very busy out and about in our community. Drama Club have filmed a Christmas music video and plans are underway for the Christmas parties.

On Manor Court's Vimeo account you can find videos that are added daily, they feature staff members acting as celebrities. Every year the elves make mischief, find out about their antics later on in the paper.

At Manor Court we have lots of traditions that we all can't wait to celebrate!



In This Edition

Festive Fun



Poetry with Clive



We talk Fundraising with the FMCA



A step back in fashion



Chard Poet Visits Manor Court.

Local Poet and veteran Clive Sanders has made 3 visits to Manor Court this term. On Remembrance Day Clive joined us for our assembly and read out one of his poems that he had written.

Clive then visited again to spend time with year 5 and 6 for poetry workshops as part of the Never Such Innocence poetry competition.

Clive talked to us about his experiences in the armed forces and explained that poetry helps him to work through the emotions and feelings that he has from having experienced war and conflict.

Clive's poems are mainly about war and the military. He has published books of his poems.

“ When writing poetry remember that no-other person has written or pieced the same words and phrases together like you. “

Clive Sanders

Did you know?

Clive was a mace bearer for Chard Town Council.



Clive is the poet in residence for the charity Never Such Innocence. The charity began as a first world war commemoration project but has grown expanding across the world and all conflicts. It seeks to unite children across the world through art and poetry.

Vision: Giving the world's children and young people a voice on conflict.

Mission: To provide tools for children and young people to reflect on the realities of war and conflict. Never Such Innocence is nurturing the next generation of thinkers, leaders and peace keepers through the arts; inspiring cultural exchange and dialogue.



Clive realised that other people could understand his feelings and memories that he put into his poetry and it could help others as-well as himself.

Clive encourages young people to write their hearts.

“ I teach them to use beautiful or powerful words about things that they love or hate and to use their words to have a profound effect on those who hear or read them. “

Did you know?

*Clive tries to write a poem a day.
“Poetry is a form of art and I like my words to touch an emotion. “*

Creative writing club have also been inspired.

Autumn

Autumn Weather
Umbrellas are up
Turquoise Skies
Under the Trees
Muddy Puddles
Nippy Winds

Zara

One of the poems produced after our workshops with Clive.

The War

I see sadness
People loose lives
All alone she sits
In the corner thinking
About home.
Bombs outside
Headaches inside
Just want peace
But that unfortunately,
That can't
Be done.
Sometimes people sacrifice their life
Because of the bombs
Or shooting
And more.
Bombs outside and she
Sits alone in the corner
Inside crying about home.
She does not speak, not even a peep
No noises come from her.
Loved ones die

Families are heartbroken.
I see poppies rising in the
Fields and roses dying.
There is a girl trying to
Send a message to her country
To stop wars.
The dove is going
To the world.
GO FLY BIRD.

The leaders can't stop wars
But they can try to stop wars
By convincing people to stop them.
Always remember your heart
Your heart and their heart
And people love you.

Anaya

Year 6 made £5 grow with their very first Christmas Market!

Each group had to complete a Dragon's Den pitch to Mr Talmage and Sue Wakeman our chair of Governors.

“We worked in teams and thought about what items we could make and sell at the Christmas Market. In our teams we had to work out what we needed and how much it would cost. We did market research by asking teachers around school how much they would pay for items in shops so we could see what profit we could make.”

Groups made candles, wax melts, sweet cones, marshmallow snowmen, Christmas themed masks and many more things!



The money raised goes towards an end of year treat for our year 6's in their last week at Manor Court.



Storms Burt and Daragh can't stop the build! Work continues on our new classrooms.



THE FMCA

We interviewed 2 members of the FMCA, Friends of Manor Court Association. Mrs. Bagg and Mrs. Birks, who also works at Manor Court, talked to us about the role of the FMCA.

The FMCA raises money to provide special experiences, resources and all of the add extras that help to enrich our school days.

“ We believe you should all have the best school experiences and we want the best for all of you. We provide the things that school can’t, we fill in the gaps! “

What do the FMCA do from day to day?

In the day to day running they have to check the emails! Prepare for events that are coming up, check they have correct licenses for events, prepare posters, liase with Mr Talmage and most importantly buy stock for the disco tuck shop! Some members have specific roles within the FMCA such as secretary and treasurer.



What made you want to be part of the FMCA?

Mrs. Bagg joined the FMCA because she wanted to help her children’s school and to give them experiences that they otherwise wouldn’t have.

Mrs. Birks joined 8 year ago when her son was at Manor Court. Back then the FMCA only had 4 people meaning that they couldn’t really do much to help the school. It has since grown and has many members.

Highlights

The FMCA has had many highlights over the past few years. Mrs Birks’ favourite being the mosaics each child in the school helped to create. There are three in the school, the two bigger ones being in the Ks1 and Ks2 playgrounds and the third (which is a bit smaller) is in the front office. They took over 3 days to complete with every child in the school helping!

Another favourite is the Summer Fete which was after covid, and raised an amazing £3000.



Our recent break the rules day raised money for the FMCA.

Exclusive!

Manor Court's First Ever Colour Run will be taking place in May next year organised by the FMCA. Every child who attends Manor Court, from year 1 to year 6, will be taking part.



THANKYOU TO OUR AMAZING FMCA TEAM FOR ALL THAT YOU DO.

Did you know?
Our Christmas Dinners were paid for by the FMCA. They were delicious.

“ I would absolutely recommend being a part of the FMCA. We are a lovely bunch of ladies who are all working together to help out children at Manor Court. We quite often meet up at a local pub and share all of our ideas and work on our exciting plans for the next school year. We are always looking for new members to bring fresh ideas and to get involved. It's a really great way for parents to meet other parents within the school. Being able to have your say on experiences for the school and how we fundraise is an important part to the role. “

Mrs Bagg



TO BECOME A PART OF THE FMCA YOU MUST BE A PARENT OF A CHILD IN MANOR COURT SCHOOL.

YOU CAN CONTACT THE FMCA USING THIS EMAIL ADDRESS (CONTACTFMCA@GMAIL.COM) OR BY GOING TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE WHERE YOU'LL FIND A RED POST BOX SAYING FMCA ON IT.

YOU CAN POST YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION INTO THE POST BOX WHERE IT WILL BE COLLECTED BY A MEMBER OF THE FMCA.

IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS OR IDEAS FOR FUNDRAISING PLEASE DO PUT THEM IN THE POST BOX.

SPORTS ROUND UP!

IT'S BEEN A BUSY TERM WITH LOTS OF SPORTS.



Football

Football is one of the most popular sports in the world. On the occasion of the Euro's in 2024 as classes we all got to dress up as an international team and paraded around the field to a round of applause. This is the closest we thought we'd get to a tournament but then some of us went to Bucklers Mead School for one! Both boys and girls teams went and destroyed the opposition.....ok maybe not destroyed but we had fun! The boys went on the coldest day and our fingers got very cold! The girls did well on their day and came second out of all the schools attending!

Cross Country At Holyrood School

Pupils were chosen from year 4,5 and 6 to go to Holyrood School and compete in the races. We went in order of year groups with the year 4s going first. We were incredibly proud of how well we had done and our highest finishing position was 3rd. It was a muddy afternoon and very chilly especially for the person whose shoe fell off!



Dodge-ball at Chard School

SOME OF OUR YEAR 5 AND 6 S ENJOYED AN AFTERNOON OF DODGEBALL AT CHARD SCHOOL. WE HAD GREAT FUN AND IMPROVED OUR SKILLS.

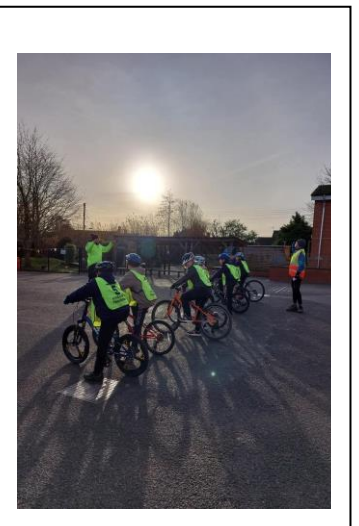


GET ON YOUR BIKE

Ten year 5 pupils completed their level 2 bike-ability course this term.

Did you know that cycling is really good exercise and lots of fun.

Always cycle safely and wear a helmet.



“Sports teaches you character, it teaches you to play by the rules, it teaches you to know what it feels like to win and lose-it teaches you about life.”

Billie Jean King



Question time with.....

Milly Whitefield

Milly Whitefield visited Manor Court and spent time telling us about her career as a costumer with The Royal Shakespear Company. We learnt lots about her profession and costume making- we also had fun trying on neck ruffs which were used in the olden days so the dirt from their face wouldn't rub on to their clothes, preventing them having to wash their clothes a lot.

What inspired you to get into costume making?

I loved watching movies and looking at the different costumes that people wore. I really wanted to be able to get involved and be able to say that I made some of them.

Do you have to do lots of research?

We have lots of books that we refer to that have drawings of costumes from history. Quite often designers will use the historical items as inspiration for their designs.



Do you have a favourite costume era?

I'm currently working on a woman's costume from the 1700s / 18th century which is definitely my favourite. Lots of big skirts and very decorative.

What advice would you give to anyone wanting to have a career in costume making?

I would say do a lot of sewing, practice with different types of stitches. It's good to visit lots of museums. You can find ways to be inspired from what you see.

What is the most challenging part of making a costume?

It's different for different costumes, making buttons for specialized pieces is always tricky. The fabrics are the most challenging

How long does the design and making process take?

The designer will be given a brief months before a piece is required. They research the style and materials and produce a plan. It can take 3 weeks to put a costume together.

What costume challenge would you like to do next.

I would like to do more competitions. There were 70 people that entered the competition that I competed in with 4 finalists, of which I was the winner.



Milly has made costumes worn by Ade Edmonson, Helena Bonam Carter and Matthew Baynton, who you may know as Charles II in Horrible Histories!

Everyone that I work with laughs at me because even during my lunchbreaks I will do some sewing! So alongside doing costumes for shows I do like to keep practicing my cutting skills and historical knowledge.

Elf Antics...

How the Elves arrived at Manor Court.

On Monday 2nd December 10 cheeky elves arrived at Manor Court School. From EYC to year 6 the elves caused trouble. Whether it was hanging from class bannisters or climbing in the trees Santa's helpers have been causing a commotion. Although they are now making themselves at home, the trouble making elves did not have an easy journey and this is how it began.....

Santa was polishing his sleigh, ready for his present delivery mission, when he ran out of soapy water, (the Elves had used it for their bubble baths!) Santa asked Buddy and Betty to go get some more.

"Me and Betty are strong enough to carry that bucket!" Exclaimed Buddy.

Santa rolled his eyes and sent 8 other elves to go help and make the journey to the Golden Sink. When they had finally finished the long hike to the Golden Sink, Alfonzo chucked the bucket onto the drying rack and turned the hot tap on.

You can tell Alfonzo is the naughty one can't you!

The bucket was nearly half full, it had only taken 20 minutes, so Sparkles squeezed washing up liquid into the bucket, just like a slip and slide, she fell in! All the other elves tried to help Sparkles get out but they all fell in too! That's when the magic happened just like In Mary Poppins the bucket turned into a snowstorm and delivered them to Manor Court.

They were greeted by Mr Talmage who explained to all the elves that Manor Court needed some Christmas cheer and could they help to bring the magic of Christmas to all the children. They all agreed to stay till the end of term and that's when they took on the role of Manor Court's cheeky elves. If you look carefully, but don't touch, you can find them around the classrooms!

Eden.



Did you know?

Before they can become Santa's helpers all elves have to go to school in the North Pole.

At school they learn wood-work which helps them to make toys, science so they mix the right amount of magic dust and maths, so they don't loose count of the billions of presents that they have to wrap.



We are Warriors!

What are Eco Warriors?

Eco Warriors are people who take care of our planet and do all sorts of magnificent stuff to make it safer for our wildlife. Mrs Burns leads our fabulous Eco-Warrior team as well as our after school Eco-Clubs.

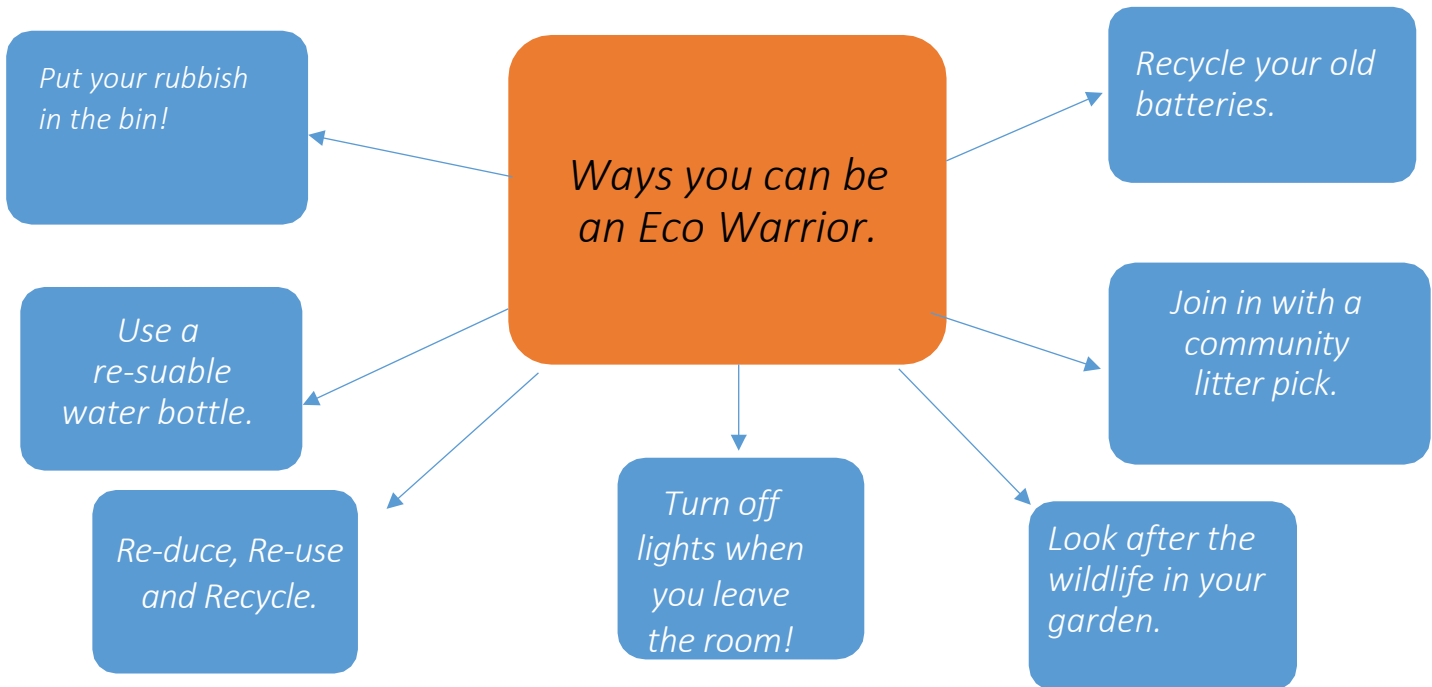
What do Eco-Warriors actually do?

Eco-Warriors find ways around school to be more environmentally friendly, such as reminding people to pick up their litter, turning off lights and recycling. We also help to make homes for all the wildlife at Manor Court. We make bug houses, hedgehog homes and bird feeders.

Our Eco-Code

Manor Court School Eco Warriors

- Encourage everyone to keep our school clean and tidy.
- Check taps are turned off to save water.
- Off go the lights when not in use.
- Wildlife- lets encourage it!
- Always put rubbish in the bin.
- Reduce the amount of junk you eat.
- Respect our environment.
- It's our world – Protect it!
- Our School needs your help.
- Reduce, re-use and recycle
- Save our World!



Cut out Christmas
Cards

All you've got to do is cut it and fold

Have a
wonderful Christmas!

From

To



Christmas is all about being jolly and happiness, so here are some jokes and puzzles to bring you Christmas cheer!

Christmas Wordsearch

L	C	L	L	A	M	I	N	C	E	P	I	E	S
R	S	A	D	A	T	N	A	S	A	T	Y	E	N
T	T	T	R	S	R	E	S	E	L	I	M	E	B
T	R	E	E	R	T	E	E	G	S	T	L	F	E
A	I	L	R	S	O	H	U	E	E	R	K	A	L
S	S	A	T	E	L	T	L	Y	T	A	N	N	L
S	L	E	T	L	I	B	S	K	M	S	S	T	S
E	M	E	E	E	U	N	S	L	E	S	N	I	T
M	L	I	I	A	E	A	D	T	L	E	O	N	T
A	L	F	B	G	C	E	K	E	A	L	T	E	E
S	T	L	T	H	H	L	S	R	E	R	L	T	K
S	O	Y	S	E	I	K	O	O	C	R	E	O	S
A	Y	R	E	M	S	P	R	E	S	E	N	T	E
O	S	S	S	C	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S

- ELF
- TREE
- TOYS
- CARROTS
- BAUBLES
- STAR
- TINSEL
- BELLS
- COOKIES
- PRESENT
- MINCEPIES
- SLEIGH
- SANTA
- CHRISTMAS
- REINDEER
- MILK

Have some fun with our Christmas Wordsearch.

What did the snowman say to the aggressive carrot??
Get out of my face!

Which reindeer has the worst manners?
Rude-olf!

What do you call a reindeer with no eyes?
No idea!

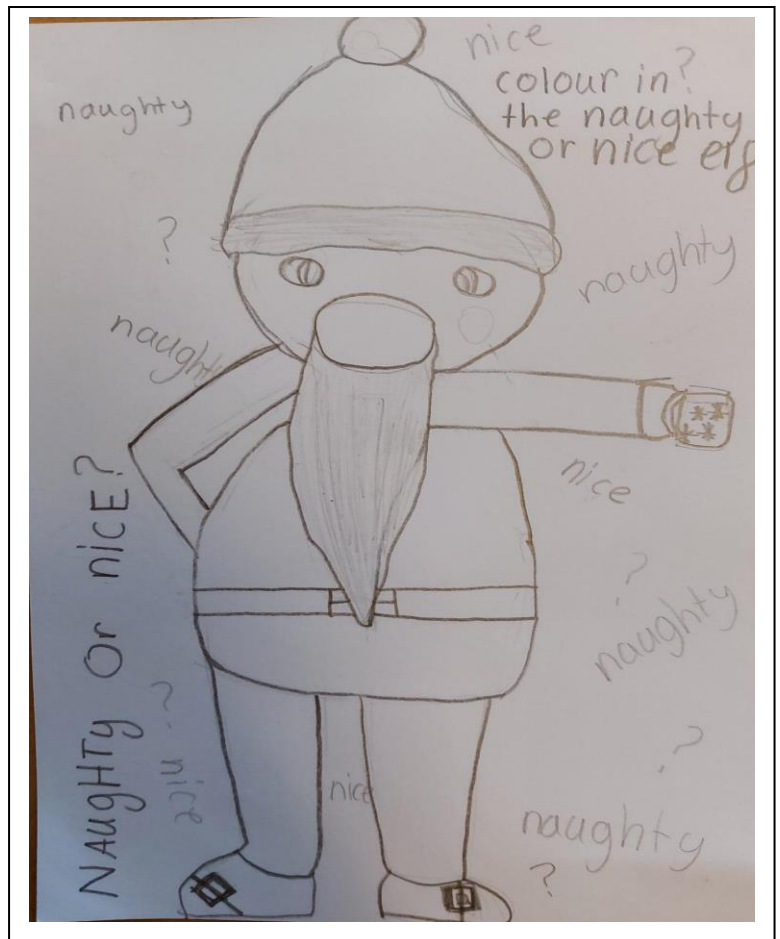
What do you call a reindeer with no eyes and no legs?
Still no idea!

Our Favourite Fun Fact!

The Poo Log

During Christmas in Spain, they have a log called Tio De Nadal, The Christmas log. It is hollow and in the days up to Christmas it is kept warm and filled with scraps of food.

Once it has been fed enough on Christmas Eve you hit it with a stick and sing it a song and it poops out presents!



Whats an Elf's favourite music?
Wrap!

Favourite Christmas Traditions

“When my daughter was still a baby we went to the pantomime. We liked it so much that we now go every year! “

Mrs Bagg

“I enjoy the Christmas Eve church service followed by a hot chocolate and watching the Polar Express!”

Mrs Glentworth

“Making a gingerbread house with my children.”

Mrs Lane

“Opening presents with my Children.”

Mrs Hunt

“Having lots of friends over the first weekend in December for a big Christmas party. Everyone comes from all over the country.

Mrs Morton

“Christmas day is busy for us as we go and visit lots of family and friends, so we have a rule on Christmas eve! All of my family stays at home together and we play board games, make a gingerbread house and other fun Christmassy things!! “

Mrs Birks

“I love that when we get up on Christmas morning we go out for a walk then pop in the pub on the way home for a Christmas drink! “

Milly Whitefield

“Putting the tree up and having a Christmas party!”

Ms Harris

“Going for a family walk.”

Miss Brooks

We asked lots of people about their favourite christmas songs.

Mrs Bagg – Last Christmas by Wham Mrs Brookes – Fairy tale of New York

Milly Whitefield – Feels like Christmas from The Muppets Christmas Carol. “When I was a child one of my dreams was to make costumes for the muppets!”

Miss Rinaldi – It was on a starry night. Mrs Morton – Marys Boy Child

Ms Harris – I wish it could be Christmas every day!

Last Christmas is a favourite among the Apple Tree Press team, although Kitty’s is a song called “Santa got run over by a reindeer!”.

Whats your favourite?

SCHOOL COUNCIL'S
CHRISTMAS JOKE WINNERS

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



What does a
snowman like to
drink at
Christmas?

Iced tea!

Gordon - year 6

What do
snowmen eat for
breakfast?

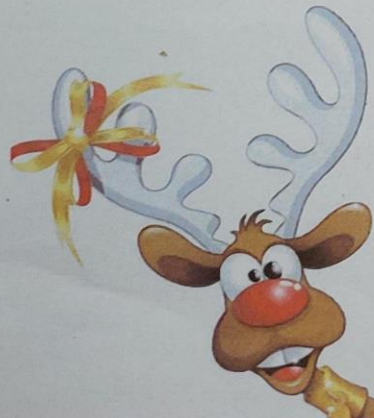
Frosties!

Amelia - year 5
Thett - Year 2

Which reindeer
has bad
manners?

Rude-olf!

Bernie - year 6



The Press Team

THANKYOU FOR READING THE 2ND EDITION OF THE APPLE TREE PRESS. ALL ROLES WITHIN THE PRESS TEAM HAVE BEEN FULFILLED BY 16 OF MANOR COURT'S YEAR 5 AND 6 PUPILS. THEY HAVE RESEARCHED AND FACT CHECKED ARTICLES, PREPARED AND CARRIED OUT INTERVIEWS, CREATED PUZZLES, TAKEN PHOTOS, PUT TOGETHER FINISHED ARTICLES AND BEEN INVOLVED IN ALL ASPECTS OF CREATING THIS FOR YOU.

THE PRESS TEAM ARE:

NADIA, EDEN, GORDON, BERNIE, AMELIA, EVIE, TOBY, AMELIA, DARCI, KITTY, NOAH, MIYA, FRANCISCA, LOGAN, FREYA & LACIE.

IF YOU HAVE ANY STORIES OR EVENTS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN THE PAPER PLEASE TALK TO ONE OF THE TEAM, OR CONTACT MANOR COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL.