

Spring Term Newsletter 1 – Friday 13th January 2023

January 2023	
Sunday 15 th January	Closing date for application for a Foundation Stage School place 2023
Monday 16 th January	World Religion Day – ‘Why are stories important to all religions?’
Tuesday 17 th January	Y5 Rock up & Read – 2:45 – 3:10pm
Wednesday 18 th January	Y2 Rock up & Read – 2:45 – 3:10pm
Thursday 19 th January	Y1 Rock up & Read – 2:45 – 3:10pm
Friday 20 th January	Y6 Rock up & Read – 2:45 – 3:10pm
Monday 23 rd January	Foundation Stage Rock up & Read – 2:45 – 3:10pm
Tuesday 24 th January	Foundation Stage visit to St Mary’s Church Y3 Rock up & Read – 2:45 – 3:10pm
Wednesday 25 th January	Y4 Rock up & Read – 2:45 – 3:10pm
Thursday 26 th January	EYC Rock up & Read – 11:30– 11:50am EYC Rock up & Read – 2:45 – 3:10pm Y4 Stargazing as part of their MC48. Please see separate letter for more information
Friday 27 th January	Whole school Art Exhibition at the Guildhall U11’s Football tournament at Huish Park (selected children)

Happy New Year!

We hope that you all had a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year. We look forward to an exciting and enjoyable 2023 at school.



Year group emails – not Eylog for EYC and Foundation Stage children

The introduction of year group emails was important at the start of the pandemic as this enabled us to relay messages to parents in a swift manner. We have considered what is happening in other schools locally and nationally and considered the number of emails that each year group receive each week and have concluded that the year group email addresses are no longer required.

As of Monday 16th January, these email addresses will no longer be receiving emails and all communication from school to home will be made through the school office. Important information will be sent home via ParentPay or email and all letters will be uploaded to the school website. If you need to speak to your child’s teacher, please speak to them at the end of the school day or arrange for the school office to give them a message to contact you at a time that is convenient for them.



Rock up & Read! – A message from Mrs Terry

As part of our school drive to encourage reading for pleasure, we would like to invite you to join us and your children in school for a ‘Rock up and Read’ session next week. Pre-Covid, we held similar sessions which proved to be very beneficial to the children, and gave parents and carers designated time to hear them read.

The school will be open from 2.45pm on the dates listed. You can come in and listen to your child read, or you can read to them. You do not need to tell us you are coming. Each year group has been given a different designated day to ensure that parents can support as many

of their children as possible.

The Manor Court Early Years Centre will also be taking part and will be open for the last part of the morning (11.30am) and afternoon session (2.45pm) on Thursday 26th January 2023 for you to pop in and support your children.

Year Group - Classes	Date
Early Years Centre	Thursday 26 th January (End of BOTH sessions)
Foundation Stage Hedgehogs & Squirrels	Monday 23 rd January 2023
1 – Bumblebees & Dragonflies	Thursday 19 th January 2023
2 – Magpies & Nightingales	Wednesday 18 th January 2023
3 – Kingfishers & Owls	Tuesday 24 th January 2023
4 – Eagles & Puffins	Wednesday 25 th January 2023
5 – Badgers & Foxes	Tuesday 17 th January 2023
6 – Herons & Otters	Friday 20 th January 2023

School shoes

We have noticed that a number of 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. Please be prepared for a member of staff to mention the footwear to you and ask when your child will be attending school in appropriate footwear.

Wrap around care telephone number

The telephone number for our wrap around care provision (breakfast & after school club) has changed this week to **07471 412147**. Please save this telephone number to your phone if you use wrap around care.



We are also having a number of parents regularly giving us less than four hours' notice that their child requires to use the breakfast or after school club that same day. To ensure that we have the correct ratio's please ensure that you contact the school office the day before you require club. We appreciate that emergencies sometimes happen.

PE Days

Our PE Days have been set for this half term and they 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 uniform must be worn
Squirrels & Hedgehogs	Tuesday
Dragonflies & Bumblebees	Thursday
Nightingales & Magpies	Friday
Owls & Kingfishers	Tuesday & Wednesday
Eagles & Puffins	Wednesday & Friday
Foxes & Badgers	Monday & Friday
Hérons & Otters	Monday & Friday



Eco-Council Assembly

Mrs Burns and some of our new eco-councillors led our school 'zoom' assembly on Wednesday afternoon and informed each child about their plans for the current year. They intend to apply for the next level in the national eco-award and to encourage us to recycle even more as a school.

The Eco-Councillors received their certificates acknowledging their place on the council today and their badges will arrive in the post very soon.

Chard Food Pantry – A Message from Mr Clode

Chard Food Hub are starting a new initiative and have offered us the opportunity to nominate families.

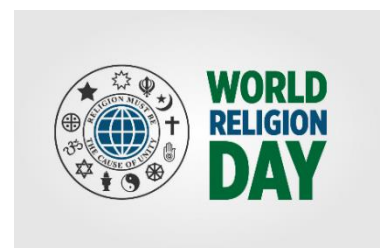
The Chard Food Pantry will open on Friday 27th January 2023. The help will be for a six-week period and the cost will be £5 per week for each family. For this £5 you will receive a weekly food parcel and access to the pantry.

It will be up to the member to collect the food on a certain day and time.

If you would like more details or like to be nominated, please contact me on the school gate or through the school office.

World Religion Day – A message from Mrs Farwell

We will be celebrating World Religion Day on Monday 16th January. Our focus for the day will be 'Why are stories important to religion?'. The day will start with a morning assembly from Reverend John from St Mary's Church to talk to the children about World Religion Day. In the afternoon we will be joined by Yr. 10 Religious Education Students from Holyrood School who will share stories with each class and discuss why stories are important in religion. The day will end with a range of activities linked to this question.



Online safety news from Miss Thompson

Towards the end of 2022, PEGI, who provide age ratings for games, changed their rating for Roblox. They replaced their age 7 rating with a Parental Guidance label. This is due to the amount of content created by users rather than the game itself. Roblox have also introduced 'Experience Guidelines' which offers internal age ratings within the game and they have parental controls linked to these. You can find more information

here: [https://pegi.info/news/pegi-changes-rating-advice-roblox#:~:text=As%20of%20now%2C%20Roblox%20is,guidance%20recommended'%20text%20descriptor\).](https://pegi.info/news/pegi-changes-rating-advice-roblox#:~:text=As%20of%20now%2C%20Roblox%20is,guidance%20recommended'%20text%20descriptor).)

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

Playwaze

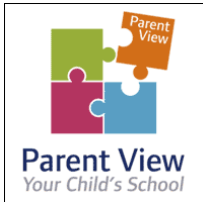
Playwaze is a Saturday Club running every Saturday until end of March at St Mary's Church Hall from 10 - 2pm. Activities are free. Children will be involved in dance, theatre, arts and crafts, board games, trips to the local park with a warm meal being served each week. Places must be booked via the playwaze website. Limited numbers so do book early. Children aged 7-11.

<https://playwaze.com/chuckle-club/s5tfyb9aut5uc/Community-Details>

Parents can call 07449196673 for further details and to get the necessary login details.

A Dragon came to visit Y2!

A dragon came to visit Y2 on Thursday and the children were very excited about this because they have been reading the story 'George's dragon goes to school'.



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

Carparking at the front of the school

It is becoming increasingly dangerous at the front of the school at drop off and collection time. This is because several parents are choosing to mount the pavement to enable their children to get out of the car! It is important that this inconsiderate behaviour stops and parents who have been doing this obtain a free permit for Sainsburys carpark.



EYC news from Stacey

We hope you've had a wonderful break over Christmas and new year.

This week we have been looking at the different seasons and why they change, the children have enjoyed making lots of winter crafts. Next week we will be looking at Chinese New Year.

If your child is due to start school in September, can we please remind you that if you haven't already, to make sure you apply for a school place. The deadline for this is Sunday the 15th of January.

No Toys Left Behind workshop

This week, Year 4 had a visit from Sarah from No Toy Left Behind in Axminster. We donated all the left-over toys from the Preloved Toy Sale last term. The children learnt about how plastic toys are made and what we can do to help reduce plastic waste.



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.

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

FMCA Quiz night

The FMCA are holding a quiz night as a fundraising event on Friday 20th January in the school hall. This will be a fun event in which funds for those additional extras for the children can be achieved. Please look at the poster towards the back of this newsletter for further information and contact them directly to book a table.

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

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.



**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, Mrs Wilkins, and Mr Talmage. The school and Child Protection Governor is Mrs Sue Wakeman.

Safeguarding

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Talmage'.

Mr Luke Talmage
Head Teacher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Clode'.

Mr Alan Clode
Deputy Head and Inclusion Leader

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:

	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Term Time
	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



Quiz Night

FRIDAY 20TH JANUARY
AT MANOR COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Adults £2.50
Children £1.00
Maximum of 6
per team.



Alcohol, soft drinks and
light snacks will be
available to purchase on
the night.
Only alcohol purchased
on the premise can be
consumed.

Come along and have some fun and help us raise money for special experiences for the children of Manor Court.

Prize for the winning team plus a raffle!

Special Guest Quiz Master Brian Gidley

Doors open at 6pm for a 6.30pm start

To book a table please email us at contactfmca@gmail.com

We hope to see you there!





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

