

Dear Parents and carers

## Autumn Term Newsletter 4 – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022



October 2022	
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Children return to school after the half term holiday
November 2022	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Uniform swap after school. Please see newsletter for further information.
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Nightingales class trip to Chard Museum
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu Vaccinations for whole school (those children whose parents have given consent)
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Magpies Class trip to Chard Museum
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	No Celebration Assemblies because of our Remembrance Assembly
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	FMCA Christmas Jumper Swap Day – See poster for further information
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need charity non-school uniform day FMCA Christmas Bingo Evening in the school hall
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	World Cup Day including England v Iran on the Hall Big Screen
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	Year 5 Trip to Chard Museum
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Year 2 trip to Fleet Air Arm Museum
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	School council cake sale after school on the KS1 playground

### Year 4 Children's Carnival entry

Well done to our wonderful Year 4 children who won two trophies at this year's Chard children's carnival on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October. They won the best school and Spirit of Carnival trophy. They happily danced their socks off to a packed high street!



### Wrap around care

It is great to see our wrap around care being used by so many of our families. If you need to use this service on an ad-hoc basis we ask that you contact the school office as soon as possible and by no later than midday on the same day.

All bookings should be made through the school office.

Wrap around care Phone number- **07765 073402**

If your child is attending after school care, please can you call the number provided and not go to the school office, your child will then be brought out to meet you.

### Foundation Stage Art exhibition

The parents of our Foundation Stage children joined us last Friday for an art exhibition where the children shared their 'All about me' creations. They enjoyed seeing their child's English and Maths books and seeing the learning and progress that the children have been making.



### 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. It is imperative that parents do not access the school building or classrooms unsupervised as this does not help the children to settle and in many cases, this makes the start to the day more difficult for some children. It is also a safeguarding concern which must not happen.

If you need to speak to your child's class teacher, please do make initial contact with them via the school Office or through the Year group email address.

### Make a difference Awards

Last Friday we celebrated Mr Talmage's wonderful work of breaking down barriers and bringing people together at the County Cricket club as he was awarded runner up in the BBC Somerset Make a Difference Award. We are all incredibly proud of this achievement!



### Uniform Swap

Our next Big Exchange School Uniform Swap is on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November! Simply bring in clean uniform (in good condition) that's too small and leave in a bag at the front of the school in the morning and take what you need for your children in the afternoon. You may even wish to bring in clothes from home that are not school uniform and swap this too.

Uniform for KS1 children will be found on the KS1 playground and uniform for KS2 aged children will be found on the KS2 playground.

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)

### Healthy lunch boxes and snacks

We all want our children to be physically and mentally fit and healthy and it has come to our attention that since returning to school this term some of our children are coming in with unhealthy packed lunches. May we suggest that break time snacks should be healthy options: fruit or vegetables or cheese and that lunchboxes should not be overflowing with chocolate bars. Please do remember that we provide each child with a portion of bagel in each morning break.



### Hot school meals.

Our children are delighted with the food that is being prepared by our catering team. The number of children having a hot meal has increased from around 100 at the end of the last school year to over 170 each day. If you would like your child to try a hot meal, please contact the school office for further information.

### Thank you

We were delighted to have received an email from The Lords Larder informing us that we have collected enough food in our Harvest food collection to feed thirteen people for a week! Thank you ever so much for your generosity.

### Somerset Heritage Workshops

We welcomed Sarah Butterworth into school last week to work with our Year 5 children on a special heritage workshop, making aeroplanes to celebrate the achievements of former Chard resident, John Stringfellow.

The town council are arranging workshops to celebrate and commemorate the life of John Stringfellow during the half term holiday next week. If your child would like to attend one of these workshops, please follow the instructions on the flyer at the end of the newsletter.



### Ordering hot meals – A message from Mrs Hunt

The Catering Team have had a busy week in the new kitchen serving over 170 children each day. I really hope all the children have enjoyed their meals. If you would like your child to have a school meal, please can I remind you to book your child's meals on ParentPay 7 days in advance, as there is a 7-day cut off. Copies of our menus area available to view along with all the allergens on our website.

[School Meals/Free School Meals | Manor Court Community Primary School and Pre-School](#)



### Blythwood Care Shoe Box appeal

Once more this year the school council have decided that they would like to support the Blythwood Christmas Shoe Box Appeal. This is an opportunity for the children who attend our school to show care and compassion at Christmas time to children who are less fortunate than them in countries abroad. Please follow the instructions on the leaflet that children recently brought home and the information poster at the end of this newsletter. Please bring shoeboxes to school by Friday 3rd November.

### Foundation Stage places for September 2023

Please share this news and tell your friends and family. We are an academically high achieving, caring, diverse, vibrant, happy and fun school! Applications for starting school for the first time in September 2023 are now open. All initial school applications are through the Somerset County Council website (link to apply for any Somerset school is below).

Please do arrange an appointment to visit our school and Mr Talmage or Mr Clode would love to show you around before you decide on which school to apply for. We also have limited spaces in every year group apart from Y6 if you're interested in a place in a different year group.

<https://beta.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/applying-for-a-school/apply-to-start-school-for-the-first-time>

### Parents Evening

Thank you to those parents who were able to attend a meeting with their child's teacher this week in person or via Zoom or telephone call. If you were unable to come this week and would like an appointment, please do contact your child's teacher through the year group email or via Eylog.

### EYC News from Lara

EYC have had a great couple of weeks. The role play area was converted into a people who help us office. The children had a great time dressing up as doctors and postmen, discussing what they think they may like to do as they get older, lots of fire men and doctors.

Yesterday we looked at fine motor skills and using their little hands to syringe coloured water between pots. This turned into a bit of a competition and a great focus activity.

We have also been busy preparing crafts for Autumn and looking at pattern and lights for Diwali.



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### Outstanding achievements of the Manor Court children at home!

Last Saturday Bonnie (in Y5) went to Sandy Park (home of the Exeter Chiefs Rugby team) in Exeter to a super Saturday event where the children train with the community Chiefs for several hours, and then watch a match after. They were supposed to watch Exeter Chiefs vs Coventry Wasps, but due to the Wasps sadly going into administration, the match was instead played by the Chiefs upcoming players and the Bristol Bears 'A' team.

At the end of the training session, the coaches announced who they had chosen as their star player of the day, and they would then be the match mascot that ran out with the team from the tunnels at the beginning of the match. The child chosen won a full Chiefs kit to keep. Bonnie was chosen! They said she trained as part of a team and supported her peers too. She enjoyed herself and made the most of her day.

### 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](https://secure1.somerset.gov.uk/forms/PortalShowForm.asp?fm_formalias=freeschoolmeal)



### E-Safety news from Miss Thompson

Internet Matters are brilliant for constantly creating up-to-date resources, guides and advice for parents. They have recently created three web pages (one for children in the early years, one for primary age children, and one for secondary age children). They each contain a pack for parents, information about common online safety issues, top apps and platforms and some helpful resources. You

can find them here:

Early years: <https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/pre-school/>

Primary age: <https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/primary/>

Secondary age: <https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/secondary/>

### School Council charity of the year

The school council have chosen Musgrove Park Children's ward as their charity of the year. Their first fundraising event is a cake sale after school on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November. Please bring some pennies along to buy a cake from the school council. They will be on the KS1 playground immediately after school until the cake has all gone.

### 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**

### Christmas Dinner Day

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December and Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December, we will be serving Christmas dinner to each of our children. Very generously the friends of Manor Court association (FMCA) have offered to subsidise any child that would normally pay for a Christmas meal, meaning all children will receive a FREE Christmas lunch.

Details will follow in due course on how you can take up this lovely offer via your ParentPay account.



### Emma Carroll book donation

A huge thank you to local author Emma Carroll, who this week has dropped in over 50 books to our school as a generous contribution towards our love of reading! What a fantastically generous act. We can't wait to share her stories between all the classes.

### Uniform expectations – A message from Mr Clode

We take pride in everything about our school and have high expectations of ourselves and each other. A part of this high expectation is for each child to come to school prepared for the day ahead and this includes how they are dressed. Please send your child into school in the correct uniform, footwear and the correct PE kit on PE days. It is not the expectation that children wear boots to school and children will be asked to change out of this. Our uniform code can be found here on the school website: [www.manorcourt.somerset.sch.uk/uniform-information](http://www.manorcourt.somerset.sch.uk/uniform-information)

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## Safer Somerset Partnership

Year 6 had a visit from the Safer Somerset Partnership @collaboratedigi last week and spent time thinking about peer pressure and how to deal with it.

## 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 are people in our local community who are worried about keeping warm this winter, so we have decided to open our school hall to be used as a warm space on Wednesday afternoons. 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 spread the word and the poster at the end of the newsletter to encourage more to join us.



## 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.

## FMCA Christmas jumper swap

The FMCA are holding a Christmas jumper swap on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November. This is a fundraising opportunity for the FMCA and please do see the poster at the back of the newsletter for further information.



## 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)

## Foundation Stage visit to Chard Library

Foundation Stage have enjoyed their first visit to Chard Library this past fortnight for their story and song session with Lyn. The story was Handa's surprise, and the children learnt about the different fruits and animals within the story and loved the musical instruments.



## 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. Please do email the year group email addresses 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

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

Mr Luke Talmage  
Head Teacher

Mr Alan Clode  
Deputy Head and Inclusion Leader



Each year 1 in 4 Christmas jumpers end up thrown away or never worn again.  
We can change this and start a new tradition at Manor Court!

THE FMCA ARE GOING TO BE RUNNING  
**A BIG CHRISTMAS JUMPER SALE**

ON THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER @ 3.15PM ON THE  
**KEY STAGE 2 PLAYGROUND**



Children's jumpers £2  
Adult's jumpers £3



Please donate unwanted jumpers (Children and Adults) in a bag to your child's teacher by 11th November

Please make sure that they are washed and in good condition.

Raising funds for the FMCA and as always thank you for your continued support.



**FREE**  
RECIPE BOX TO  
TAKE HOME

# THE GOOD GRUB CLUB



In association with Abri Homes

**Free cooking groups for families on low incomes**

**The Chard Young People's Centre, Essex Close**

**School holidays - 10.30am - 12.30pm**

**Tues 25th Oct, Mon 19th Dec, Tues 20th Dec and Tues 14th Feb**

**After school - 3.45pm - 5.30pm**

**Thurs 17th Nov and Thurs 1st Dec**

To book your place, contact Project Food

T: 01297 631782 E: [info@project-food.org.uk](mailto:info@project-food.org.uk) [www.project-food.org.uk](http://www.project-food.org.uk)

BROUGHT TO YOU BY EMERALD ANT:

*"Paper Plane Airfield"*

## A CELEBRATION OF JOHN STRINGFELLOW

**THURS 27TH OCT**

**THE GUILDHALL, CHARD, FORE ST, TA20 1PP**

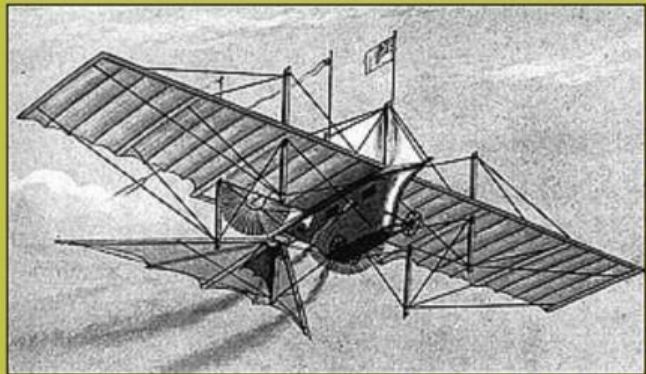
**Half Term workshop suitable for children of all ages.**

**Craft your own aircraft and put them to the test!**

**Workshops at:**

**10:00 | 11:30 | 13:30**

**ENTRY  
£2**



**\*Advanced booking strongly recommended**

**CONTACT 01460 260058 OR [TIM.BICKHAM@CHARD.GOV.UK](mailto:TIM.BICKHAM@CHARD.GOV.UK)  
FOR BOOKINGS**



Working in partnership with SS&L CIC

**Every Tuesday  
1st November until 29th  
November 2022  
3.30 pm – 6 pm  
on Zoom**



## **FUTURES BRIGHT**

**Meet, socialise and make peer friendships in a safe, secure environment**

**Have a greater understanding of the 5 ways to wellbeing**

**Learn new skills, work as part of a team and have a greater understanding of self management and peer support**

**Identify your unique skills and abilities and make more positive life choices**

**Set your own goals and look to the future with greater confidence, motivation and hope**

**You must be 19+ and live in Somerset (not including BANES). This course supports people with low to moderate mental health needs.**

**To enrol on this course, please contact us on 01460 391596 or [info@watchproject.org.uk](mailto:info@watchproject.org.uk)**

**Your Potential, Your Voice, Your Way**



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



# Halloween @ The Hub

Monday 31st October 2022

6pm-8pm

Candyfloss  
Apple-bobbing  
Prizes!!!

Make  
Slime!!!

FREE

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



CHARD  
COMMUNITY HUB