

Dear Parents and carers

Autumn Term Newsletter 8– Friday 16th December 2022



December 2022	
Friday 16 th December	Last day of the Autumn Term and non-school uniform day for all children No Celebration Assemblies due to the end of term whole school assembly
January 2023	
Tuesday 3 rd January	INSET Day – School closed for all children
Wednesday 4 th January	Children return to school for the Spring Term
Monday 9 th & Wednesday 11 th January	No teacher led after school enrichment clubs due to important staff training.
Monday 16 th January	World Religion Day – ‘Why are stories important to all religions?’
Friday 27 th January	Whole school Art Exhibition at the Guildhall



Foundation Stage Nativity – A message from Miss Grabham and Miss Hamilton

Foundation stage children performed a wonderful nativity of ‘A miracle in town’. They were all amazing, singing and dancing their hearts out! We are very proud of their hard work, and we hope you have all received their photos on Eylog. Thank you for not taking photos throughout the performance at our request to safeguard each child.

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.

Year 5 World War II Day

On Monday, Year 5 arrived dressed as WW2 evacuees, climbed aboard the steam train at Manor Court Station to embark on an exciting day of learning. Throughout the morning they created gas mask boxes, identity tags, baked scones and made sandwiches, all whilst the air raid siren alerted them to danger multiple times, meaning they had to dive for cover under their Morrison shelters. The morning ended with the opportunity to view some WW2 vehicles on the KS2 playground and singing along to Vera Lyn!

The afternoon offered even more fascinating fun, with a talk from our visitors and the opportunity to handle items from WW2, including clothes, newspapers and ration books. Finally, the children returned to the class, decorated with bunting, to listen to the Victory in Europe speech by Winston Churchill. The children cheered with joy and celebrated with a party enjoying all the sandwiches and scones they had made earlier in the day.



Miss Warren – EYC teacher

We are delighted to inform you that yesterday we appointed Miss Sophie Warren as a teacher for the Early Years Centre. Sophie is currently a teacher and manager of a nursery attached to a school in Bridgwater and will commence her position at Manor Court in the New Year.

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.



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

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.



Advent Alpacas – A message from Mrs Terry

On Wednesday we were joined by some new furry friends - Valentino, Bryan, Merry, Tristan and Rolo - otherwise known as the Advent Alpacas! They made themselves home in the hall and every class along with the pre-school children were able to see them, stroke them, walk them, and find out more about how they live. Traditionally, alpacas graze the Andes of Southern Peru. They are bred specifically for their hair which can be made into warm clothing.

Year 5 and 6 Carol Concert

St. Mary's church was filled with music yesterday as Year 5 and 6 closed our Christmas performances for this year with an hour of singing alongside carols performed by our pianists and guitarists, supported by Miss Prater. There were Bible readings too, read confidently by our pupils, retelling the Nativity story and finally, Christmas wishes from Reverend Ann. It was a lovely service to watch.



Christmas Tree festival at Chard Museum – A message from Mrs Morton

Last weekend, we entered Chard Museum's Christmas Tree Festival, with decorations made by every child in the school. This year their decorations were in the style of Esther Mahlangu, the South African artist whose work they have been studying this term. We are delighted to inform you that we won the public vote of 'Most Popular Tree'!

Year 1 trip to the Pantomime

The year 1 children had an enjoyable time at the Octagon theatre on Tuesday to watch the Christmas traditional pantomime. This year's performance was Dick Whittington, and the children thoroughly enjoyed this Manor Court 48 experience and even the experience of travelling to the theatre on the coach.



Thank you for your continued support.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a happy new year.

Mr Luke Talmage
Head Teacher

Mr Alan Clode
Deputy Head and Inclusion Leader



Help us bring light
and hope to children
living in poverty in
this country



St Mary's Church Chard

Christmas Eve

4pm and 6pm



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

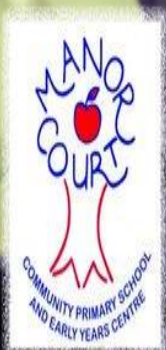
Finish time 15.15pm

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





Activity Calendar

Community Inclusion and Activity Team

Christmas Half-term Monday 19 - Friday 23 December



For ALL children and young people in Somerset with a disability or additional need
*You DO NOT have to be referred to any service to access these activities, unless otherwise stated.

Improving LIVES

Monday 19 Dec

Purple Elephant
Frome Cricket Club, Rodden Rd, Frome BA11 2AH.
Christmas crafts, face painting, entertainment, hot meal and a visit from Santa! 10am-1pm.
£1 per person or free if eligible for free school meals.
To book, please contact Lenka Grimes: lenkagrimes@gmail.com



Tuesday 20 Dec

Purple Elephant
Trinity Church Hall, Trinity Street, Frome, BA11 3DE.
Christmas crafts, face painting, entertainment, hot meal and a visit from Santa! 10am-1pm.
£1 per person or free if eligible for free school meals.
To book, please contact Lenka Grimes: lenkagrimes@gmail.com



Wednesday 21 Dec

Purple Elephant
The Key Centre, Feltham Lane, Frome, BA11 5AJ.
Christmas crafts, face painting, entertainment, hot meal and a visit from Santa! 3-6pm.
£1 per person or free if eligible for free school meals.
To book, please contact Lenka Grimes: lenkagrimes@gmail.com



Thursday 22 Dec

Neroche Woodlanders
Young Wood, Staple Fitzpaine, TA3 5AZ.
Seasonal forest school and campfire cooking activities! 11am-2pm. For 2-18yrs. £10 per family.
To book, please call Sarah Holdway on 07784 800641 or email sarah@nerochewoodlanders.org/ info@nerochewoodlanders.org



Friday 23 Dec

Neroche Woodlanders
Young Wood, Staple Fitzpaine, TA3 5AZ.
Seasonal forest school and campfire cooking activities! 11am-2pm. For 2-18yrs. £10 per family.
To book, please call Sarah Holdway on 07784 800641 or email sarah@nerochewoodlanders.org/ info@nerochewoodlanders.org



19th

The Mendip School
Edmund Rack Road, Prestleigh, Shepton Mallet, BA4 4FZ.
10am-3pm. Christmas party and playday! £1 per person.
To book, please contact office@themendipschool.com or call 01749 838070



20th

EAQ Manor farm
Owl St, Stocklinch, Ilminster, TA19 9LG.
Spend time with our horses and explore nature. 2hr 1:1 session available at 10am-12pm and 1pm-3pm. Costs £10 per family.
To book please contact Ian Roberts on 01460 394375 or enquiries@eaqmanorfarm.co.uk



21st

EAQ Manor farm
Owl St, Stocklinch, Ilminster, TA19 9LG.
Spend time with our horses and explore nature. 2hr 1:1 session available at 10am-12pm and 1pm-3pm. Costs £10 per family.
To book please contact Ian Roberts on 01460 394375 or enquiries@eaqmanorfarm.co.uk



22nd

Ark
Ark at Egwood, TA16 5QN.
Outdoor activities, including meeting the animals, Christmas arts and crafts and Christmas themed games! 10am-2pm. For 5-18yrs. £1 a head for young people. £3 a head for parents and carers to cover lunch and refreshment costs.
To book, please call Matt Laughton on 07751 645849 or email Matt@arkategwood.com



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ACTIVITY PACKS

Community Inclusion Activity Team
Winter or 'Christmas' themed activity packs, containing arts & crafts, puzzles, recipes and more! £2 per pack. Payment on delivery please.

To order, please email ciateam@somerset.gov.uk by 5th December with your preference for 'Winter' or 'Christmas' themed pack, your child's name, age, address, phone number and where we can safely leave the pack if you're not in. Delivery w/c 12th December.



21st

Yeovil Inclusion Partnership
Fairmead School, Mudford Road, Yeovil, BA21 4NZ.
Fun packed day including activities such as: arts & crafts, bouncy castle and cooking. 10am to 3pm. For ages 4-18yrs. Costs £15 per young person or £25 per family.

To book, call Steve Coles 07786 992229 or email scoles@fairmeadschool.com

22nd

Community Inclusion and Activity Team Family Day
Bishops Lydeard Railway Station, Station Road, Taunton, TA4 3RU. Santa Train departing at 1.30pm. Please arrive from 12.45pm. £15 per person.

Winter Lights Train departing at 5pm. Please arrive from 4.15pm. £12 per person.

To book, call 07977 412199 from 10am on Tuesday 29th November

19th

Ark
Ark at Egwood, TA16 5QN. Outdoor activities, including meeting the animals, Christmas arts and crafts and Christmas themed games! 10am-2pm. For 5-18yrs. £1 a head for young people. £3 a head for parents and carers to cover lunch and refreshment costs.

To book, please call Matt Laughton on 07751 645849 or email Matt@arkategwood.com

WHAT'S ON ACROSS THE WEEK?

Monday 19 - Friday 23rd December

Brookside Academy, Street, BA16 0PR
A variety of indoor and outdoor activities, including arts & crafts, cookery, Wii games and sports! For 4-13 years (must be school age), 9am-3pm, £24pp. For 14-16 years, 9am-3pm, £27pp.

Booking is required with Harriet Dunford or Sandra Cinicola at extendedschools@brooksideacademy.co.uk

19th

EAQ Manor farm
Owl St, Stocklinch, Ilminster, TA19 9LG.
Spend time with our horses and explore nature. 2hr 1:1 session available at 10am-12pm and 1pm-3pm. Costs £10 per family.

To book please contact Ian Roberts on 01460 394375 or enquiries@eaqmanorfarm.co.uk

19th

Escape
Somerset Boat Centre, Maidenmead Moorings, Bridgwater, TA7 0DQ.
Santa Christmas Cruise! Enjoy a hot chocolate & gingerbread biscuits. Families will be allocated a 2 hour time slot between 9am and 3pm at booking. For 0-18. Costs £7.50 per person.

Please book via their website: www.escapesupportgroup.com

Useful Information

Who are the people offering the activities? Organisations who have experience of working with children and young people with a disability or additional need and their families. Activities can be adapted to suit the children and young people who would like to attend. Please call them to chat about your child / young person's needs.

Activities offered by the Community Inclusion and Activity Team - Dependant on the child / young person needs, we can provide a day out without parent / carer as we offer group supervision. If it is the first time your child / young person has accessed a trip with our team, a parent / carer will need to attend. We require payment a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the day. Please note, spaces for children and young people with a disability or additional need will be prioritised first, with spaces offered to siblings once bookings have closed if we have room. Online payment at www.somerset.gov.uk/cwd

Don't forget our Activity Day Passes - Available to ALL families in Somerset with a child or young person with a disability or additional need - Puxton Park, Noah's Ark, Bristol Zoo & The Wild Place, Abbotsbury, Ferne Animal Sanctuary, Hestercombe gardens, Court farm. Please email CIATeam@somerset.gov.uk to find out more or visit www.somerset.gov.uk/cwd to view the flyer.

Max Card - A FREE card for all children and young people with a disability or additional need in Somerset aged 0-25 years. This card can be used at many places all over the UK offering discounts and special rates when you show the card. Visit www.mymaxcard.co.uk for more info. Cards can ONLY be issued by Somerset County Council to people living in Somerset. Call 01823 358117 or email ciateam@somerset.gov.uk

If you would like help with the calendar and how to access activities please email the team ciateam@somerset.gov.uk

Key for activities:

- Family Activity - for all members of the family to attend and enjoy**
- Child/Young person can attend on their own under group supervision or with parent/carer if additional 1:1 support is required - please call the organisation to have a chat**
- Child/young person must attend with a parent or carer**
- Staff provided by the organisation to support the child/young person 1:1 if required - please call the organisation to see what they can provide as this may not include personal care**
- Some parts of the activity are wheelchair accessible please call the organisation to find out more**
- Accessible changing facilities are available please call the venue to find out more**
- Activities aimed at young people/teenagers/young adults**

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