

Dear Parents and Carers,

Summer Term Newsletter 4 - Friday 17th July 2020

We have arrived at the conclusion of an unusual and extremely busy and successful school year and we wish all children and their families a happy and safe summer holidays. On behalf of all staff we would like to thank you for the many kind cards, gifts and well wishes that we have received, we are all truly appreciative of them.

We wish all of our Year 6 children good luck as they leave us to move onto the new stage of their education. We have been extremely proud of their successes during this unprecedented year! We also say goodbye to Mr Glentworth and Mrs Coate and wish them much happiness in the next stage of their careers.

Key dates (please note that these may change.)

September	
Monday 7 th September	All children return to school.
Wednesday 23 rd September	Harvest festival with St Mary's



End of school year review – Mr Talmage

This academic year has been one of further successes and a levelling of school reputations in Chard. It is pleasing for the children who reside in Chard that all Primary schools are now classed as Good by Ofsted, something that hasn't been the case for many years! Please do continue to talk about the great education that Manor Court offers the children who attend the school.

Academic achievement has improved once more this year. 81% of our foundation stage children achieved greater level of development (71% achieved this last year nationally), KS2 results were also excellent 85% of the children were at Age Related expectations in combined Reading, Writing and Maths with 25% at Greater depth!



Achieving our Good judgment in our Ofsted inspection in December was a fantastic achievement for all of us. The inspection team informed the staff and Mrs Green (PPAT CEO) that the only reason we were not better than this was because of the speed of our journey since April 2017. It is all of our ambition to be even stronger at the time of our next inspection, which is likely to be in 2022!



Education this year in all schools throughout the country seems to have been overshadowed by the Coronavirus pandemic. Our plans to maintain some of our new traditions, such as the variety show at the Guildhall could not happen, or long held traditions such as the Summer Fete or Sports day did not go ahead this year. However, in an odd way, I feel that the pandemic has helped our school community travel further down its journey of school improvement and at a quicker pace. Our ethos of 'caring, learning and achieving together' has come to the forefront of all that we have done. Many parents, teachers and LSAs are reporting that they know each other better and we have inherited twelve children from other local schools during lockdown because parents are talking about the way that they feel we have cared for the children and have come together during this time of uncertainty!

In September we anticipate that we will quickly return to a safe and normal school life and will offer from September 7th a broad and balanced curriculum. After school clubs will commence in October and it is our intention for the children to catch up on any of the Manor Court 48 opportunities on their return to school in September.

We can all continue to be proud of being part of the school community at Manor Court Primary School and please do share this good news with your colleagues, friends and family.

Returning to school in September

We are looking forward to having all children back to school in September. This will be an exciting time for many children but may also cause some anxiety for those children who have not returned yet. Please carefully read the letter that we sent home yesterday and watch the video that we will upload to the school website and through our Twitter and Facebook accounts next week, as we hope that this will provide reassurance and answers to your questions.

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, or Mr Talmage. Alternatively, you can ring Children Social Care on: 0300 123 2224 or email childrens@somerset.gov.uk

If you have more than one child at our school, please follow the instructions for your youngest child for all of your children. We have arrangements in place for school staff to collect and walk older siblings to their classroom, if they are not yet confident to do so on their own. The reverse will happen at the end of the day, so please go to your youngest child's class where you will be able to collect all your children.



Virtual sports day – News from Mrs Prevett

The results to our Virtual Sports Day are as follows...drum roll please...

- 4th place Bondfield 170 points
- 3rd place Morangis 190 points
- 2nd place Gillingham 192 points
- 1st place Stringfellow 204 points!

Thank you to everyone who took part at home or in school, the children really enjoyed it!

Mrs Terry

After a thorough interview process last week, Mr Talmage, Mr Clode and members of the Governing body are delighted to inform you that Mrs Terry has been promoted to the position of Assistant Head Teacher at our school. Mrs Terry's dedication and commitment to the children of our school shone through the application process and we are convinced that Mrs Terry's appointment will ensure that the school will go into further strengths in the next academic year.

Praestantia competition winners

During the time of lockdown all children who attend Manor Court have had opportunity to enter a PPAT wide competition sponsored by our IT providers Praestantia. Praestantia donated some extremely generous prizes, a laptop for an overall KS1 winner in the five PPAT schools and a laptop for an overall KS2 winner in the five PPAT schools to those children who best described how useful information technology has been during lockdown. Praestantia also donated a £75, £50 and £25 Amazon voucher for each school.



The standard of entries were extremely high and the competition winners at Manor Court were judged by Mrs Terry, Mrs Stoodley and Mrs Clarke. The Manor Court winners are:

- 1st prize £75 voucher – Harry Stokes in Year 4
- 2nd prize £50 voucher – Isobel Pritchard in Year 4
- 3rd prize £25 Amazon voucher – Rocco King in Foundation Stage

We were delighted with Rocco's entry and have included this at the back of this newsletter for you all to see.

EYC spaces

We have a few spaces left in our EYC and we would like to fill these from September. We have attached an advertisement flyer to the back of this newsletter. Please share this information with your friends and family.

Windows

The project to replace most of our windows will start in October at a cost of over £250,000 for which we have won a Government grant to pay for their long overdue replacement.

Mrs Gomes

We are thrilled that Mrs Gomes teaches Portuguese to all children from Year 1 to Year 4 as it helps to embrace the cosmopolitan nature of Manor Court's community. From September Mrs Gomes's role has changed and expanded and she will now work with those EAL children who may need help with their English and will be an additional link person with our EAL families.

Lockdown challenge and Time Capsule

If your children have completed all or some of the lockdown challenges can they please bring their evidence to show their new teachers on Monday 7th September. We would also like any objects or writing that the children have made to be included in the time capsule on this day too.



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, or Mr Talmage. Alternatively, you can ring Children Social Care on: 0300 123 2224 or email childrens@somerset.gov.uk

After school clubs for next term

All Autumn Term clubs will commence in October and although we appreciate that this may cause some families difficulties with childcare, we believe that this delayed start will ensure a safe and happy start to the new school procedures in September.

EYC update from Laura

We have really enjoyed these last few weeks of the summer term! We have been playing and exploring lots of small world activities and investigating our outdoor area, with our new bug bank and developing construction area!

We wish all our children who are leaving us to start foundation in September the best of luck! They really will be missed!

We look forward to welcoming both old and new families into the Early Years Centre in September!

Please do follow us on Facebook- Manor Court Preschool / Early Years Centre.

Have a great summer!

The Lord's Larder

There is an opportunity for Chard and Tatworth families to have donations to help with packed lunches during the school holidays. The Lord's larder will be distributing these food parcels.

If your child is entitled to free school meals and in receipt of e-vouchers, you will be entitled to these packs. To claim them, you must show your e-voucher at the Lords Larder when you collect your pack. The service will be available on Fridays between 10am and 11.15am at the Baptist Church in Holyrood Street.

You will need to pre-book your food pack by calling 07542 498366 on Wednesdays between 9am and 1pm to book your food pack.

Your pack will not use any of your voucher which you will still be able to use at the supermarket.

Virtual Somerset Chatterbooks

Somerset Libraries UK is running a Chatterbooks group online for children aged 7 – 11.

If your child loves reading and would like to take part in activities connected with our monthly themes, you can send us an email to librariesmail@somerset.gov.uk.

Please tell us your name and your child's name and your library card numbers. We will then invite you to take part in our monthly reading group.

We are mindful of safeguarding so this is a closed group on Facebook, and you will need to be there with your child so they can take part. Only those who are invited will be able to take part so that you and your children can enjoy the group in safety.

This year, Silly Squad, the Summer Reading Challenge 2020, will celebrate funny books, happiness and laughter. Children taking part in the Challenge will join the Silly Squad, an adventurous team of animals who love to have a laugh and get stuck into all different kinds of funny books! The Summer Reading Challenge will be launching on the 11th July but you can sign up for it now, check it out here - <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

To tie in with this and encourage your children to take part, our first Chatterbooks theme is: What makes a Silly Story? This will be with Vicki from Chard library.

We look forward to seeing you at our first online Chatterbooks group!

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. Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr Clode and Deputy Designated Safeguard Leads: Miss Gregory and Mr Talmage. The school Safeguarding & Child Protection Governor is Mrs Jo Boyland.

Thank you for your continued support,



Mr L Talmage
Head Teacher



Mr A Clode
Deputy Head Teacher/Inclusion leader

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, or Mr Talmage. Alternatively, you can ring Children Social Care on: 0300 123 2224 or email childrens@somerset.gov.uk



Rocco in Foundation Stage Praestantia lockdown competition entry



Manor Court Early Years Centre Spaces Available



Session Times

9am - 12pm

12.30pm - 3.30pm

9am - 3.30pm

15/30 Hours Funded ~ Ages 2-4 years

FREE BOOKBAG & 4 FREE NON-FUNDED SESSIONS

IF YOU take a picture of this poster and show it to the school office. Offer received after a term's attendance.

T&Cs: Offer subject to spaces available. Redemption of this offer expires on 2nd November 2020 and your chosen sessions must be agreed with the EYC Manager.



For further information, please contact the main school office on 01460 62350



Manor Court Community Primary School and Early Years Centre
Duck Lane, Chard TA20 2ES

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, or Mr Talmage. Alternatively, you can ring Children Social Care on: 0300 123 2224 or email childrens@somerset.gov.uk