

Dear Parents and carers



## Autumn Term Newsletter 1 – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024

### Key Dates

September 2024	
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> September	After School enrichment club programme begins
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	King Hal Day – For children in Year 2 to Year 6
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Visit from Rebecca Wilde – Paris 2024 Bronze Medal Olympian
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	Tempest Photographs – Please see separate message via ParentPay
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church
October 2024	
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Cross Country event at Holyrood Academy
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents Evening – Further details to follow.

### Welcome back

We hope that you all had a very happy and safe holidays, we have missed you! A huge welcome back to our children who have attended our school prior to the start of this school year and a very warm welcome to our new Foundation Stage children and any other child who has joined us since we have returned. We extend this warm welcome to each member of the family and look forward to building a long and positive relationship with you.



### After school enrichment clubs – A message from Mr Clode

We are delighted that our after-school enrichment club offer starts again next week. 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.

### Year 6 London Trip



Today our Year 6 children are enjoying a brilliant day in London visiting the House of Parliament, the House of Lords, viewing the sights of London on The London Eye and learning more about British Democracy and British Values. The children and staff left school at 06:20am arriving in London (after their comfort break at Fleet Services) at around 10:45am. The tour and workshop were informative and engaging, with many moments of awe and wonder for the children and adults. We hope that the coach will arrive back at school for around 20:30 as planned.

### King Hal

We are delighted to have a visit from Mike Farey ('King Hal') next Wednesday (Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September) to all children in Year 2 to Year 6. King Hal is a funny and informative Henry VIII actor who specialises in providing day long workshops to primary aged children. This is not a 'dress up' or non-school uniform day so children can come to school as normal. If your child is in Year 5, they will not have PE on this day and will need to wear their normal school uniform.



### Celebration Assemblies

Family members are very welcome to join us at our KS1 (not Foundation Stage until after half term) and KS2 celebration assembly each Friday. KS1 Assembly will start at 08:50 in the school hall and KS2 Assembly will start at 10:50 in the school hall. After half term the order of the assemblies' swap and KS2 is first thing in the morning and KS1 is after the children's morning break.

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.

### Harvest Festival

We are looking forward to taking the children to our first visit of the school year to St Mary's Church for our annual Harvest Festival Assembly on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September. This will be our first opportunity to meet the newly appointed vicar of St Mary's, Reverend Nick Jerrett.

The soon to be elected School Council will arrange collection of food products that will be donated to The Lord's Larder (Chard's food bank). If you would like to donate suitable items, please look at the list of items on the poster at the end of this newsletter and bring donations into school, to give to your class teacher, between Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September and Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September.



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)

## 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)

**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. The school Safeguarding

and Child Protection Governor is Mrs Sue Wakeman

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

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

## 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.

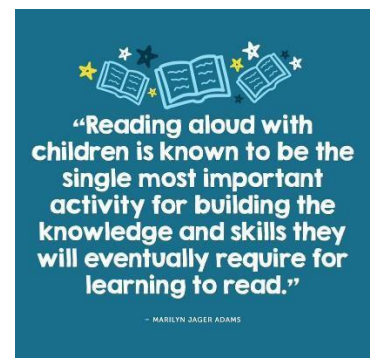


## Reading expectations – A message from Mrs Terry

At Manor Court Community Primary School, we seek to ensure that children are supported to be confident, lifelong learners with a love of reading. Reading plays a very important role in developing children culturally, emotionally, and socially and we believe literature plays a key role in such development. Reading enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and build on what they already know.

In school children in KS2 are heard reading on a 1:1 basis at least once a week by their class teacher and Learning Support staff and this is much more frequently in Foundation Stage and KS1. Those pupils not at an expected reading level are heard daily. The EYFS and Key Stage 1 reading books follow a clear progression of banding, ensuring fluency is developed. This academic year, you may find your child has a book sent home that they have already read at school, and this is something that is now promoted in all schools. The more a child reads, the larger their vocabulary becomes. When a child reads or hears the same book multiple times, they become familiar and comfortable with a greater number of words. Fluency is the ability to read text "accurately, quickly, and with expression."

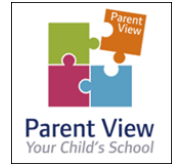
Repetitive reading allows a child to read without stumbling or stopping, and reading time becomes more pleasant for everyone. Once a child masters one book, it makes moving on to another more appealing. Reading comprehension is the ability to understand all the components of a story — from plot to character development to symbolism. Comprehension is "the essence" of reading. Each time your child reads or hears a book read to them; they learn more about the story itself. Each pass through the text or illustrations allows them to dive into the story's meaning, preparing them for more complex narratives down the road. Children who progress from the banded scheme to 'free readers' can access their class library, and the school library, and can be supported to select appropriate books by staff. Pupils are encouraged to take home fiction and non-fiction texts. Children are expected to read at home 5 times a week, ideally daily, as this helps to develop confident and fluent readers. We would recommend 20 minutes of reading a day. Children's reading logs are checked to ensure this is taking place. Where children are not reading the required amount in school, they are invited to attend a lunchtime reading club. There is also opportunity to read to a member of staff at Homework Club and After-school Club.



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)

## 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)



## 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.



### 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.

## Wrap around care booking reminder from the school office

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

Please may we remind you of the following booking deadlines:

After school care – 2.00 pm on the day.

Breakfast club – 2.00 pm the day before.

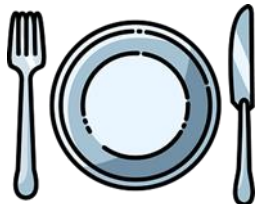
## Wrap around care telephone number

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.



## 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.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Luke Talmage  
Headteacher

Mr Alan Clode  
Deputy Headteacher and Inclusion Leader



# 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:	
<div style="width: 100%; height: 10px;"></div>	<b>School Holiday</b>
<div style="width: 100%; height: 10px;"></div>	<b>Bank Holiday</b>
<div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; border: 1px solid #004a86;"></div>	<b>Term Time</b>
<div style="width: 100%; height: 10px;"></div>	<b>Inset Days</b>

Term dates summary:	
<b>Term 1:</b> 03 September – 25 October 2024 (39 days)	
<b>Term 2:</b> 04 November – 20 December 2024 (35 days)	
<b>Term 3:</b> 06 January – 14 February 2025 (30 days)	
<b>Term 4:</b> 24 February – 04 April 2025 (30 days)	
<b>Term 5:</b> 22 April – 23 May 2025 (23 days)	
<b>Term 6:</b> 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.			

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**didi rugby has been devised to get young children active and to teach them new skills while having fun in a safe environment.**

**To find out more or for details on how to book, please see our socials**

- **Facebook: didi rugby Somerset**
- **Instagram: didirugbysomerset**

**or email: [ella.thomas@didirugby.com](mailto:ella.thomas@didirugby.com)**





# HARVEST FESTIVAL

Manor Court Primary School is  
accepting donations towards our  
Harvest Hamper for the Lords Larder.



We will really appreciate any tinned or packet  
grocery items. Please make sure all goods are well in  
date and are un-opened.

Donations can be sent into class with your child by  
September 27th. We will present the hamper during our  
Harvest Festival. Thank you.

**Manor Court School Council**

**9-14 yrs**

Pay what you choose  
Fully funded FSM/PP  
Sibling discount

## Chard SYT

Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard, TA20 1PP

Mondays @ 5.45pm - 6.45pm



[www.somersetyt.com](http://www.somersetyt.com)



[info@somersetyt.com](mailto:info@somersetyt.com)



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