

Dear Parents and carers,

## Autumn Term Newsletter 3 - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019

**Key dates** (please note that these may change)



October	
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	School Photographs
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 4 taking part in Chard Children's Carnival
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	FMCA AGM
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Flu Immunisation for all year groups
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> & Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Parents Evening – details to follow
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of half term
November	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Return to school

### Police citizenship award

During KS2 celebration assembly last week, two local PCSOs joined us to award Lucas, Kasper and Igor the newly created Police citizenship award. During the Summer holidays the boys had stood in the pouring rain protecting the public and public property from harm. We are especially proud of the boys!



### Online safety news

Helping children to develop healthy relationships with technology can be tricky but there are a couple of apps which have been developed to help parents and carers.

For Apple devices, 'Screen Time' shows you how much time your children are spending on apps, websites and games. It can also offer a summary showing how many hours you spent looking at your screen! Find support for using parental controls on Apple devices at: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201304>

For Android devices (though you can also use it with iOS) there is 'Google Family Link' which has recently been updated and improved. It can help you manage your child's apps, set limits and view their activity. Find out more about it at: <https://families.google.com/familylink/>

### The 'Manor Court 48' (Foundation Stage)

As the first activity in their Manor Court 48, the Foundation Stage children made a mud slide this week. They worked collaboratively, talked about the rules and took turns brilliantly!



### Rock up and Read

Reading is a continuing emphasis within our school and our current focus is home reading and fostering a love of reading. Next week we will begin our new initiative of Rock up and Read, an opportunity at the end of the school day for an adult to come into school to read with their child. Please refer to the recent letter about the correct day for your child's class or look on the calendar section of the school website.

We do hope to see you at one of the events!



### EYC News from Laura

We have been busy at the EYC over the last few weeks! We held a coffee morning for Macmillan in which parents and grandparents joined us for tea and cake and we raised £40.52. We have been getting out into the community visiting Snowdon Park and Chard Library. We are also really enjoying our weekly music sessions with Declan! Over the coming weeks we are going to be exploring Autumn with Welly walks, conker rolling, leaf printing, creating Stick Man, cooking yummy autumn treats, and also Halloween activities! Please follow us on Twitter @ManorCourtEYC to see what we are getting up to!

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](mailto:childrens@somerset.gov.uk)



### **Rugby World Cup Day**

Yesterday all of the children throughout the school participated in a Rugby World Cup day that was energetic and brilliantly officiated by the newly appointed sports leaders. We were pleased that the weather forecast was, on this occasion, one hundred percent accurate and the rain held off until 3pm and the time to come in to change for home.

At the end of the day children were saying things like "That was cold but so much fun!" and "I didn't want to go outside this afternoon but I LOVED that!"

### **Lunchtime supervisors**

We are looking to recruit two lunchtime supervisors. If this is a role that you would enjoy, please contact Mrs Hunt in the school office for further details and to collect an application form.

### **Harvest Festival**

Last Monday the children visited St Mary's for the Harvest festival. Clear readings and singing were enjoyed and an imaginative talk from Reverend Ann focussed the children on the need for farming and the harvest time. The many donations were boxed up and sent to the Lords Larder the following day.

### **Ferne Animal Sanctuary assembly**

Mark from Ferne Animal sanctuary led the KS2 assembly last Tuesday. He spoke about their work and the dragonfly photography day that was held in the school last July. This was a very informative assembly and the children had opportunity to ask many questions.

### **Shoe box appeal**

This year we are again supporting the Blytheswood 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 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019. Thank you for your support.

### **Online safety council**

This week our online safety council was elected for the 2019-2020 academic year. These children will be in charge of promoting online safety in our school, looking after the online safety worry box and setting up some exciting events throughout the school year!



### **FMCA AGM**

The FMCA raise much needed funds for our school and its children. The AGM is an important yearly meeting where new committee members are elected and fundraising ideas are discussed. This year the AGM is on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October at 3:30pm in Foxes classroom. Refreshments will be provided and we do hope to see you there.

### **Y4 Chard Carnival participation**

The Year 4 curriculum topic this term is learning about how carnivals bring people together and the children have been studying carnivals in Somerset, namely Chard and across the world in Brazil. In light of this and as part of the Manor Court 48 the children will participate in the children's carnival. The procession starts from our school and has done for the past twenty years. Do come and support the children of our school on the day.

### **Apple pressing**

Chard museum has very kindly offered to lend Manor Court their apple press on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October to show the children how apple juice is made and for them to taste some very tasty and fresh apple juice. They will initially work with Y4 from 2:30pm and after school the whole school will have opportunity to taste and press until 4pm. We would appreciate donations of apples to ensure that this event can happen.

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## School photos

Tempest photography will be in school on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October to take photographs of the children. This year Tempest are encouraging families to order the photos on their website on which you can find a wider selection of products and in some cases cheaper prices. As usual you will receive a proof of the photographs taken. The deadline for all orders is Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019.



## Play leaders

This week our new play leaders were awarded their badges and important whistle. The playleaders have received training from Mr Jackson to take charge of structured games at lunchtime for their peers on the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds. This has led to busy and active lunchtimes for all children.

## Open days

As a result of the success of last year's Open morning, we have arranged another opportunity on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> and Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October. These mornings is for current parents, family members, the wider community and for prospective family members to view the school as it runs on a daily basis. Please phone or pop into the school office and let them know that you would like to attend.

## Safeguarding

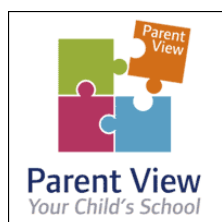
Safeguarding is the responsibility of everybody. In terms of keeping children safe, please "Don't think "What if I'm wrong" Think... "What if I am right" If you have any concerns about a pupil you should report this to a member of staff immediately. If you feel a pupil is at risk or a subject of abuse 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.

## 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](http://www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk)

## Parents' evenings – Advanced warning

Our next Parents evening will be held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October (until 7:00pm) and Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October (until 6:00pm). 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. Further information will be sent home next week.

Thank you for your continued support,



Mr L Talmage  
Head Teacher



Mr A Clode  
Deputy Head Teacher/Inclusion leader

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