

Dear Parents and Carers,

Summer Term Newsletter 6– Friday 5th July 2019

We are coming towards the conclusion of a very successful and busy school year, with only ten school days left. It is especially important that all communication sent home is read carefully. This will enable all families to know what exciting events are happening on a daily basis. The school Twitter feed, calendar on the school website and the FMCA Facebook contains all useful information.

Key dates (please note that these may change.)



July	
Monday 8 th	KS2 Online Safety Assembly to parents in the Hall – 2.45pm
Tuesday 9 th & Thursday 11 th July	End of Year performance - Guildhall
Wednesday 11 th July	KS1 Online Safety Assembly to parents in the Hall – 2.45pm
Thursday 11 th	Foundation Stage trip to Lyme Regis
Monday 15 th	Yr6 Annie performance Yr6 'Oscars' Ceremony
Wednesday 17 th	Yr6 Annie performance
Thursday 18 th	Yr6 Leavers Assembly
Friday 19 th	Last day of term – non-school uniform – no donation required

Year 6 end of year performance and leavers assembly

The end of the school year is soon approaching as are two important events for our Year 6 children. If you have a child in year 6, please make a note of them for your arrangements.

- Year 6 performance of Annie to Parents on Monday 15th July (matinee performance) or Wednesday 17th July (evening performance).
- Year 6 leavers assembly to family members Thursday 18th July at 1:45pm.

Variety shows at the Guildhall

The Performing arts is an important part of the curriculum and education that we offer to all children at Manor Court. Next Tuesday and Thursday, we will host an end of year variety show, containing song, dance and drama at the Guildhall. Both nights have nearly sold out, but are still on sale from the Guildhall box office and all profits will be reinvested into the performance arts curriculum in our school.

We are extremely grateful to Mrs Morton and her band of willing volunteers who have worked extremely hard in all of the preparation for this event. Without their efforts, the show would not be happening.

Foundation Stage Pirate day – News from Mrs Farwell

Foundation Stage took part in a pirate day as part of their pirate topic. They dressed up as pirates and acted out lots of different pirate situations. The children also completed some brilliant art work and writing about their day.



Transition afternoon

This week the Year 6 children have had an enjoyable time in their new schools and children in the other year groups have spent time with their new teacher in their new classroom. The atmosphere in each of the classrooms during this time was wonderful.

VE Day Bank Holiday 2020

The Government has changed the Bank Holiday in May 2020, from Monday 4th May to Friday 8th May to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day. All children and staff will attend school on Monday 4th May. We will change the whole school calendar and reissue it in the next school newsletter.



Year 4 visit to Taunton Museum – written by Ana in Puffins class

On Friday 28th July, Year 4 pupils visited the Somerset Museum in Taunton to support their learning about the Romans. We travelled by coach. When we

extremely seriously at our school. If you have a concern, you can speak to any of the named Child Protection officers: Mr Clode, or Mr Talmage. Alternatively, you can ring

arrived, we split into groups. My first activity was a workshop where some children dressed up in Roman clothes. Then we touched some artefacts including a special tool for collecting ear wax! I saw a huge real Roman mosaic. We had our lunch outside on the grass as it was so sunny. In the afternoon, we went to look at exhibits around the rest of the museum. I loved the Doris Hatt room. It was a gallery of her art work. I really enjoyed the trip and would recommend the museum to anyone who likes history.

Breakfast club

Our breakfast club runs each morning from 8:00am and has been held, for many years, in the school hall. The cost of this is subsidised by the school and is extremely reasonably priced at £2.25 a session. For this money the children have a healthy breakfast, including drink and half an hour's child care. Places are limited to twenty children per session and places can be booked through ParentPay. From September, to enable us to continue offering this service and at a reduced price, it will be held in the EYC. Children can arrive from 8:00am and will be walked to the main school by a member of staff.

Further information will be sent home about these changes in the next week.

Clubs for next term

We will be sending information out via ParentPay about clubs for the Autumn Term at the end of next week. Please take note to the information in this letter as we would hate for any child to miss out on their first choices.



Year 6 Residential to Minehead – News from Mrs Hall

Year 6 had a wonderful time on residential at Butlins in Minehead. In the glorious sunshine, they enjoyed a range of activities which included the high ropes, climbing, swimming, a drum workshop, a disco and even a visit to a pantomime! Lots of fun was had by all and the children (and teachers) were well and truly exhausted by the end of the week!

After school clubs

All after school clubs stop for this term on Friday 12th July. Because of the variety show on Tuesday and Thursday no clubs will run on these days.

The Reading Agency's Space Chase Summer Reading Challenge 2019 – News from Mrs Terry

Taking part in the Summer Reading Challenge is simple – sign up at Chard library from Saturday 13th July to begin! You'll receive your very own Space Chase folder to get you started. Read six books (or more!) over the summer holidays to collect special stickers to add to your folder. Collect all the stickers to find the aliens, save the missing books and complete the challenge!

Our very own Chatterbooks Club, who meet monthly with Chard librarian Jo Portway, will be promoting the Summer Reading Challenge in a special assembly to the rest of the school on Thursday 11th July.

More information can be found by visiting <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

Year 5 residential trip to The Ultimate Adventure Centre – News from Mr Pidgeon

The Year Five pupils had an amazing time on their residential; surfing, kayaking, stand up paddle boarding, assault courses and more. The children were excited when they boarded the coach and the short journey to The Ultimate Adventure Centre flew by. On the first day the Ultimate assault course was a real highlight. All the children and adults enjoyed the challenges the course offered. The evening saw the children take part in shelter building and marshmallow toasting. Day 2 saw the children head to the beach and try their hands at surfing. An enjoyable morning of falls, stands and wave riding was had by all. The picturesque coastal walk led the children back to camp in an interesting and creative way. A short trip to the Big Sheep, where the children found limitless energy to tackle the variety of slides numerous times with the recently arrived Mr Clode leading the way down the death slides. The final day saw the children tackle kayaking and stand up paddle boarding with great success. Their behaviour and attitude was exemplary and many of them conquered fears and grew in confidence. It was a real pleasure to take this group of children away and share this experience with them.



If you would like to see the trials and tribulations of the year 5 residential, there are a range of pictures and videos on the school's Twitter feed.

ParentPay

As you know ParentPay and the uploading of letters onto the school website is our chosen method of communication with parents. Through converting to this method and reducing the amount of photocopying, we have saved over £7500 which can be used on providing an even better education for your children. Please come and ask in the school office if you're having trouble receiving communication.

Lunchtime supervisor role

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

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.

Pupil Premium

The pupil premium is additional funding that the Government provides for each child that is believed to be disadvantaged in achieving their best in education. At Manor Court Primary School, we provide high quality education and enrichment opportunities for all of our pupils regardless of ability or background. However, it is useful to receive this funding for all children entitled to it. If your children are entitled to free school meals or a member of the household is currently in receipt, or has been in the last six years, of Universal credit then please do let the school know.

Attendance

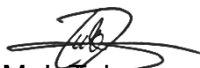
Whole school attendance at Manor Court Primary School is now good (96.26% whole school attendance today) and we strive for it to become even better. It has been proven that excellent attendance is linked with greater academic achievement and progress. Children who have regular absence, patterns of unauthorised absence, broken weeks of attendance and high levels of absence for minor illness are unlikely to achieve their academic potential.



Manor Court Primary school prioritises the monitoring, support and robust action needed to secure high levels of attendance and works in close partnership with parents and the Local Authority to improve attendance. Our aim is that every child will have attendance higher than 96% of all possible sessions (mornings and afternoons) each year. When necessary, we will not hesitate to place matters before the court, especially in circumstances where parents or carers do not ensure that their child attends school with regularity and punctually, or who have ignored the support of the school or the Education Welfare Service.

In the parent section of the school website, we have posted the Attendance Phases. These are a guide for parents on the steps that Manor Court Primary School will take to support the regular attendance of pupils at school. At every stage of our attendance phases we welcome the opportunity to engage with parents and carers.

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