



Key Dates

May 2025	
Friday 23 rd May	Last Day of this half term
June 2025	
Monday 2 nd June	Children & Staff return to school after the half term holidays
Friday 6 th June	Y4 Rocksteady Day
Wednesday 11 th June	Y2 to Noah's Ark Zoo
Tuesday 17 th June	Summer Show #1 at Holyrood Academy - Tickets on sale now
Wednesday 18 th June	Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 Tennis coaching with Chard Tennis Club
Thursday 19 th June	Summer Show #2 at Holyrood Academy - Tickets on sale now
Friday 20 th June	Y1 trip to Sidmouth

Sports Day – A message from Mr Johnson

Our KS1 and KS2 Sports Days were a vibrant celebration of energy and enthusiasm! Our young athletes took part in a variety of exciting events, showing off their determination, skills and team spirit throughout the day. It was wonderful to see the children so engaged and eager to take part.



From thrilling sprints and long jumps to the ever-popular bean bag toss, each event tested different skills — from speed and strength to coordination and focus. Cheers from friends, family and staff added to the electric atmosphere as children gave their best efforts in every challenge.



The obstacle course and classic egg and spoon race brought smiles, laughter and a few wobbly eggs! These fun-filled activities wrapped up a memorable day where perseverance, enjoyment and school spirit took centre stage. Well done to all our fantastic participants!

Overall Results

1 st Place	Gifford with 756 points
2 nd Place	Gillingham 749 points
3 rd Place	Bondfield 743 points
4 th Place	Stringfellow 739 points

This is an incredibly close set of results. Congratulations to all the children who took part in the various events and congratulations to Gifford our overall winners!

Holiday Breakfast Bags

Our friends at St Mary's and The Lords Larder are offering free breakfast bags that will last the entirety of next weeks half term holiday. Please see the poster at the end of this brief newsletter for more information.



FMCA Colour Run

Last Friday the FMCA held their first sponsored coloured run on the school field. This event was enjoyed by each child who loved the thrill of running around the field and having coloured paint safely thrown at them by the Y6 children, staff and members of the FMCA. Another highlight of the afternoon was witnessing Mrs Terry, Mr Clode and Mr Talmage being covered in brightly coloured gunge!

The event was a great success raising over £700 (after the costs of holding the event) towards providing those added extras for the Manor Court children.

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.

Class LSA and SEN LSA vacancies and Apprentice LSA role

We are looking to recruit an LSA, SEN LSA and apprentice LSAs (to start training towards their qualification and employment) with us from September.

Please see the adverts and apprenticeship poster for further information at the end of this newsletter. For the apprenticeship you must apply via the Government hyperlink below.

The role can be found through this hyperlink:

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/VAC1000319052>



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Y4 Trip to the cricket

Year 4 enjoyed their morning at The County Ground last Friday and watching Somerset play Sussex in the first day of the four-day County match.



Year 6 advance warning – A message from the Year 6 team



The final term in Year 6 is full of exciting events. We will write to you with further details nearer the time, but here are some key dates for your diaries.

1. Thursday 26th June Y6 school play performance to families at 1.30pm and 6pm.
2. Monday 30th June - Wednesday 2nd July Y6 residential to Okehampton.
3. Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th July Transition Days to Holyrood.
4. Tuesday 15th July Y6 leaving party (in school time).
5. Thursday 17th July at 9.15am Leavers assembly to parents.

G.R.A.B Reptiles and bugs

G.R.A.B Reptiles and bugs visited on Wednesday morning and Year 4 were very brave and held or stroked them.



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.

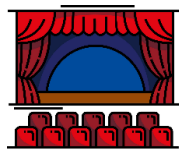
Year 5 Poetry workshop with Clive Saunders

Clive Sanders, veteran and poet, led a D-Day poetry workshop with Year 5 this morning. Some of the children will present their poems on the 6th June at a special event at Chard Guildhall held by the Town council.



Chard Hockey Club

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



The Summer Show

The 2025 Summer Show will be held at Holyrood Academy on Tuesday 17th June and Thursday 19th June. As per usual, tickets will be available on Eventbrite and are now on sale with all proceeds being placed into our creative arts budget to provide additional enrichment opportunities for each of the children who attend our school in the next academic year. Please see the letter

that was sent home last Friday for more information about this wonderful evening of entertainment provided by our children.

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.



Sun Safety

We have enjoyed some warm and sunny weather recently and we are all hopeful that it may continue. Can you please help us to keep your children safe in the sunshine and hot weather by applying sun cream before school, sending them into school with a sun hat and plenty of water-based drinks to last throughout the day.

Items from home – A message from Mr Talmage

Can I please clarify our approach to inclusive aids, such as noise reducing headphones, toys and pencil cases/crayons and pens from home etc.

Unless Mr Clode, or I, have given consent children are not to use, or bring from home: noise reducing headphones, fiddle toys, pencil grips or any other educational aid as we have the correct items to give to children in accordance with their need. Please do speak to Mr Clode, or I if you need clarification about this.

Children are not to bring toys, or personal writing or drawing equipment from home and if they do, I have asked the staff to confiscate it until the end of the school day as this will prevent items from 'going missing'.

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



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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 2025? We are looking for more adults who can spend time listening to our children to 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 would like to find out more information, please contact the school office to speak to me, Mrs Terry (Assistant Headteacher), or Mrs Hunt (Business Manager).



Healthy snacks at Play Times – A message from Mrs Terry

We encourage each pupil at Manor Court to lead a healthy lifestyle. At play times, we provide all of our Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils with fruit or vegetables and all pupils have the option of eating a bagel as part of our 'Magic Breakfast' scheme. If you provide your child with snacks that do not fall into the fruit or vegetable category, these will be kept in their bags or lunch boxes to be eaten at lunch times. Wrapper-type snacks at break times also lead to unwanted litter if not placed into the bins provided.

Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns regarding our healthy option break times. Further information can also be found at

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/food-facts/healthier-snacks>



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. I have 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.

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. Please remember that the school provides free parking permits for parents to park in Sainsbury's carpark at the start and end of the day.

The Community Fridge – A message from Miss Gregory (Early Intervention Officer)

The Community Fridge is for everyone in Chard and the local area to use without referral. It is open, when there is food available, at set times and is staffed by a team of volunteers. The fridge is based in the front room, of Chard's Community Hub (in the old library in Boden Street) and there are also shelves of food in the food room which is at the back of the premises. Items here include dried food, tins, toiletries, pet food, and some baby food. We also have freezers which can have donations from stores and local shops for people to help themselves to. Please see the poster at the end of this newsletter that explains the times that the Hub and Fridge are open.

Hot meals parental feedback – A message from Mrs Hunt

Our onsite kitchen is now providing a hot meal for average over 200 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.



SEN Support and Parent Carer Forum – A message from Mr Clode

We have been made aware that there are groups in the community that are supporting parents of children with SEND and additional needs. Whilst we would hope the majority are there to help and support, we have been told that some are giving misleading advice and we have even been informed of some parents being asked for money for advice on a case-by-case basis.

If you have any questions around, SEND or additional needs, or need any advice or signposting, please do not hesitate to speak to me at school or contact the Somerset Parent Carer Forum for professional independent advice.

Please do note that we also host regular well-attended Parent Carer Forums with a welcoming and supportive group of parents and led by independent professionals.

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Attendance our school expectations – A message from Miss Gregory

Pupil attendance and punctuality is a key focus and priority within our school. Individual attendance is 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.

**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 Deputy Designated Safeguard leads are Miss Gregory, Mrs Terry, and Mr Talmage. Safeguarding and Child Protection Governor is Mrs Sue Wakeman.

The school

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.



Celebration Assemblies

Family members are very welcome to join us at our EYFS & KS1 and KS2 celebration assembly on Friday's. Our assemblies are held every week apart from when we do require the school hall for a whole school event.

After half term the order of the assemblies will change again. The KS2 Assembly will start at 8:50 in the school hall and the EYFS and KS1 Assembly will start at 10:40 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.



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



Foundation Stage Teddy Hospital

Foundation Stage had a wonderful time at 'Teddy Hospital' on Wednesday led by Mark Carter from the NHS.

They enjoyed learning about the different careers within a hospital. The teddies represented a range of patients that the hospital may treat. These included a hearing impairment, a broken leg and arm, an eye patch, and swallowing a small object. The children also were able to use and wear some hospital equipment such as a stethoscope, bandage a torch and scrubs. A wonderful time was had by all to finish

our 'People who help us' topic.

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The FMCA needs you!

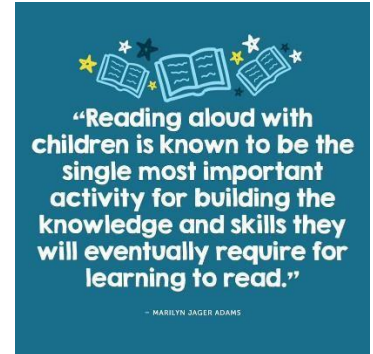
The FMCA is a group of parent volunteers who spend time raising money (whilst having fun) for activities or equipment to be used for the children in the school. The work that they do is vital, and the committee needs more volunteers to help them achieve more for the children.

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.

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 an especially 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.



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

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

The cost-of-living crisis is hitting some hard and we have all noticed that 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 and is based in the Chard Community Hub in Boden Street.

Thank you for your ongoing support and we hope that you have an enjoyable half term holiday.

Mr Luke Talmage
Headteacher

Mr Alan Clode
Deputy Headteacher and Inclusion Leader



Holiday Breakfast Scheme.



Holiday Breakfast Bags are back For the Half Term Holiday

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
Saturday 24th May 2025
8am to 10am**

Anyone from the family can pick them up. Stay and join us if you would like for coffee and toast while you are here.

The children's clothes bank will also be open!





Teaching Assistant Apprenticeship

As a Teaching Assistant Apprentice you will be working alongside an experienced LSA to support in a class where there are children with additional needs.

There are numerous roles available so it could be from Foundation to Year Four.

Location: Chard

Working week: Monday – Friday, 8:45-3:15. Term time only

Total hours per week: 30.00

Annual wage: £9853.00
This equates to an apprenticeship wage of £7.55 per hour.

Level and expected duration:
Level 3, 15 months.

Call SS&L for more information / apply online

0330 332 7997 [sslcourses.co.uk](https://www.sslcourses.co.uk)

SS&L CHANGING LIVES THROUGH LEARNING





Community Fridge

Monday

2pm to 4pm

Tuesday

Closed

Wednesday

10.30am to
12.30pm

Thursday

10am to
midday

Friday

4pm to
5.30pm

Saturday

Closed

Sunday

Closed

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



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*



Pre-loved School Uniform Sale & Swaps



Swap,
don't
shop!

Stay and
play
sessions

Chard Community Hub, Boden Street, TA20 2AX

Friday 30 May, 9.30am to 11.30am

Friday 25 July, 9.30am to 11.30am

Friday 15 August, 9.30am to 11.30am

Primary & secondary sizes | PE kit | Study guides | Raising funds for CCH CIC and Holyrood PTFA | Pay what you can

For more info: tgreynolds@holyrood.bep.ac

Kindness | Collaboration | Positivity

PROJECT FOOD



FREE RECIPE
BAG TO
TAKE HOME



FREE FAMILY COOKING

Registered Charity 1173120



Chard Baptist Church, Holyrood St, Chard

Tues 27 May & Thurs 29 May
10.30am - 1pm



In association
with Abri Homes
for their tenants
and families on a
low income

Booking is essential and spaces are limited.
Contact Project Food to book your place.
T: 01297 631782 E: info@project-food.org.uk

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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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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