

Key dates (please note that these may change)

January	
Tuesday 28 th	Yr 3/4 Tag Rugby – Chard Rugby Club (selected pupils)
February	
Tuesday 4 th	Yr 3/4 Netball – Holyrood (selected pupils)
Friday 7 th	Yr 3/4 Badminton – Yeovil College (selected pupils)
Monday 10 th	Yr 3 Donkey Sanctuary visit – further details to follow
Tuesday 11 th	Yr 4 Wildwood residential – 1 st payment deadline Yr 5/6 Netball – Holyrood (selected pupils)
Thursday 13 th	FMCA Valentines disco – further details to follow



Art exhibition

We held our second annual public Art Exhibition at the Guildhall in Chard last Friday and the focus for the exhibition was various aspects of Chard, its Geography, History, people and buildings in the style of Somerset Artist, Doris Hatt.

The artwork on display was created by children as young as two years old from Manor Court Early Years Centre, up to age eleven in Year 6. The exhibits ranged from whole class pieces to individual paintings, drawings, collages, poetry, weaving and sewing.

Around 600 visitors came to the exhibition over the day, including all of the pupils, many of their families, and members of the public. Chard's Mayor Cllr Jason Baker was given a detailed guided tour of the exhibition by Year 3 pupils.

Prints of Year 3's textiles work were available to buy as greetings cards, and donations to the school's charity 'Children's Hospice South West' were taken. Local Artists Sheila Cordell and Karen Treble were particularly impressed with Year 3's work, and both bought lots of their cards.

Cold weather

The cold weather that we are experiencing seems to be staying for a while. Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and that they have a coat to wear and possibly a scarf and gloves.

VE Day Bank Holiday

The Government has changed the date of the Bank Holiday in May, to enable us all to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day. This will now be on Friday 8th May instead of Monday 4th.



Y6 shirt ironing as part of the Manor Court 48

Each of the Year 6 children have learnt how to iron a shirt over the past fortnight. The children have enjoyed the experience and will be using their newly acquired skills later in the year to raise money for the school charity of the year.

Weather warning

It is coming to the time of year when more extreme weather may be experienced. We will endeavour at all times to keep the school open and will only shut if it is becoming dangerous for the children, if we are unable to provide a warm learning environment or if food is unable to be delivered to the school from the caterers.

Up-to-date information about school closure will be found in the following places.

1. The scrolling bar on the front page of our school website: www.manorcourt.somerset.sch.uk
2. The school twitter page: @ManorCourtChard
3. Somerset Learning Platform <https://slp.somerset.gov.uk>
4. Information will be broadcast on the following radio stations
 - BBC Somerset. 95.5 FM, 1566MHZ
 - Heart FM. 102.6 FM, 96.5 FM (Taunton Area)

Term Dates 2020-2021 The term dates for the 2020-2021 academic year have been published this week and they can be found on the school website. We have also attached them on the last page of this newsletter.

School Uniform

Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate footwear to school. Boots and trainers are not suitable for school. A copy of our school uniform policy is available on our website.

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

KS1 Cricket festival at Holyrood Academy

Ten children from KS1 were chosen to participate in a cricket festival at Holyrood Academy last week. The children enjoyed spending the morning honing their skills with cricket ambassadors from Holyrood.



Parents evening advanced warning.

Our next parents evening is on Monday 2nd and Wednesday 4th March 2020.



M&M Pantomime – Sleeping beauty

All of the children, from the Nursery class to Y6 (and no doubt the staff) enjoyed Sleeping Beauty performed by M&M productions last week. The children were encouraged to participate and some lines were giving to Oscar J in Owls. We must thank the FMCA who paid half of the costs once more this year.

Healthy snacks

As part of the science, PE, and PSHE lessons, we teach the children the importance of a balanced diet. We are becoming aware that some of the snacks, which some children are eating during morning break, are not the healthiest. Please ensure that your child does not have nuts, chocolate, sweets or fizzy drinks in their bag to eat. We appreciate your support in this matter.



E-Safety news from Miss Thompson

TikTok is proving to be extremely popular at the moment and while there are many good aspects, as with all social networks, there are some risks. To help parents and carers monitor their children's use of the app, TikTok have launched a new Family Safety mode which allows parents to link their own account to their children's account. They can set restrictions on content, contact and screentime. For more useful information about the app and how it works, have a look at one of these guides:

<https://www.common sense media.org/blog/parents-ultimate-guide-to-tiktok>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/tik-tok-app-safety-what-parents-need-to-know/>

KS2 SATs

Year 6 children are working especially hard at the moment in preparation for their end of Key Stage assessments, in Reading, Mathematics and SPAG (Spelling, punctuation and grammar). These assessments are between Monday 11^h May and Friday 15th May.



Rock up and Read videos

Reading is one of the central features of our school offer. We aspire for all of the children who attend Manor Court to find a love of reading. One of our initiatives is called Rock up and Read and is in three parts
Part one: to invite parents to come into school and read with their child at the end of the school day.
Part two: for the school to gather volunteers to hear children read with regularity throughout the week.
Part three: for adults employed in the school to record a video of them reading their favourite childhood story. These videos could be used at home by parents as the bedtime story.

We have initially made seven videos (a new one will be uploaded each week) and you can find our videos at www.manorcourt.somerset.sch.uk/rock-up-and-read-with-your-school-adults.

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 Lead: 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

Term dates and Holidays 2020/2021 Academic year



September 2020					October 2020					November 2020							
M		7	14	21	28	M		5	12	19	26	M	2	9	16	23	30
Tu	1	8	15	22	29	Tu		6	13	20	27	Tu	3	10	17	24	
W	2	9	16	23	30	W		7	14	21	28	W	4	11	18	25	
Th	3	10	17	24		Th	1	8	15	22	29	Th	5	12	19	26	
F	4	11	18	25		F	2	9	16	23	30	F	6	13	20	27	
Sa	5	12	19	26		Sa	3	10	17	24	31	Sa	7	14	21	28	
Su	6	13	20	27		Su	4	11	18	25		Su	1	8	15	22	29
December 2020					January 2021					February 2021							
M		7	14	21	28	M	4	11	18	25		M	1	8	15	22	
Tu	1	8	15	22	29	Tu	5	12	19	26		Tu	2	9	16	23	
W	2	9	16	23	30	W	6	13	20	27		W	3	10	17	24	
Th	3	10	17	24	31	Th	7	14	21	28		Th	4	11	18	25	
F	4	11	18	25		F	1	8	15	22	29	F	5	12	19	26	
Sa	5	12	19	26		Sa	2	9	16	23	30	Sa	6	13	20	27	
Su	6	13	20	27		Su	3	10	17	24	31	Su	7	14	21	28	
March 2021					April 2021					May 2021							
M	1	8	15	22	29	M	5	12	19	26		M	3	10	17	24	31
Tu	2	9	16	23	30	Tu	6	13	20	27		Tu	4	11	18	25	
W	3	10	17	24	31	W	7	14	21	28		W	5	12	19	26	
Th	4	11	18	25		Th	1	8	15	22	29	Th	6	13	20	27	
F	5	12	19	26		F	2	9	16	23	30	F	7	14	21	28	
Sa	6	13	20	27		Sa	3	10	17	24		Sa	1	8	15	22	29
Su	7	14	21	28		Su	4	11	18	25		Su	2	9	16	23	30
June 2021					July 2021					August 2021							
M		7	14	21	28	M		5	12	19	26	M	2	9	16	23	30
Tu	1	8	15	22	29	Tu		6	13	20	27	Tu	3	10	17	24	31
W	2	9	16	23	30	W		7	14	21	28	W	4	11	18	25	
Th	3	10	17	24		Th	1	8	15	22	29	Th	5	12	19	26	
F	4	11	18	25		F	2	9	16	23	30	F	6	13	20	27	
Sa	5	12	19	26		Sa	3	10	17	24	31	Sa	7	14	21	28	
Su	6	13	20	27		Su	4	11	18	25		Su	1	8	15	22	29

Key:

	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Inset Day

Term dates summary:

Term 1: 03 September – 23 October 2020 (37 days)
 Term 2: 02 November – 18 December 2020 (35 days)
 Term 3: 04 January – 12 February 2021 (30 days)
 Term 4: 22 February – 01 April 2021 (29 days)
 Term 5: 19 April – 28 May 2021 (29 days)
 Term 6: 07 June – 23 July 2021 (35 days)

TOTAL = 195

Bank and public holidays 2020/21

Christmas Day Bank Holiday	25 December 2020	Easter Monday	05 April 2021
Boxing Day Bank Holiday	28 December 2020*	May Day Bank Holiday	03 May 2021
New Year's Day Holiday	01 January 2021	Spring Bank Holiday	31 May 2021
Good Friday	02 April 2021	Summer Bank Holiday	30 August 2021

*Replacement bank holiday day when the bank holiday falls on a weekend