

Dear Parents and carers

## Spring Term 4 – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022



Welcome back after the half term holidays, we hope that you had an enjoyable and restful holiday and that your children are ready for another busy half term.

March 2022	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Foundation Stage trip to Axe Valley wildlife park Year 4 and Year 5 Stargazing experience
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Non-school uniform day for The Red Cross Ukraine appeal
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	British Science Week
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 trip to Stonehenge
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents evening see below, and the separate letter sent home next Monday for further information
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Non-School uniform day for comic relief
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Tempest Photography class photos
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Foundation Stage Vision screening tests
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Foundation Stage Mother's Day assembly in the school hall



### World Book Day – A message from Mrs Terry

World Book Day was a huge success this year and it was lovely to celebrate as a whole school after the last two years of having Lockdowns on this day and having to celebrate from home.

There were an array of wonderful book character costumes, comfy pyjamas and dressing gowns and favourite outfits on show throughout the day. This year celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World Book Day with the theme 'reading for pleasure.' We really wanted to make the day about finding the fun in reading, using our imaginations and being creative.

All pupils, including our youngest children in the Pre-School, took part in a book character trail around the school. The trail involved finding fifteen characters, and then trying to name them and the book they were from.

Some classes watched special online sessions with authors, took part in draw-alongs and listened to celebrities reading stories.

Every class took part in creating a scene from a story using a cardboard box; this was a great way of showing our collaboration skills. Some children wrote book reviews, some made bookmarks and some children took part in drama activities.

In the morning, our Chatterbook groups visited Chard Library, where librarians Katy and Vicky worked through some fun activities and all the children were able to borrow a book to take home.

We had a visit from the BFG - actually, it was Louis from Yeovil FC, who dropped off 100 books and some book vouchers which have been used as book challenge prizes. Thank you!

Some pupils visited Chard Bookshop to collect some special World Book Day books which will be distributed among the classes. Chard Sainsbury's and Chard Tesco also very kindly gave us a donation of World Book Day books.

Every child will be taking home a book to keep today.



### Parents evenings

We are looking forward to hosting our parents' evenings on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March. Due to the popularity with many parents, we will hold two types of meetings; a telephone or Zoom appointment on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March and a face-to-face meeting with your child's class teacher in the school hall on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March.

We will be using a new online appointment system for parents to book an appointment on a first come first served basis. To avoid disappointment, it is important that parents follow the instructions in next weeks letter and book a slot with their child's teacher. Please note the following after school enrichment clubs led by teachers will not be running during this week:- Coding, Cheerleading and Year 6 Homework.

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 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)

## Medical and Allergen information

It is important that we have up-to-date information on your child's medical and allergen needs. If there have been any changes, please let the school office know.

## Non-School uniform day for the Red Cross Ukraine appeal

Somerset schools have decided to come together to fundraise for the Red Cross Ukraine appeal, providing much needed humanitarian need (food, water, first aid, medicines and warm clothes). If you would like to help people in Ukraine your children can wear non-school uniform (ideally something red, white, yellow, or blue) for a 50p donation.



## 2022 – 2023 Term and Holiday Dates

We've published our 2022-2023 School Term and Holiday dates on our school website this week and have added them to the end of this newsletter for you to print off for use at home.



### Email communication

Over half term we have implemented an additional layer of security in respect to emails, information, and the data that we hold. We've noticed that some of our emails to parents are bouncing so please bear with us as we rectify this problem.

## Storm damage

We are grateful for your understanding on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February as we were instructed by Somerset County Council and the MET office to move to remote learning for the day due to the fear of potential danger caused by storm Eunice. We thankfully only had four roof tiles damaged during the storm and these have been replaced this week.



## Foundation Stage Mother's Day Assembly

Foundation Stage are excited to invite their Mummy's into school at 10am on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> for a Mother's Day Assembly in the school hall.

## EYC news from Stacey!



We hope you've had a good half term. In the coming weeks the children will be looking at planting, life cycles and beginning to look at what happens in spring. Please could you remember to pack spare clothes in their bags as we will be spending more time outside and exploring the field. Also, we would like to introduce Pip the bear. This is an opportunity for each child to take turns taking Pip home where they can take him on an adventure over the weekend. Then you have the opportunity to write in Pips book to tell us what you got up to, this will then be shared with the rest of pre-school next time they're in.

## 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 and Mr Talmage. The school Safeguarding and Child Protection Governor is Mrs Jo Boyland.

## Kingfishers Artwork – A message from Mrs Morton

Kingfishers (Year 3) completed their birds before half term, in art. Just look at the detail! All as wonderful and unique as those who drew them.



## Covid safety measures – A message from Mr Talmage

Despite the Government announcing a lifting of Covid restrictions, at Manor Court with the full support of our Local Governing Body, I have decided to lift these measures at a 'slow and sure' pace. We all can't wait to be back to the way of schooling as it was before the pandemic, but I am very aware that the pandemic is not yet over.

Our current covid safety measures continue to remain in place for the foreseeable future, including staggered starts, online assemblies, and face masks in communal areas.

If you need advice about coronavirus or to inform us about a positive LFT test, please do email the specific covid case email address [covidcase@manorcourt.ppat365.org](mailto:covidcase@manorcourt.ppat365.org) as this enables us to help quicker. This email address is checked throughout the day from 07:30 and until 21:00 each day.



### E-Safety news from Miss Thompson

Wink is a messaging app which allows children to connect and communicate with other users. In a similar style to Tinder, Wink uses the swipe method for browsing profiles and accepting or declining them. Once two users have accepted each other by swiping on each other's profile, they can then communicate and play games online together. The fact that Wink allows children to share photos, personal

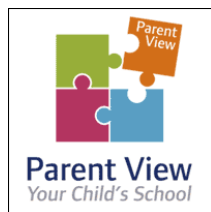
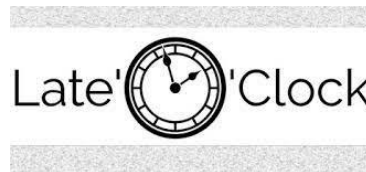
information and their location with other users has caused significant concern. In the poster guide at the end of the newsletter, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as grooming, cyberbullying and inappropriate content.

### 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)

### Punctuality!

We are observing a number of children who are regularly late to school and missing the vital learning at the start to their school day. We appreciate that on occasion this cannot be helped but have explained to the children that are regularly late that they will be staying in at morning break or lunchtime to catch up on any work that they have missed. If your child is late for school, we know that this is the responsibility of the parent so please help us to educate your child by ensuring that they get to school on time every morning.



### 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 with all good wishes.

Mr Luke Talmage  
Head Teacher

Mr Alan Clode  
Deputy Head and Inclusion Leader

# Manor Court Community Primary School 2022 - 2023 Term Dates & Holidays



September 2022						October 2022						November 2022							
M		5	12	19	26	M		3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28	
Tu		6	13	20	27	Tu		4	11	18	25		Tu	1	8	15	22	29	
W		7	14	21	28	W		5	12	19	26		W	2	9	16	23	30	
Th		1	8	15	22	29	Th		6	13	20	27		Th	3	10	17	24	
F		2	9	16	23	30	F		7	14	21	28		F	4	11	18	25	
Sa		3	10	17	24		Sa	1	8	15	22	29		Sa	5	12	19	26	
Su		4	11	18	25		Su	2	9	16	23	30		Su	6	13	20	27	
December 2022						January 2023						February 2023							
M		5	12	19	26	M		2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27	
Tu		6	13	20	27	Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu		7	14	21	28	
W		7	14	21	28	W		4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22		
Th	1	8	15	22	29	Th		5	12	19	26		Th	2	9	16	23		
F	2	9	16	23	30	F		6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24		
Sa	3	10	17	24	31	Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa	4	11	18	25		
Su	4	11	18	25		Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su	5	12	19	26		
March 2023						April 2023						May 2023							
M		6	13	20	27	M		3	10	17	24	M		1	8	15	22	29	
Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu		4	11	18	25	Tu		2	9	16	23	30	
W	1	8	15	22	29	W		5	12	19	26	W		3	10	17	24	31	
Th	2	9	16	23	30	Th		6	13	20	27	Th		4	11	18	25		
F	3	10	17	24	31	F		7	14	21	28	F		5	12	19	26		
Sa	4	11	18	25		Sa		1	8	15	22	29	Sa		6	13	20	27	
Su	5	12	19	26		Su		2	9	16	23	30	Su		7	14	21	28	
June 2023						July 2023						August 2023							
M		5	12	19	26	M		3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28	
Tu		6	13	20	27	Tu		4	11	18	25		Tu		1	8	15	22	29
W		7	14	21	28	W		5	12	19	26		W		2	9	16	23	30
Th	1	8	15	22	29	Th		6	13	20	27		Th		3	10	17	24	31
F	2	9	16	23	30	F		7	14	21	28		F		4	11	18	25	
Sa	3	10	17	24		Sa	1	8	15	22	29		Sa		5	12	19	26	
Su	4	11	18	25		Su	2	9	16	23	30		Su		6	13	20	27	

### Key:

<span style="background-color: #008080; width: 15px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	<b>School Holiday</b>
<span style="background-color: #800040; width: 15px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	<b>Bank Holiday</b>
<span style="background-color: #ffffff; border: 1px solid #000; width: 15px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	<b>Term Time</b>
<span style="background-color: #ffa500; width: 15px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	<b>Inset Days</b>

### Term dates summary:

**Term 1:** 01 September – 21 October 2022 (37 days)  
**Term 2:** 31 October – 16 December 2022 (35 days)  
**Term 3:** 03 January – 10 February 2023 (29 days)  
**Term 4:** 20 February – 31 March 2023 (30 days)  
**Term 5:** 17 April – 26 May 2023 (29 days)  
**Term 6:** 05 June – 21 July 2023 (35 days)     **TOTAL = 195**

### Bank and public holidays 2022/23

Christmas Day Bank Holiday	27 December 2022*	Easter Monday	10 April 2023
Boxing Day Bank Holiday	26 December 2022	May Day Bank Holiday	01 May 2023
New Year's Day Holiday	02 January 2023*	Spring Bank Holiday	29 May 2023
Good Friday	07 April 2023	Summer Bank Holiday	28 August 2023

\*Replacement Bank Holiday day when the Bank Holiday falls on a weekend

Academy, Free Schools, Foundation & Voluntary Aided schools can set their own term dates and may differ from ours. Please check with the individual schools for their term dates.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# WINK

AGE RATING  
**13+**

Wink is a messaging app which allows children to connect and communicate with other users. In a similar style to Tinder, Wink uses the swipe method for browsing profiles and accepting or declining them. Once two users have accepted each other by swiping on one another's profile, they can then communicate and play games online together. The fact that Wink allows children to share photos, personal information and their location with other users has caused significant concern.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### POTENTIAL FOR GROOMING

Wink accounts can't be made private - so when a young person uploads images and shares their social media usernames, it's easier for potential groomers to stalk and locate them online. The fact that children prioritise having an abundance of friends is also a concern: they're more likely to accept someone just to build their friend count - possibly including users with sinister intentions.

### ACCIDENTAL OVER-SHARING

Many young people don't consider privacy when they choose to share their social media usernames on their Wink profile. This allows other people to connect with them on multiple platforms, strengthening their online presence and reputation. Some children post photos which reveal aspects of their personal life to other users - showing their house, school, friends and family, for instance.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Many popular messaging apps contain profiles featuring profanity, nude or semi-nude photos and users openly looking for a "wifey" or "hook ups". Users can send messages anonymously, which engenders a sense of power and freedom. Children often engage in inappropriate behaviour more willingly when it's anonymous, even if it's not the sort of thing they would take part in normally.

### CYBERBULLYING

Being anonymous online provides some users with an incentive to bully others through toxic private conversations. Anonymous bullies can send hurtful messages or pressure young people into sending inappropriate content. Being a victim of cyberbullying can result in children becoming depressed and showing low self-esteem. If your child is exhibiting these signs, it's time to step in.

### EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Wink encourages repeated engagement through signing in daily, making connections, building up a message "streak" and publicly sharing stories. The reward is "gems", which allow users to connect with more people, play games and edit their profile background. This can lead to children spending an excessive amount of screen time on the app, which of course can be detrimental to their health.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### DO YOUR RESEARCH

If you do decide to allow your child to have a Wink account - or you find that they already have one - it's vital to talk to them about how to use the app responsibly and keep themselves safe. You could also consider exploring Wink yourself and becoming familiar with the app before letting your child download it, or there are no security settings or parental controls that can be put into place.

### OFFER YOUR SUPPORT

While it's not always easy to talk about inappropriate content with your child, it's crucial that they understand the impact of sending or receiving it. They also need to feel that they can speak to you about it without worrying about consequences. Emphasise that, if your child receives any messages that make them feel uncomfortable, they can block the sender and report them to the app.

### BE WARY OF SHARING

It's important that your child stays aware of what they're sharing online. Remind them about the importance of not posting personal information like their full name or which school they go to. Many users share their other social media account details on Wink to build their friend count, but we would recommend advising your child not to give strangers multiple avenues to contact them.

### DISCUSS LOSS OF OWNERSHIP

It's essential that young people understand that once content goes online, the sender no longer has any control over where it will end up. While your child may feel like they can trust their online "friend", that person is still a stranger. Even sharing one inappropriate image, for example, could then be used as leverage - as their "friend" threatens to release it publicly unless the child sends more.

### BALANCE SCREEN TIME

Before having a chat with your child about screen time, ask yourself if you're being a positive role model. Get your child thinking about how much time they spend on the app: is it healthy? Is it affecting their offline relationships with people? Is it impacting their mood? If so, you could suggest some activities you can do together which aren't so reliant on digital technology.

### BE CAUTIOUS OF NEW CONTACTS

Remind your child that not everyone online is who they say they are, and some users have harmful intentions. If someone on Wink is asking them lots of personal questions or suggests meeting up in real life, these are definite red flags. Encourage your child to ask for help if they're unsure about a particular profile. Remember, the app has a block button: your child shouldn't be afraid to use it!

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and eating behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



**NOS**  
National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday



# **Mother's Day** **Family Craft Morning**

**Saturday 19th March 10-12 noon**

For all the family — make your own gifts  
for Mother's Day

Only £1 per family — includes  
resources and refreshments

Forefront Community Centre  
42 Fore Street



# CHARD TOGETHER

On the 24th of April we will be showcasing and celebrating the rich and wonderful cultures that make Chard special at the Guildhall.

The theme this year is thread.

The different and diverse cultures and lives that we weave together to form our community.

- Children's competition to design a Logo for Chard Together using the theme of Thread. The winning design will be used for all future events, posters and flyers.. You can use any medium to produce the Logo. All entries to be displayed at Chard Library. (Closing date: 31:03:22 )
- Share or even perform on the stage, a traditional song, poem or dance.
- Ask your family if they would like to contribute a traditional dish that you would love to share. (We will require a list of the ingredients and will reimburse the cost)

Please call 07495177012 if you would like further information or to participate.



**CCS**  
people · place · enterprise

Somerset Voluntary Action  
Partners & Local Authorities



**SOMERSET**  
County Council



**Chard**  
Town Council

take art