

Dear Parents and carers



## Summer Term Newsletter 2– Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023

May 2023	
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Extra bank holiday for Kings Coronation – School closed for all children and staff
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 assessments begin
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Y3 Trip to Yeovil Town FC – English Workshop
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	End of KS2 assessments
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 trip to the Houses of Parliament
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 Enrichment week including residential to Huish Woods
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Last day of this half term
June 2023	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET Day school closed to all children
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	All children return to school for the final half term of this school year
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day – Further information to follow
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Reserve Date for Sports Day
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Y4 overnight residential to Wildwood
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Scarf Education Life Bus to visit all classes

### Bank Holiday for the coronation of King Charles III

The Government and Royal Family have announced that Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023 will be an additional Bank Holiday to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III which is happening on Saturday. **Our school will be closed to all children and staff on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023.**



### The Big Help Out in school

The children have thoroughly enjoyed volunteering in a variety of places within Chard this week as part of the Big Help Out. We were extremely grateful to our friends in other local organisations in Chard who opened their doors to the children and enabled them to complete some wonderful volunteering activities. The children have certainly been kept busy!



The Foundation Stage have busily volunteered in the pond area and getting it ready for Summer and the Coronation! They have planted vegetables, made bird feeders, and have even made a wonderful King Charles III scarecrow. We would like to say thank Mrs Hamilton (Miss Hamilton's mum) who has volunteered many of her own hours to help the children get the garden ready.

Bumblebee and Dragonflies class have volunteered their time this week to make greeting cards for the residents of Sunnymead. We are sure that when these cards are received, the residents will have a smile on their face.

Magpies and Nightingales spent Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon volunteering at Chard Museum. They completed activities such as weeding the patio, washing dirty fossils, moving artefacts and safely smashed slate. Luckily the sun was shining on both days and there was enough time for a quick break, where the children were kindly treated to drinks and homemade sausage rolls.



Owls, Kingfisher, Foxes and Badgers children returned to OakLodge this week and sang to and enjoyed reading to and playing board games to the residents. One of the residents, a 102-year-old lady named Olive, happily shared with the children her memories of the coronation of the late Queen Elizabeth II. Pre-Covid visiting



OakLodge was always a wonderful opportunity for the children and the residents and is something that we will continue to do on a regular basis with the children who attend our school as we strongly believe that multi-generational relationships are important for everyone.

A number of Y3 children completed their volunteering at St Mary's Church on Tuesday lunchtime and volunteered at the community lunch. The children served the food to those in attendance, washed up and packed away afterwards. We were delighted to receive a lovely email complementing the children on their great service and polite manners during their time volunteering.

The children in Y4 and Y6 will complete their volunteering for the Big Help Out on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May.

## End of KS2 assessments

These assessments start on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May and all Y6 children will be expected to attend school throughout this week and can join us early each morning for a free breakfast with their friends, please see the letter that was recently sent home via ParentPay, this can also be found in the letter section of the school website for more information about this important week.



## Sun Safety

The weather has started to warm up (finally!) and the sun is becoming stronger as Summer approaches. Please do apply suncream to your child before the school day and ensure that they have a named water bottle with plenty of fluids and a named sunhat with them to wear on the playground or field during the morning and lunchtime break.

## Punctuality

We have noticed that some children are persistently arriving at school later than the time that they should be. Please do ensure that you are arriving each morning on time to ensure that your child is ready to start their school day.



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

In order to keep your child safe, please make sure that if you have changed your telephone number, email address or home address that you remember to let the school office know.

## Year 6 advance warning – A message from the Y6 team

It is a busy time of the school year for the Y6 children with a focus on their end of KS2 assessments. After next week our focus will turn towards further curriculum enrichment, your child's transition to their Secondary school and the traditional school play – this year it's The Greatest Show!

We've been asked by a few parents to inform them of these important dates at the end of the school year so that time off from work can be booked. Please put these dates in your diary so that you do not miss these important events.

1. Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July – Afternoon performance of The Greatest Show in the school hall a 13:30 start.
2. Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July – Evening performance of The Greatest Show in the school hall an 18:00 start.
3. Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July – Y6 Leavers assembly in the school hall a 13:30 start.



## Ancient Egyptian Day

Year 3 had a fantastic day last week with storyteller Clive Pig! To help their understanding of Ancient Egypt, they've learnt about the mummification process, hieroglyphics, followed clues to rescue Miss Diffey from the pyramid in maths and even how to walk like an Egyptian! They certainly had a day to remember.

## School term dates for 2023-2024

Our school term dates for the 2023-2024 school year have been published on our school website and shared via our social media accounts. Please find these at the end of this newsletter for your information.

## Y2 and Art Council trip to the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

Children from Year 2 and the Arts Council enjoyed a concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra at Westlands in Yeovil last Tuesday. The children listened brilliantly and participated with songs and games. Freddie found the bear that was hidden and took it to the stage to hibernate, winning for the school a Bug House for our outdoor pond area.



## School shoes and ties

We have noticed that several children are coming to school each day wearing trainers and ankle boots. This is not school uniform or appropriate footwear for the children to be wearing to school. We have also noticed that some children have not been wearing their school tie to school on a regular basis. Please be prepared for a member of staff to mention the footwear and lack of tie to you and ask when your child will be attending school in appropriate school uniform.

## PE Days

Our PE Days have been set for the next half term and are unlikely to be changed, if we need to change them, we will inform you through your Eylog or ParentPay account. Children should wear their PE kits to school on the days listed below. We have noticed that some children are wearing their PE hoodies into school on different days and on all other days it is important that full school uniform is worn.

Classes	PE Day on which PE Kits must be worn
Squirrels & Hedgehogs	Tuesday
Dragonflies & Bumblebees	Thursday
Nightingales & Magpies	Wednesday
Owls & Kingfishers	Wednesday & Friday
Eagles & Puffins	Wednesday & Friday
Foxes & Badgers	Monday & Friday
Hérons & Otters	Monday & Friday



### Wrap around care telephone number

The telephone number for our wrap around care provision (breakfast & after school club) has changed to **07471 412147** Please save this telephone number to your phone if you use wrap around care. We are also having several parents regularly giving us less than four hours' notice that their child requires to use the breakfast or after school club. 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.

### EYC News from Sophie

The children at the EYC have enjoyed learning all about King Charles' Coronation. We have been learning the Coronation song, making party crowns and baking a special red, white and blue rocky road which lots of children enjoyed creating and then eating! Please can we remind you that as the warm weather is approaching, all children must come to preschool with a sun hat. We also ask that you apply sun cream to your child before they arrive, and we will reapply later in the day. A named bottle of sun cream must be supplied in your child's bag. Thank you for your support with this.



### Scholastic Half Price Book Fair

It was great to have the Scholastic half price book fair with us last week and to see so many children after school excited to buy a new book!

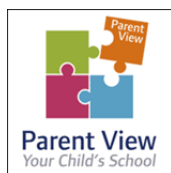
The book fair took over £640 in cash and card sales and a large percentage of this will be given to the school as commission to spend on new reading books for our classrooms.

Thank you for your patience as we learnt how to use the card machine so that we could process your card payments and we are sure that this will lead to a much smoother transaction at future Book Fairs.

### Save the dates!

Please save the dates for the following events so as not to be disappointed and await further information next week that will explain in further detail.

- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June – The reserve date for Sports Day in case of bad weather on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June.
- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June – Summer Show 1 at Holyrood Academy
- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June – Summer Show 2 at Holyrood Academy



### 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)



### Online safety news from Miss Thompson

There's lots of talk about AI at the moment with the introduction of ChatGPT. A fortnight ago, Snapchat introduced their own AI Chatbot. This is another way for them to keep people engaged with the app but there have been lots of examples of the bot responding with inappropriate advice and information. Snapchat are talking about introducing filters and parental controls in their Family Center but these aren't currently in place. As always, our advice would be to talk to your children and check in on what they are doing online. You can read more about Snapchat's AI Chatbot here: <https://techcrunch-com.cdn.ampproject.org/c/s/techcrunch.com/2023/04/19/snapchat-opens-its-ai-chatbot-to-global-users-says-the-ai-will-later-snap-you-back/amp/>

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, Mrs Wilkins, 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)

## Under 11's cricket festival

Selected children from Year 5 enjoyed a cricket festival last week at Holyrood Academy. The children had a brilliant time honing their batting, bowling and fielding skills.



## 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 all our pupils 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.

[https://secure1.somerset.gov.uk/forms/PortalShowForm.asp?fm\\_formalias=freeschoolmeal](https://secure1.somerset.gov.uk/forms/PortalShowForm.asp?fm_formalias=freeschoolmeal)

# A GREAT PLACE TO BE...

## Very nearly an oversubscribed school

We are sure that you will agree that we are an academically high achieving, caring, diverse, vibrant, happy, and fun school. We will soon be at the capacity of sixty children in each year group from Foundation Stage to Year 5 (we have no spaces in Year 6). If you know of parents of children who may wish to join the Manor Court School Community, we would love to show them around for a place before it is too late. Please ask them to make an appointment with the school office and

Mr Talmage, Mr Clode or Mrs Terry would be delighted to show them around.

## Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the responsibility of everybody. In terms of keeping children safe, please "Don't think "What if I'm wrong Think... 'What if I am right" If you have any concerns about a pupil, you should report this to a member of staff immediately. If you feel a pupil is at risk or a subject of abuse, you must contact the Designated Safeguarding Team immediately. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mr Clode and Deputy Designated Safeguard leads are Miss Gregory, Mrs Terry, Mrs Wilkins, and Mr Talmage. The school Safeguarding and Child Protection Governor is Mrs Sue Wakeman.

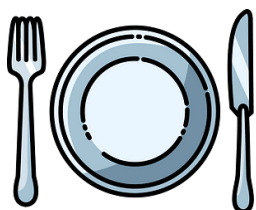
**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility**



## Attendance our school expectations

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.



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

Our onsite kitchen is now providing a hot meal for over 190 children each weekday and it appears to us that the children within the school are enjoying the meal that is being offered to them and parents have selected for them through ParentPay.

We would like to ask parents to provide feedback, positive or negative, as to the food that we are providing to your child. If you would like to share this feedback with us, please do email the school office.

If for any reason you are unhappy with the meals provided, please do email the office and we can try to rectify this.

Thank you or your continued support.

Mr Luke Talmage  
Headteacher

Mr Alan Clode  
Deputy Headteacher and Inclusion Leader



A relaxing environment for little ones and those who care for them.

Safe area for babies.

Toys, bubbles, singing and refreshments.

**We meet in Church rooms every Tuesday during school term time.**

**10am to 11.30am**

**All very welcome**

# Manor Court Community Primary School

## 2023-2024 Term Dates & Holidays



September 2023						October 2023						November 2023								
M			4	11	18	25	M		2	9	16	23	30	M			6	13	20	27
Tu			5	12	19	26	Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu			7	14	21	28
W			6	13	20	27	W		4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29	
Th			7	14	21	28	Th		5	12	19	26		Th	2	9	16	23	30	
F		1	8	15	22	29	F		6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24		
Sa		2	9	16	23	30	Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa	4	11	18	25		
Su		3	10	17	24		Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su	5	12	19	26		
December 2023						January 2024						February 2024								
M			4	11	18	25	M		1	8	15	22	29	M			5	12	19	26
Tu			5	12	19	26	Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu			6	13	20	27
W			6	13	20	27	W		3	10	17	24	31	W			7	14	21	28
Th			7	14	21	28	Th		4	11	18	25		Th	1	8	15	22	29	
F		1	8	15	22	29	F		5	12	19	26		F	2	9	16	23		
Sa		2	9	16	23	30	Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa	3	10	17	24		
Su		3	10	17	24	31	Su		7	14	21	28		Su	4	11	18	25		
March 2024						April 2024						May 2024								
M			4	11	18	25	M		1	8	15	22	29	M			6	13	20	27
Tu			5	12	19	26	Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu			7	14	21	28
W			6	13	20	27	W		3	10	17	24		W	1	8	15	22	29	
Th			7	14	21	28	Th		4	11	18	25		Th	2	9	16	23	30	
F		1	8	15	22	29	F		5	12	19	26		F	3	10	17	24	31	
Sa		2	9	16	23	30	Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa	4	11	18	25		
Su		3	10	17	24	31	Su		7	14	21	28		Su	5	12	19	26		
June 2024						July 2024						August 2024								
M			3	10	17	24	M		1	8	15	22	29	M			5	12	19	26
Tu			4	11	18	25	Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu			6	13	20	27
W			5	12	19	26	W		3	10	17	24	31	W			7	14	21	28
Th			6	13	20	27	Th		4	11	18	25		Th	1	8	15	22	29	
F			7	14	21	28	F		5	12	19	27		F	2	9	16	23	30	
Sa		1	8	15	22	29	Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa	3	10	17	24	31	
Su		2	9	16	23	30	Su		7	14	21	28		Su	4	11	18	25		

### Key:

<span style="background-color: #008080; width: 20px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	School Holiday
<span style="background-color: #800040; width: 20px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	Bank Holiday
<span style="background-color: #ffffff; border: 1px solid #000; width: 20px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	Term Time
<span style="background-color: #ffff00; width: 20px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	Inset Days

### Term dates summary:

**Term 1:** 04 September – 20 October 2023 (35 days)  
**Term 2:** 30 October – 15 December 2023 (35 days)  
**Term 3:** 02 January – 9 February 2024 (29 days)  
**Term 4:** 19 February – 28 March 2024 (29 days)  
**Term 5:** 15 April – 24 May 2024 (29 days)  
**Term 6:** 03 June – 24 July 2024 (38 days) **TOTAL = 195**

### Bank and public holidays 2023/24

Christmas Day Bank Holiday	25 December 2023	Easter Monday	1 April 2024
Boxing Day Bank Holiday	26 December 2023	May Day Bank Holiday	06 May 2024
New Year's Day Holiday	01 January 2024	Spring Bank Holiday	27 May 2024
Good Friday	29 March 2024	Summer Bank Holiday	26 August 2024