

Dear Parents and carers,

Autumn Term Newsletter 2 - Friday 20th September 2019

Key dates (please note that these may change)

September	
Monday 23 rd	Harvest Festival
Friday 27 th	Year 1 Vision Screening
October	
Wednesday 9 th	School Photographs
Friday 18 th	Flu Immunisations



Y6 Trip to the Houses of Parliament

Last Friday the Y6 children spent an exciting and informative day in London visiting the Houses of Parliament and learning more about British Democracy (thankfully they weren't caught up in the protests!). As Parliament is currently not as busy as usual, the children were allowed to enter the House of Lords. This annual trip is becoming a favourite for the children and staff and a privilege, as under 5% of the British population have entered the buildings at Parliament.



Y1 Maths family learning

It is not too late to sign up for the Maths family learning sessions that start next Friday morning at 9am in the hall studio room. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn how to help your child with their maths education. Please see Mrs Johns for further information.



Harvest Festival

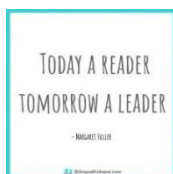
This coming Monday (23rd September) all of the children will be attending St Mary's church to participate in our Harvest festival. We will be collecting non-perishable food items (UHT milk, fruit squash, sugar, rice, pasta, tinned food etc.) for the Lord's Larder in Chard. It is not too late to bring items in for the collection, please do so on Monday.

Year 5 and 6 Boys football at Holyrood

This week the Year 5 and 6 boys' football team represented the school fantastically in the Y5/6 Chard schools tournament. They managed two draws, two losses and a win. The boys were a real credit to themselves and the school.

Reading

Reading is a key part of everyday life and is such an important skill to have. As a school we place a high importance on your child's confidence as a reader and work hard to give enriched opportunities to help them. Our expectation is that each child reads five times a week to an adult. Please do help us by hearing your child read as often as possible and make comment in their reading record. We do appreciate your support in this.



Get Chard Reading project

This week our Y5 have participated in an Art Day with local artist Louise Allen. The children, inspired by the book 'The Boy in the back of the classroom' written by Onjali Rauf about a Syrian refugee, created postcards that will hopefully be shared with child refugees in Calais. The Y6 children inspired by the same book made models of Syrian houses with Mr Plumbley that will be displayed in Chard's library. Please do take the time to go and see the children's work.



Head lice

Part and parcel of young children mixing together in all schools around the country is Head lice. Can you please check your child's head regularly to prevent it spreading to other children.

Open days

As a result of the success of last year's Open Day, we have arranged another for Monday 14th October. This day is for current parents, family members, the wider community and for prospective family members to view

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

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.

Y4 trip to Chard museum

The year 4 children visited Chard museum this week and learnt many interesting facts about the carnival and were fortunate enough to try on some of the costumes! A great morning was had by all and if you've never been to the museum, it's well worth a visit.



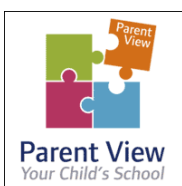
School admissions

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/>

The application deadline for year 6 transferring to secondary school is 31st October 2019, the deadline for children due to start primary school in September is 15th January 2020.



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

The 'Manor Court 48'

We appreciate that a remarkable education is more than excellent teaching, but is learning through a variety of opportunities, life skills and experiences and some of these may solely be opportunities to 'simply have fun'!

The 'Manor Court 48' is a selection of 48 opportunities (one per half term in each year group and the EYC) that we consider children should experience before they leave Primary education. It is our expectation that by the school providing these opportunities, it will ensure that all children will have an even greater love of learning and a particular passion or hidden talent will be found.

School uniform and PE kit

It is wonderful to see the children looking smart in their new school uniform. Can we please take the opportunity to politely remind you, that nail polish is not to be worn in school at any time and that brightly coloured or extreme hairstyles, including tram lines or shaven stars are not acceptable. Girls skirts need to be of an appropriate length with tights in the Autumn and Spring terms and children from Year 2 and above must be wearing formal school shirts and not polo shirts.

Please be aware the only piercings acceptable at school are a single stud in the ears and that they have to be removed during PE. Please ensure that your child has their full PE kit with them every day.

Parents' evenings – Advanced warning

Our next Parents evening will be held on Monday 21st October (until 7:00pm) and Wednesday 23rd 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