

Dear Parents and carers



Autumn Term Newsletter 1 – Friday 9th September 2022

September 2022 – Dates for your Diary	
Monday 12 th September	Enrichment after school clubs start
Tuesday 13 th September	Year 6 Holyrood under 11's football competition (during the school day)
Tuesday 13 th September	Roald Dahl day (activities in class, school uniform to be worn)
Wednesday 21 st September	Whole school individual photos
October 2022 – Dates for your Diary	
Saturday 8 th October	Y4 entry to Chard Children's Carnival
Friday 21 st October	Children break up for the October half term holidays
Monday 31 st October	Children return to school after October half term holidays

Welcome back!



A huge welcome back to our children who have attended our school prior to this week and a very warm welcome to each of our new Foundation Stage children and any other child that has joined us this week. We extend this warm welcome to each member of the family and look forward to building a long and positive relationship with you.

Pupil Premium

The pupil premium is additional funding that the Government provides for each child who is believed to be disadvantaged in achieving their best in education. At Manor Court 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

Afterschool enrichment club and wraparound care

Our after-school enrichment clubs will start on Monday 12th September (for all children in Y1 and above). As announced last week, the after-school wrap around care will be held in the school library, and as before our breakfast club will be held in the school hall. If you would like to arrange wrap around care, please do contact the school office.

Arts Mark

On Monday we were delighted to receive notification that we have achieved the Artsmark (a national award that celebrates all aspects of the Arts and performing Arts) Gold award. This is a fantastic achievement and we all should be very proud of the journey to success that we have been on since applying. We are grateful for the work of Mrs Morton and Miss Grabham who led our application for the Artmark.

The panel who assessed our work stated:

You have made great progress from your original Statement of commitment, particularly considering the limitations of Covid lockdowns, so well done! Two elements of your approach have been key to this: first your commitment to overhaul your existing curriculum and ensure the Arts had focus and drive within it. This has meant the Arts are an aspect of whole school learning in a much deeper way; second, you adapted throughout Covid to work in innovative ways online. Lockdown Challenges included scientific experiments, sports, baking, cooking and gardening to creative/performance activities, including visiting museums online, watching online theatre shows, ballet or concerts, learning dance routines from your Arts Lead's original YouTube content, learning and reciting a poem, a variety of painting, drawing, collage, sculpture and photography. So all in all, a fantastic lockdown arts offer that was as rich as it was varied.



Celebration Assemblies

Family members are very welcome to join us at our KS1 (not Foundation Stage until after half term) and KS2 Celebration assembly from Friday 16th September.

KS1 Assembly will start at 08:50 in the school hall and KS2 Assembly starts at 10:50 in the school hall. After half term the order of the assembly's sway and KS2 is first thing in the morning and KS1 is after the children's morning break.

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

The start to the school day

Just a reminder that the school gates open at 08:35 daily and they close again at 08:45. We encourage children to walk to their classrooms by themselves as it develops their self-confidence and independence.

Harvest Festival

We are looking forward to our first visit to St Mary's Church for our annual Harvest Festival assembly at the end of this month (date to be confirmed). Nearer the time we will start a collection of food products that can be shared with the Lord's Larder.



Warm Space

We are proud to be a community school and one of our central values is to care for each other. We appreciate that there may be people in our local community who are worried about keeping warm this winter and wish to open our school hall to be used as a warm space on Wednesday afternoons from Wednesday 5th October (term time only). During this time there will be a relaxed opportunity to spend time with our children and staff to read or play a board game and to share a hot drink and cake.

Please see the poster at the end of the newsletter for more information and do share this initiative with those who you feel will benefit from this time with our children and staff.



E-Safety news from Miss Thompson

Parental controls on streaming services:

Watching TV shows and films on services such as Netflix, Amazon Prime Video and Disney+ is sure to be part of many families' routine this summer. So how can we ensure our children are not able to freely watch content created for older audiences? Parental controls are available on each streaming or Video on

Demand (VoD) service, but they are not automatically activated when signing in.

Parentzone have published these simple guidelines for parental controls available on some of the UK's most popular streaming services: <https://www.parents.parentzone.org.uk/morearticles/safer-streaming-settings-for-families>

Year group emails

If your child is in Y1 – Y6 and you would like to make, contact with your child's class teacher or if they wish to pass a year group relevant message to parents, we encourage use of the year group email address. This email address is checked regularly (at least once a day) and is the best way to contact your child's teacher. Communication between Foundation Stage parents and children is via Eylog. As a reminder the year group emails are:

Year 1 (Bumblebees and Dragonflies)	Y1@manorcourt.ppat365.org
Year 2 (Magpies and Nightingales)	Y2@manorcourt.ppat365.org
Year 3 (Kingfishers and Owls)	Y3@manorcourt.ppat365.org
Year 4 (Eagles and Puffins)	Y4@manorcourt.ppat365.org
Year 5 (Badgers and Foxes)	Y5@manorcourt.ppat365.org
Year 6 (Otters and Herons)	Y6@manorcourt.ppat365.org

Production kitchen an update from Mrs Hunt



I would like to introduce you to our catering team: Mrs Ridley our Catering Manager and Mrs Tompkins and Mr Clifford our Catering Assistants.

We are really looking forward to preparing healthy and nutritious meals for our children every day and hot meals will be starting on Monday 19th September. If you haven't already ordered your child/ren's meals, please make sure you log on to your ParentPay account and order every day until the end of term. Meals must please be ordered 8 days in advance.

If your child has just joined Foundation, please don't forget to return your completed menus to the office. These were sent home in your welcome packs at the end of last term. However, from the 10th October,

your meals will need to be ordered on ParentPay, so please make sure you activate your ParentPay account. If you have any problems, please don't hesitate to contact the office for help.

Throughout the year we will be holding Theme Days and on Thursday 6th October, we will be having an American Day. There will be a choice of a hot dog, macaroni cheese or southern fried chicken... every child's favourites!

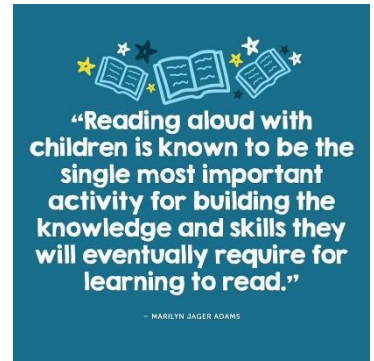


Reading expectations – A message from Mrs Terry

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, spiritually 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 deeper into the story’s meaning, preparing them for more complex narratives down the road. Children who progress from the banded scheme to ‘free readers’ are able to 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.



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.

NHS Sleep training

If your child is struggling with sleep the NHS are offering free online training for parents to access from home. If this would help you at bedtime, please follow the link below or scan the QR code.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwa9TeTbEo01rWnAU_M5R2v_wrzJPeFkc

QR code



Change of House name

Each child that attends Manor Court is placed in one of four houses. Traditionally this has been three of the Five main people in the history of Chard (Margaret Bondfield, John Stringfellow, James Gillingham, Arthur Hull and James Gifford) and each house has a different colour (red, yellow, blue and green).

In the summer holidays we decided to change the name of the yellow house from Morangis to Gifford to include another member of the Chard five. Children who were previously in Morangis house are now in Gifford house.

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



Attendance our school expectations. A message from Miss Gregory (Early intervention & attendance officer)

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.

PE Days

A positive remnant of the covid lockdowns was the decision to allow children to wear their PE kits to school on the day that they have PE. Please can we remind you that children must wear correct PE Kit (white or blue t-shirt, black or navy blue shorts, plain black or blue jogging bottoms for cold weather, a blue jumper or Manor Court Logo'd hoodie) children must not wear earrings to school on the day that they have PE as this may cause injury and if children do wear earrings to school on these days, they will need to have tape applied across them (this is standard H&S procedures in all schools nationally). If you do not wish for earrings to be taped up, please do remove them before school.

By the end of this week the teachers will have emailed parents through the year group email address/eylog to confirm which day that the children will be having PE.

EYC News from Lara

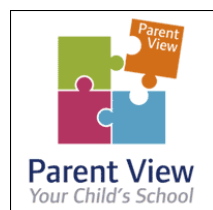
Hello and welcome to all our amazing new children and welcome back to the fantastic older children.

We have had a lovely week getting to know one another and finding out about the children's holidays. This first half term we will be looking at 'All About Me', there have been amazing self-portraits created. Declan came to visit, and we all danced and sang together playing the instruments and having a wonderful morning. The playground is beginning to look brighter as we have planted lots of pansies and peas.



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.



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

Thank you for your continued support and with all good wishes.

Mr Luke Talmage
Head Teacher

Mr Alan Clode
Deputy Head and Inclusion Leader

America Day



at
**Manor Court
Primary School**

Thursday 6th October 2022

Please choose from:



Frankfurter with chips

Southern Fried Chicken with chips



Macaroni Cheese with garlic slice

Sweetcorn



Baked Beans



Chocolate Chip Cookies



Please order on Parent Pay as usual



Manor Court Community Primary School

invites you to

Share Our Warmth

Please come and enjoy a warm drink, in a warm space,
with a warm welcome

EVERY Wednesday
(term time only)

Beginning 5th October 2022

Manor Court School Hall

Please arrive at 13.15pm

at the front School gates

Finish time 15.15pm

NO charge

NO registration

#keepwarmthiswinter

Children and Staff welcome you to play a board game, share a book
and enjoy a drink and cake while keeping warm in our School Hall this Winter

