

Dear Parents and carers,

Autumn Term Newsletter 4 - Friday 18th October 2019



Key dates (please note that these may change)

October	
Monday 21 st & Wednesday 23 rd	Parents' Evenings
Thursday 24 th	Futsal Competition at Holyrood Academy – selected children Foundation Art Exhibition
Friday 25 th	Last day of this half term
November	
4 th	Return to school Yr 4/5 swimming commences

Parents' evenings

You should have received your appointment time for Parents evening next week. These will be held on Monday 21st October (until 7:00pm) and Wednesday 23rd October (until 6:00pm) in the school hall. These appointments are invaluable for parents and teachers alike, where information can be shared, next steps created and children's progress and attainment can be celebrated.

Owls have been informed that Mrs Terry is currently unwell and appointments will be made when she returns to school.

After school clubs

Due to Parents evening on Monday and Wednesday there will not be calligraphy, homework (all year groups), times tables, girls' football, film, running or netball clubs next week. Please collect your child at the end of the school day.

Staff car park

Please do not use the staff car park when dropping your children at school, including breakfast club or when collecting them at the end of the school day, including after school clubs.

Cuddly toys and pencil cases

Unless in prior agreement with the class teacher, Mr Clode or Mr Talmage, primarily because of emotional needs, children are not to bring into school cuddly toys or anything of sentimental value from home. Pencil cases are not required to be brought into school because all equipment is provided for the children by the school. Thank you for your support in these matters.

Nut based products

Please do not put nuts or nut- based products in your childrens' lunchboxes as we have a child in school with a severe nut allergy. This includes Nutella and other nut-based chocolate spreads.



Y4 Chard Carnival. Winners for the second year in a row!

The Year 4 children participated in Chard's children's carnival procession once again this year. Well done to them for winning the school's category for the second year in a row. Meshach (in Foxes class) was the Carnival prince and many congratulations should go to him for this honour.

Zozulenka Ukrainian singing and dancing tour assembly

We are delighted that the Zozulenka Ukrainian singing and dancing tour are visiting Manor Court next Wednesday. These talented performers are from the Ukrainian school or Arts and we are grateful that Chard Baptist Church have introduced us.

Chard Library Summer Reading challenge

The children that completed Chard Library's Summer Reading Challenge have been presented with their medals and certificates in celebration assemblies since the previous newsletter was sent home. Librarian Lyn is pictured here with successful pupils from lower Key Stage 2.



Somerset Activity and Sports awards 2019

We are very pleased to announce that we have been nominated as a finalist for the Primary PE and sport premium awards at this year's Somerset awards.

This week a case study about Manor Court sports provision was published by Sports England. This can be found on the school website and on the last two pages of this newsletter.

Open days

Don't forget Open day on Monday 21st October. This is an opportunity for parents of current children and any future children to visit the school and see it in action.



International mental health day

Last week, Mr Pidgeon, staff and the well-being council led assembly for international mental health day. The KS2 children learnt how to look after their mental health and the importance of not hiding their feelings. We will complete a whole school activity on International children's mental health day in February 2020.

Shoe box appeal

This year we are again supporting the Blythwood Care Shoebox Appeal and have sent a leaflet and letter home with the children explaining all the details. These shoeboxes go to extremely in need children, teenagers and adults who would not normally receive any gifts at Christmas. We would really appreciate if you would consider donating a shoebox of small gifts or items that can be used by us to make up shoeboxes. The deadline for handing them into school is Tuesday 22nd October 2019. Thank you for your support

Year 6 Girls football team

The year 5 & 6 girls football team did the school proud last week in the Holyrood cluster competition. They won all three group games and then made it through to the final, only missing out on penalties.



Whole school attendance

Whole school attendance is currently 96%!

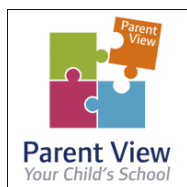
Safeguarding

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: Mr Talmage. The school Safeguarding & Child Protection Governor is Mrs Jo Boyland.

School admissions

We currently have places for children in all year groups, apart from Y5 and Y6, in which we are oversubscribed. Please do tell your friends and family members!

The way in which parents of children due to start school in 2020 has changed. To save money, Somerset County Council no longer post letters home to parents to explain the application process. For further information about the process, please follow this link or come and speak to us in the school office and we would be delighted to help you. <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-learning-and-schools/choosing-a-school/apply-to-start-school/>



Ofsted Parent view – The questions have changed, please review again.

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

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr L Talmage
Head Teacher

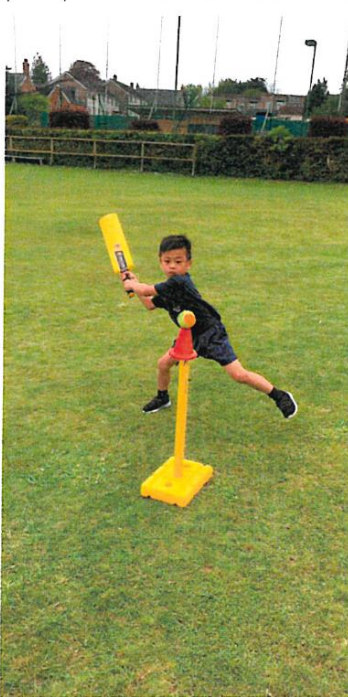
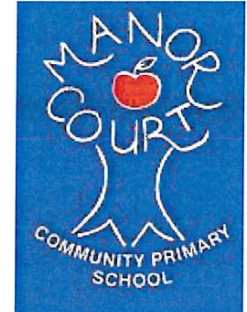
Mr A Clode
Deputy Head Teacher/Inclusion leader

School: Manor Court Primary School, Chard
 390 children at the school
 PE Coach: Luke Jackson

Questions asked of Luke Jackson – PE Lead

● How has the funding provided sustainable improvement to the quality of PE and sport at the school?

The Primary PE and Sport funding has allowed us to make sustainable improvements to the Physical Education that we deliver throughout Manor Court Primary school. The main aim that we strived to succeed was to ensure that all children within our care, enjoy participating in physical activity. The funding has allowed us to broaden the range of sporting activities that we can offer as well as provide children a taste for physical activities available to them within the local area. It has allowed many of our children a platform to strive in a sport that they most enjoy, with a pathway for continued participation outside of school.



The PE Curriculum

We specified that part of our funding allocation would be used to implement a new focus of PE within our enriched curriculum. We adopted the philosophy of the Real PE framework. This has enabled us to instil a passion for physical activity within all children as well as ensure that staff within our school are equipped to deliver high quality PE sessions.

Specialist PE Teacher

A small amount of the funding has been used to employ a specialist PE coach at the school. This has allowed adequate support towards high quality PE teaching, as well as establish programmes for play leaders and interschool games in a cycle of whole school improvement and continuous professional development for teaching staff.

Play Leader Programme

The funding has facilitated the establishment of a sustainable play leader programme. It allowed time for play leaders to have their own thoughts heard and put together a training programme that can be adopted each year for continuous use. The support of the funding allowed the programme to develop over two years, allowing current leaders to retrain new leaders each year. The skills and techniques used by the leaders on the playgrounds at our school allow for active, fun and self-regulated activity each day. The benefit has not only been for the children taking part in the activities but has allowed previously inactive children to develop a passion for sport by taking up a leadership role. Some play leaders were chosen especially for this reason.

Competition

Likewise, the funding has allowed for an efficient approach towards interschool games. The games allow us to embed the school's games values within our school for various different activities. We have been able to offer interschool competitions for not only 'traditional' sports such as Football, Hockey and Netball but sports such as Boccia, Gymnastics and Archery. Manor Court school is a large multi-cultural school, with 26% of the children having heritage from one of 32 countries, we choose when appropriate to introduce sports from these countries.

Equipment

The offer of various afterschool clubs has enabled us to have more than 50% of our children involved in sporting activities outside of the school day for the last two academic years. We utilised the funding to help fund new sports kit that not only raised the profile of the school in the community but gave children a sense of belonging and pride when representing their school. It was amazing to see how a new kit can make the experience of children representing the school so much more enjoyable!

After-school Clubs

The school offers 25 afterschool clubs each week, of which 9 are sport based and open to various year groups and genders. Finances are not a barrier for children to attend these clubs as they are paid for by the sport funding and when necessary topped up with the Pupil Premium grant. The school also run an active breakfast club which is subsidised for target children who had been least active. Without this funding initially these clubs would not have been able to run and we would have more children being less active at school.



● What issue has been tackled at the school using the funding and how have you achieved this?

Many of the actions taken place were to ensure that the school would achieve Gold in the school games accreditation. The initial change was to ensure each child had two hours of timetabled PE a week. In order to achieve this the employment of a PE coach and purchase of Real PE were made to create a platform for a variety of sports. This allowed our children to access various sports on a competitive level.

Children's participation in competitive sport was something the school lacked and we wanted to tackle not only participation, but the scope of sports we competed in. By the purchasing of appropriate playing kit, increased afterschool clubs on offer and luxury to transport children to various venues, we have been able to achieve this. We also attended the inclusion games (ensuring children to whom physical activity or sport may not come as naturally) to ensure that all children, if they have the desire, the opportunity to compete in suitable competition. This has increased resilience, self-esteem and future participation.

Each class now has two hours of timetabled PE in a week. We identified through staff surveys that in order to deliver high quality PE across the school we needed to provide beneficial CPD, which Mark at Create Development delivered. Teachers are now confident in delivering high quality PE sessions from the Real PE framework. Our experienced coach is able to spend time to team teach with teachers to ensure that the PE sessions are as beneficial as they can be. The funding was also used to ensure that appropriate inclusive resources were purchased for all children in our care to access activity.

● How is success measured to ensure impact?

We track the activity of children within the school by recording the activity levels in competitive sport in school as well as within the school games competitions. The same process is also made for tracking activity in after-school clubs. The use of the active school planner to produce heatmaps for certain year groups allows a strategic approach towards planning activities and opportunities within the school to target low inactivity within year groups.

The skills that children are able to accomplish are also tracked. Since the appointment of our PE Coach three years ago our current Key stage 1 children are applying skills to a higher level than some of the older children in the school. This sustainable approach to PE delivery from early years not only improves the ability of children but has created positive relationships and value to physical activity.



● Which local partners were involved?

The funding has allowed us to make good connections to many of the local community-based clubs within our area. We were able to facilitate taster sessions for local Football, Hockey and Cricket clubs on the doorstep of the children who attend our school. It has been really beneficial for the children in our school to have the route into clubs in the community linked to the sessions they have taken part in. We also managed to deliver taster sessions for rock climbing by organising a climbing wall to come into school which the children thrived on completing.

We used the Fitter Futures workout videos as a way of introducing 'brain breaks' within the school. The children were able to access short and enjoyable bursts of exercise regularly during the school week. We also had many children using their personal home login to complete workouts at home with members of their family.

As a school we have also worked very closely with SASP to deliver various opportunities to our children, such as the Healthy Futures programme and inclusive games for our children. The school has organised 'enrichment days' by working with Yeovil Town FC Primary stars programme and Rocktopus music and dance day, affecting the whole school and not just selected pupils.

Our work with Somerset cricket board and Chard cricket club has created many opportunities for our children to experience and gain knowledge on the pathways within cricket. This was through delivery within the school day and by attending a school's day at the county ground.

From Stuart Kennard – Healthy Futures Lead – SASP

Healthy Futures at Manor Court – Luke has embedded Healthy Futures into the school routine. Children across year 2 and 5 have accessed the project to help improve their understanding of the importance of activity and how this improves their overall health and well-being. The project has run alongside curriculum planning such as science to help enhance the children's understanding.

Quote from Head Teacher (Mr Luke Talmage) The sports funding has enabled the school to increase the opportunities for children who attend Manor Court Primary School. I have been especially pleased that children are becoming obviously physically fitter and the activities are leading to improvement in mental health of children and staff alike.

Quote from Pupil (Ebonie – Year 6 pupil) I love PE because it's not just about competition and races, it's about having fun and getting fit. It's also ran by a really funny, but sensible, man called Mr Jackson who makes PE even more fun than it used to be.

Quote from Pupil (Jasmyn – Year 5 pupil) PE at Manor Court is great because we play a lot of fun games and have lots of after-school clubs. We also play a lot of competitions that we are very successful in. All of the games we play are fun and everyone enjoys and learns from them. I play in the afterschool football club and have played in the school team as well!

Quote from Pupil (Ebonie – Year 6 pupil) The PE and sport premium funding available to support physical activity allows so many opportunities for children to be active. As a passionate sports person it is amazing to see so many children enjoying amazing opportunities that would not be as easily accessible without the funding. Through the funding, our potential laying of a foundation for a lifetime of sport and physical activity, allowing schools to achieve, has been so beneficial for instilling a life of physical activity in all children.

Quote from Parent (Lisa – parent of Year 1 and Year 3 children) The school have a wide range of PE opportunities available whilst also making my children feel safe and secure when taking part. Anabelle really enjoyed gymnastics sessions and as a result we have enrolled her into a local club. She also had a great opportunity to perform through the school dance club and has grown in confidence massively. Reece has grown in confidence since his illness and re-learned lost skills all whilst remaining in his capabilities.

Quote from Parent (Kelly – parent of Year 3 and Year 5 children) Manor Court has offered my children so many different opportunities to be active. The school have signposted local out of school clubs available for children which has meant we now participate in sporting activities outside of school.

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