

Dear Parents and carers



## Autumn Term Newsletter 7 – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2022



December 2022	
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Y6 Make £5 grow stalls at the Chard Saturday market
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Foundation Stage Nativity performance (Number 1) to family members Year 5 World War II History Day
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 Panto Trip to watch Dick Whittington at the Octagon theatre Foundation Stage Nativity performance (Number 2) to family members
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	No Warm Space due to the visit from the Advent Alpacas
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 & 6 carol service at St Mary's Church at 09:30-10:30
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of the Autumn Term and non-school uniform day for all children No Celebration Assemblies
January 2023	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	INSET Day – School closed for all children
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school for the Spring Term
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	No teacher led after school enrichment clubs due to teacher training.
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	World Religion Day – 'Why are stories important to all religions?'
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Whole school Art Exhibition at the Guildhall



### Christmas Dinner Days

Yesterday and today, we have had two terrific Christmas dinners, with all the trimmings, prepared by our catering team for the children. The children were served their dinner by staff and enjoyed sitting with their friends and class adults. Thank you to the FMCA who kindly agreed to pay for a number of children to have a Christmas dinner.

### 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 Sainsbury's carpark.

### A flying visit from Father Christmas

We had a flying visit yesterday lunchtime from Father Christmas and Jingle his Elf who arrived in a helicopter from RNAS Yeovilton. It was a big surprise for the children and as it had to remain top secret, we were not able to inform parents of this until after the event. Father Christmas and his Elves took letters with him that the children had written to him back to the North Pole.



### EYC News from Lara

What a fantastic afternoon preschool had today with our visit from Father Christmas, Jingles and the Helicopter. We then celebrated a staff birthday with singing and cake. Great couple of weeks creating all things Christmassy. The outside tuff tray had us wondering how our mini dinosaurs had become frozen baubles of ice and we made our own snow!

### 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.

### KS1 Christmas performance – A message from Miss Whitehouse

Year 1 and 2 had a fantastic time performing their "Boogie Woogie Nativity"! They really impressed us with their amazing performance skills, and we want to congratulate them on their amazing success. We would also like to thank all the families that supported us through this and who came to see the amazing show!



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)

## Year 4 Eco-Project as part of their Manor Court 48 – A message from Miss Nakamoto

On Wednesday year 4 cleaned, prepared, priced, arranged and sold preloved toys as part of the Y4 Manor Court 48. The children have also learnt about how to create plastic free lunch boxes, the life cycle of a plastic bottle and the hazards that this poses to the environment and in particular oceanic animals. The children signed an online international pledge to promise that they will no longer be purchasing single use plastic items.

The children worked very hard but have had a great time and want to thank all the parents and carers for their kind contributions of toys as well as coming to support our sales!



### E-Safety news from Miss Thompson

Internet Matters have put together a great, interactive quiz so that children can work with their parents to learn how to make the most of PlayStation settings for safer gaming. It's a great chance to start conversations with your children to help you learn more about the games that they play. You can find the quiz here: <https://www.internetmatters.org/press-start-for-playstation-safety/>

### 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>



### Carol singing at Oak Lodge

On Tuesday afternoon our school choir sang carols to the residents of Oak Lodge. It was a Christmas experience enjoyed by both our children and the residents and one that we've not been able to enjoy since before the pandemic.

### 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)

### 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**



### 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

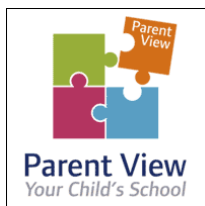
you to come into school to discuss your child's attendance with us. Should you have any questions or concerns relating to your child's attendance please do not hesitate to contact me within the school.

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

Our Christmas trees are up and decorated ready for the Christmas Tree Festival at Chard Museum. Our decorations have been inspired by our Artist of the Term, Esther Mahlangu, from the Ndebele tribe of South Africa. Please go and see them in the school Room at the museum from today, tomorrow or Sunday between 10am and 4pm. (Good luck finding yours - the trees are completely covered!).



### 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)

Thank you for your continued support and we wish you a very Happy Christmas.

Mr Luke Talmage  
Head Teacher

Mr Alan Clode  
Deputy Head and Inclusion Leader



# CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

9<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> / 11<sup>th</sup>  
DECEMBER 2022  
10am - 4pm

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COME AND SEE TREES  
DECORATED BY LOCAL  
GROUPS & SCHOOLS

RAFFLE & REFRESHMENTS  
AVAILABLE

FREE ADMISSION  
*(Donations welcome)*

[chardmuseum.co.uk](http://chardmuseum.co.uk) | [info@chardmuseum.co.uk](mailto:info@chardmuseum.co.uk) | Registered Charity No. 1190620



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





# ChardCast

Get involved on creating Podcasts  
all about our amazing town



We want to hear your thoughts, reflections, hopes and memories for Chard and to help produce and then include them in a ChardCast.



- \* Do you have a lot you'd like to share about Chard?
- \* Would you like to know how to record and publish a Podcast?
- \* Would you like to know how to use your smart phone to capture great quality audio to include in ChardCast?
- \* Perhaps you're interested in all of the above?



## CONTACT

✉ [info@chardmuseum.co.uk](mailto:info@chardmuseum.co.uk)

☎ 07870 697 956

Supported by



**CULTURALLY  
CHARD**



[chardmuseum.co.uk](http://chardmuseum.co.uk) | [info@chardmuseum.co.uk](mailto:info@chardmuseum.co.uk) | Registered Charity No. 1190620



# Activity Calendar

Community Inclusion and Activity Team



SOMERSET County Council

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:sarah@nerochewoodlanders.org) or [info@nerochewoodlanders.org](mailto: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.

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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](mailto: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](mailto:enquiries@eaqmanorfarm.co.uk)



21st

**EAQ Manor farm**  
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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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.



**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

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To book, please call Matt Laughton on 07751 645849 or email [Matt@arkategwood.com](mailto:Matt@arkategwood.com)

**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](http://www.escapesupportgroup.com)

**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](mailto: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

**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](mailto:extendedschools@brooksideacademy.co.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

## 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](http://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](mailto:CIATeam@somerset.gov.uk) to find out more or visit [www.somerset.gov.uk/cwd](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:ciateam@somerset.gov.uk)