

Dear Parents and carers

Autumn Term Newsletter 3 – Friday 7th October 2022

October 2022	
Saturday 8 th October	Y4 entry into the Chard Children's Carnival
Monday 11 th October	HelloYellow Day
Tuesday 18 th October	Parents evenings via Zoom
Thursday 20 th October	Parents evenings in the school hall
Friday 21 st October	Last day of this half term
Monday 31 st October	Children return to school after the half term holiday
November 2022	
Monday 7 th November	Nightingales class trip to Chard Museum
Tuesday 8 th November	Flu Vaccinations for whole school
Wednesday 9 th November	Magpies Class trip to Chard Museum
Wednesday 23 rd November	Year 2 trip to Fleet Air Arm Museum

Harvest Festival

Yesterday morning the children had an enjoyable time singing, reading poems and celebrating the Harvest at St Mary's Church with our friends Ruth and Rev John. Miss Prater (our music teacher) has introduced some modern and fun songs to the children about the Harvest, and we look forward to her preparing our children for the Carol concerts in December. We are extremely grateful for the donations of goods for The Lords Larder, our school community have donated a large trolley full, so thank you very much.



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.

Sunflowers of Somerset colouring competition.

Before the Summer holiday, some of our pupils took part in a Sunflowers of Somerset colouring competition. We were delighted to find out last week that Avani had won and that we had lots of runners up too!



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

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 170 each day. If you would like your child to try a hot meal, please contact the school office for further information.

We are over the moon to have received a five-star rating from the Environmental Health inspector late last week.



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



Hello Yellow Day

Next Monday, 10th October 2022, we will be celebrating World Mental Health Day at Manor Court. The Young Minds charity wants people to wear yellow on this day, to show young people that how they feel matters, and to help create a future where all young people get the mental health support they need, when they want it. To celebrate this special #HelloYellow day, we are asking pupils to wear a splash of yellow colour - this could be yellow socks, a yellow hair band, or yellow clothing -

if they have any. It is not a non-uniform day, and we are not expecting parents to purchase anything yellow especially for this day. All pupils will have the opportunity to create something yellow to wear with their uniform in class time, if they do not have a yellow accessory.

Ordering hot meals – A message from Mrs Hunt

The Catering Team have had a busy week in the new kitchen serving nearly 150 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 letter that was sent home yesterday via ParentPay. Please bring shoeboxes to school by Friday 3rd November.

Foundation Stage places for September 2023

Please share 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>



Year 4 mixed football team

The Year 4 mixed football team had an enjoyable time this week at Holyrood Academy participating in the under nine football tournament. The children played four matches: winning one, drawing two and losing one. Each child showed great team spirit in a friendly and competitive manner. The Manor Court player of the tournament on this occasion was Martim.

Parents Evening

Please save the date for our first Parents Evenings of the 2022-2023 school year which will be held by Zoom or telephone call on Tuesday 18th October and in the school hall on Thursday 20th October. Appointments were able to be booked online from 20:00 this past Monday.

Due to teacher involvement in two late Parents Evenings the only after school enrichment clubs that will run that week is Dodgeball, Tuesday Time, Choir, Nature Club, Craft/Textiles Club and Sewing Club. If you have paid for a club that isn’t on during this week, we will issue refunds in due course.



E-Safety news from Miss Thompson

Internet Matters have shared some expert reviews to support parents in helping their children with SEND have positive experiences online. The advice is simple and insightful. You can find the article

here: <https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/question/help-children-with-sen-disability-have-positive-experiences-online/>

Celebration of the life and achievements of John Stringfellow

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

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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**

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



Chatterbooks Group

Our Chatterbooks Group of 20 pupils from Years 2 to 5 visited Chard Library last week. The children chatted with librarian Vicky about their favourite books before making their own mini books by carefully folding and cutting a piece of A4 paper. The children were shown how the library organises its books before choosing one themselves to take back to school to read, and then take home to share with

their families. It is free to join Chard Library. You just need to pop along with a utility bill for proof of your address. The library loans DVDs and music as well as books. The library also runs amazing sessions for toddlers during school time and Saturday clubs for Lego and art enthusiasts! Pop along to find out more!

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?formalias=freeschoolmeal>

EYC News from Lara

We have all had a wonderful few weeks, last week we looked at the Rainbow fish and being kind to our friends. the children made wonderful Rainbow fish using old cd's, some of which can be seen hanging in the windows. This week's topic is all about Autumn, wellie walks with listening ears were taken to find beautiful, coloured leaves and conkers. The school ready children have been working very hard learning their Jolly Phonics and the 2–3-year-olds started a new group together where we are focusing on playing together looking at the alphabet and our numbers.



Arts Mark

We were delighted to receive notification that we have achieved the Arts Mark (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 Art and Performing Artwork.

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.



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

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

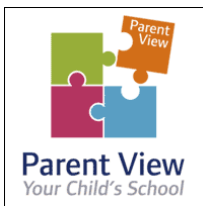
Pupil attendance and punctuality is a key focus and priority within our school. Individual attendance will be monitored and reviewed on a bi-weekly basis. We would like to kindly remind parents that the school's expectations on individual pupil attendance is 95% and above, with the aim of having 100% 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.

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 and wish to open our school hall to be used as a warm space on Wednesday afternoons. It was wonderful to see several adults spending time with some of our children on Wednesday 5th October afternoon. 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.



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

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

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.



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

Mr Luke Talmage
Head Teacher

Mr Alan Clode
Deputy Head and Inclusion Leader

BROUGHT TO YOU BY EMERALD ANT:

"Paper Plane Airfield"

A CELEBRATION OF JOHN STRINGFELLOW

THURS 27TH OCT

THE GUILDHALL, CHARD, FORE ST, TA20 1PP

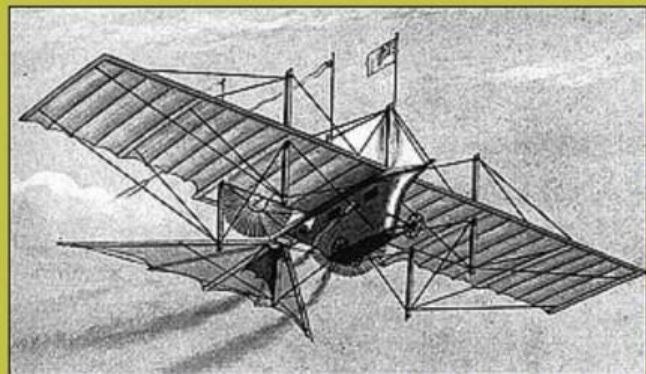
Half Term workshop suitable for children of all ages.

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
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

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

