

Dear Parents and carers



Spring Term Newsletter 3– Friday 10th February 2023

February 2023	
Friday 10 th February	At the end of the day children break up for half term
Monday 20 th February	All children return to school after half term
Wednesday 22 nd February 15:30	Y5 Magdalen Residential meeting for parents
March 2023	
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day – please see message below for more information
Tuesday 7 th March	KS2 Internet safety assembly for parents – see below for times
Wednesday 8 th March	KS1 Internet safety assembly for parents – see below for times
Thursday 9 th March	Y4 Day trip to Magdalen Farm
Wednesday 15 th March	Y4 trip to Taunton museum
Friday 17 th March	Comic relief Mothers Day afternoon tea for Foundation Stage mum's. Time to be confirmed
Monday 20 th March- Wednesday 22 nd March	Y5 residential to Magdalen Farm
Monday 27 th March at 16:00	Y4 & Y5 performance of Cinderella Rockerfella to parents
Tuesday 28 th March and Wednesday 29 th March	Spring Term parents evening. Further details to be sent home after the half term holidays.
Tuesday 28 th March at 13:30	Y4 & Y5 performance of Cinderella Rockerfella to parents
Thursday 30 th March	Y5 trip to Cineworld in Yeovil

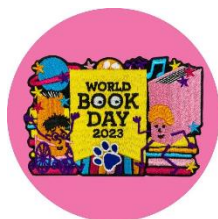
KS1 Circus Skills workshops

On Monday 30th January Lucas Jet came to visit KS1 this half term and completely wowed all the children with his wonderful circus talent. Lucas engaged well with the children, the hall was roaring with laughter and cheer. The children were stunned by his circus tricks and then took part in some circus skills workshops, taught by Lucas. The whole of KS1 were talking all day about this visit and couldn't wait to share their excitement with friends and family. Manor Court aims to encourage children to be creative, imaginative and experience new things, and this certainly influenced every child to do this!



Successful planning application for two new classrooms

Last week we were informed that our planning application to build two new classrooms has been successful. The process for construction businesses to tender for the work will commence soon and we hope that the work will begin by the end of this academic year. We are looking forward to having two new classrooms that can be used by the children within our school community.



World Book Day, Thursday 2nd March – A message from Mrs Terry!

World Book Day is always a memorable event at Manor Court! This year, we are inviting pupils to come to school dressed as their favourite book character if they so wish, but we are mindful that dressing-up clothes can be expensive, so there is no need to buy anything new unless you choose to. There is also the option for pupils to wear their own comfy pyjamas, their favourite everyday clothes (no inappropriate slogan tops) or wear their normal school uniform. Alternatively, the children may choose to bring in a prop from their

favourite book, or just the book itself.

The day will include a special assembly, a book trail around the school, quizzes, games, and plenty of time to Drop Everything and Read (DEAR). To support our oracy framework, and to encourage storytelling, children in the Early Years and Key Stage 1 will be creating their own wooden spoon character to use as a puppet. The Friends of Manor Court Association (FMCA) are kindly purchasing the wooden spoons that we require. In Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6), pupils will be making their own Story Jar. To enable this to happen, we are requesting clean jam jars/coffee jars please – with their lids. Please bring these in so the teachers can keep them safe for the day.

**** Advance notice - our popular Scholastic Half Price Book Fair will be returning to school on Tuesday 25th April 2023 ****

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

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 7th February was Safer Internet Day and schools all around the country celebrated and spent time thinking about all things online safety. The theme this year was 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'. Each class spent time discussing their online experiences and writing some of these down. The online safety council are going to make a display of comments which you'll be very welcome to come and see at our online safety assemblies next month which will start at 2.50pm and finish by 3.15pm.

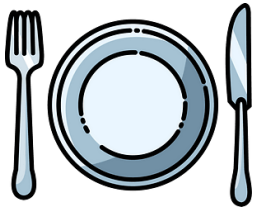


Comic relief

We are supporting the Red Nose Day appeal on Friday 17th March. For a 50pence donation each child can wear something funny or wear as much red clothing as possible!

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



Hot meals parental feedback – A message from Mrs Hunt

Our onsite kitchen is now providing a hot meal for over 190 children each weekday and it appears to us that the children within the school are enjoying the meal that is being offered to them which parents have selected through ParentPay.

We would like to ask parents to provide feedback, positive or negative, as to the food that we are providing to your child. If you would like to share this feedback with us, please do email the school office.

If for any reason you are unhappy with the meals provided, please do email the office and we can try to rectify this.

Ice Fridays - a Year 5 message

To raise money towards the cost of a coach for our next Manor Court 48 experience, Year 5 pupils will be holding 'Ice Fridays' next half term. This will see the sale of ice-creams, ice lollies and ice poles after school on some Friday afternoons. The first Ice Friday will be held on the first week back, Friday 24th February 2023, on the Key Stage 1 playground underneath the pergola by the Year 5 classroom exits. Each item will be 50p or £1.00. We would appreciate the correct change.

National Schools Football Week

This week was National Schools' Football Week! All year groups participated in some mixed team matches. Year 5 and Year 6 kicked our week off on Monday morning in the glorious sunshine – with a few games going to the excitement of penalties!



Bank Holiday for the coronation of King Charles III

The Government and Royal Family have announced that Monday 8th May 2023 will be an additional Bank Holiday to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III which is happening on Saturday 6th May. **Our school will be closed to all children and staff on Monday 8th May 2023.**

This additional Bank Holiday will have a knock-on effect for the Y6 KS2 assessments. These assessments will now start nationally on Tuesday 9th May and all Y6 children will be expected to attend school throughout this week and can join us early each morning for a free breakfast with their friends.



EYC news from Stacey

The children have loved looking at some of their favourite books for national story telling week. They have all enjoyed role playing scenarios from some of the books and manipulating materials to recreate the characters. We linked this to EYC's MC48 challenge to experience jumping in muddy puddles.

After half term is EYC's parents evening. If you haven't already, please make an appointment on the sign-up sheets which are accessible by the gate. If you would prefer a phone call, then please speak to your child's key worker to arrange a date.

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 another 'Rock up and Read' session next half term. This time, we are inviting you in after drop-off in the morning, from 8.50am until 9.20am. You will be signed in from the door opposite the Year 6 block – the door along the top corridor to the hall.

You can listen to your child read, or you can read to them. 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 Monday 13th March 2023* for you to pop in and support your children.

Day	Year Group / Classes
Monday 6 th March	5 – Badgers and Foxes
Tuesday 7 th March	4 – Eagles and Puffins
Wednesday 8 th March	3 – Owls & Kingfishers
Thursday 9 th March	1 – Dragonflies and Bumblebees
Monday 13 th March	2- Nightingales and Magpies EYC (11.30am and 2.45pm)
Wednesday 15 th March	6 – Herons & Otters
Thursday 16 th March	Foundation Stage – Hedgehogs and Squirrels

Reading challenge

We congratulated our first Reading Challenge winner for this academic year in celebration assembly on Friday morning. Since September Isabella has read all ten Year 6 challenge books and has reviewed them all!



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. To ensure that we have the correct ratios please ensure that you contact the school office the day before you require club. We appreciate that emergencies sometimes happen.

Year 4 and 5 Production - Cinderella and Rickerfella

Next half term will see the return of a Year 4 and 5 production. **Cinderella and Rickerfella** is a modern, panto-style reworking of a classic tale. Year 4 pupils will be producing our choir, while the Year 5 pupils will be treading the boards! We have reintroduced a Year 4 and 5 production to fill the gap between the Year 2 Christmas show and the Year 6 final performance. Rehearsals are already underway and we are already so proud of how well the children are learning the song lyrics and script. Tickets for each performance will be for sale soon. Please add these show dates to your diary:

Monday 27th March 2023 4.00pm

Tuesday 28th March 2023 1.30pm

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

A GREAT PLACE TO BE...

Over subscribed for Foundation Stage intake 2023

We were delighted to receive our September 2023 list of preferences recently. 62 parents chose Manor Court as their first preference and 22 chose us as their second preference.

We can now say that we are an oversubscribed school for the first time (according to Somerset LA) in 22 years!

If you have applied for a place at Manor Court, you will be informed (at the same time as us) in April if you have been successful in your desire for your child to start their education with us in September. Manor Court is the place to be!

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.

PE Days

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

Library visit to Foundation Stage

Last Friday the children in the Foundation Stage enjoyed their visit from Lyn at Chard Library. Lyn focused on traditional tales and used puppets and props to retell the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and The Three Little Pigs. The children also loved singing songs and some popular nursery rhymes.



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.

Save the date for our next Parents Evening

Our next parents evening is Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th March. Information, including how to book, will be sent home after the half term holidays.



Online safety news from Miss Thompson

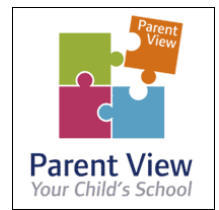
Internet Matters have put together an interesting article about dual-screening. It focuses on children but is probably something lots of adults recognise too. In the article, experts discuss the effects on concentration and productivity and it's an interesting read. You can find it here: <https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/question/dual-screening-impacts/>

Have you got the skills to be our new Site Manager?

We are readvertising again for a skilled individual to be our new site manager. If you have the skills, knowledge and commitment to be our new Site Manager, to replace the excellent Mr Woolford who is retiring, we would like to hear from you. Please see the advert at the end of this newsletter and on our school website: <https://www.manorcourt.somerset.sch.uk/vacancies/>

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



Tennis Coaching

We have been fortunate enough to have a coach from Chard Tennis Club come into our school to run one of our after-school enrichment clubs. They are now offering a discount to each of our pupils at Manor Court for their February half term camp on Friday 17th February. Please see the poster at the end of the newsletter for more information.



Attendance our school expectations

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.

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**

Thank you for your continued support and we hope that you have a happy and safe half term holiday.

Mr Luke Talmage
Head Teacher

Mr Alan Clode
Deputy Head and Inclusion Leader



Site Manager

Manor Court Community Primary School
Duck Lane
Chard
Somerset
TA20 2ES
01460 62350

office@manorcourt.ppat365.org

**37.5 hours per week all year round (or by negotiation) on grade 13.6 to 13.11.
Actual Salary £22,265 - £24,379 (further pay award pending). This role comes with a 24.4% employer pension contribution.**

The proposed hours are 6.30am-3pm (including a 1-hour lunch break) these may be negotiable for the right candidate.

This position will commence in May 2023 at the retirement of our excellent caretaker.

Main Responsibilities

- Ensuring the school is safe, secure, and well maintained.
- Undertaking a range of minor repairs, maintenance, and decoration.
- Ensuring all servicing and compliance work is completed and records maintained accordingly.
- Maintain a rolling programme of maintenance and repair.
- Working with the Headteacher, Assistant School Business Manager and Trust Health & Safety Officer to ensure that all Health and Safety requirements are met.

Visits to our school is welcome and encouraged. Please telephone Mrs Diana Hunt (Assistant School Business Manager), on 01460 62350 to make an appointment or to discuss the position further.

Manor Court Community Primary School is proud to be part of the Preston Primary Academy Trust. Preston Primary Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This position is subject to an enhanced DBS check and other pre-employment checks.

Please apply in writing by completing an application form. The form can be found on the Manor Court Community Primary School website: www.manorcourt.somerset.sch.uk

Applications should be returned to the school office by email office@manorcourt.ppat365.org or by post to Manor Court Community Primary School, Duck Lane, Chard, Somerset, TA20 2ES

Closing Date: Friday 10th March 2023
Interview Date: W/c Monday 27th March 2023

Due to the expected volume of applications, we receive, you will only be contacted if have you have been successfully shortlisted.



Yeovil Half Marathon **Fun Run**

Sunday 26th March 2023

Be part of the Yeovil Half Marathon buzz and take part in the shorter 2km Fun Run. Help Yeovil Hospital Charity to make a difference for patients

Run for our Breast Cancer Unit Appeal, or your chosen ward/department.

Under 11's must be accompanied by a responsible adult, there is no charge for the accompanying adult.

Registration fee £4, minimum sponsorship £10

www.yeovilhospital.co.uk/yeovil-half-marathon-fun-run/

For more info, contact us on 01935 383020 or email fundraising@ydh.nhs.uk

Making a difference for patients



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



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



Window Wanderland

Create amazing illuminated artwork

for Chard Town Centre

Somerset Art Works are running free family workshops to create illuminated artwork that will be showcased in Chard town centre for the forthcoming Window Wanderland celebrations which include an outdoor projection event in the town on the 11th March at 6:30pm.

A CULTURALLY CHARD project.

**Sessions take place at Chard Museum
on Saturday 25th February & 4th March**

Join local artist Richard Tomlinson for one, or both, of the activities on offer

10am - 12 Papercut Art

A fun and crafty activity to create beautiful papercut art using old photos of Chard for inspiration. You'll be provided with materials to make wonderful 2D papercut artworks. Images you create will feature in a series of illuminated artworks for Window Wanderland.

1 - 4pm Digital People

Create an animation featuring a bustling Chard High Street. Learn how to use a digital video camera and perform in front of a green screen. Your image will appear as a colourful silhouette in the final artwork. Then visit Window Wanderland, see if you can spot yourself!

All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information contact: info@richtomlinson.co.uk





SCHOOLS

TENNIS COACHING SPECIAL OFFER

FROM LA TENNIS COACHING

Special offer to all pupils of Huish Primary,
Holy Trinity, Primrose and Manor Court

**£5 DISCOUNT FROM THE FEB
HALF-TERM CAMPS**

**£10 DISCOUNT WHEN ENROLLING
FROM FEB HALF-TERM TILL EASTER**

YEOVIL TENNIS CLUB - WEDNESDAY 15TH FEB, 9AM - 3PM
SOMERTON TENNIS CLUB - FRIDAY 17TH FEB, 9AM - 3PM
CHARD TENNIS CLUB - FRIDAY 17TH FEB, 9AM - 3PM

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

CONTACT LUKE ANDREWS

07437 404242 / LATENNIS@HOTMAIL.COM

LTA Accredited Coaches | Equipment Provided | First Aid Trained | DBS Checked

Payments to: A/C 21460919, Sort Code: 40 22 07

Visit us online: clubspark.lta.org.uk/LATennisCoaching

