

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Summer Term Newsletter 4 – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019

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

June	
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Multi-Cultural Day
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	September new intake 'stay & play' session Yr 5/6 Rounders Competition at Holyrood (Selected children)
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Quad Kids Athletics at Holyrood (selected children only)
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Careers Week
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Boys Football Festival at YTFC (selected children)
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	YTFC Football Tournament (selected children)
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	September new intake 'stay & play' session

### Before and after school, a polite reminder

Please do not allow your children to play on the KS1 or KS2 trim trails before or after school. It is also important that older children do not enter the Foundation Stage area at the start or end of the day as this is a learning environment for our youngest children.

### Iminster literacy poetry recital competition

Well done to Gabi in Y5 and Daisy in Y2 who represented Manor Court at the Iminster Literacy poetry recital competition at Greenfylde School in Iminster on Tuesday. To get to this stage, they had competed in heats against their peers at Manor Court. Congratulations to Daisy who came runner up to the first place in the KS1 category, beating seven other schools. They were both amazing!



### The Big Battery hunt news from Mrs Burns

We are participating in the Big Battery Hunt, a nationwide battery recycling initiative funded by Duracell. Each year group will have their own bucket to fill up with old batteries. If you have any at home, please give them to your child to bring into school and place in their bucket. The type of battery we shall be collecting are; AAA, AA, C and D. Please see Mrs Burns if you would like any further information. Happy hunting!



### Father's Day celebration

The children in the EYC and the Foundation Stage will be celebrating and saying thank you to their daddy's or important men in their lives.

The Foundation Stage children are welcome to bring their male adult into class, at 8:30am on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June to enjoy a bacon sandwich, hot drink and share work. EYC will be hosting a Father's Day bacon roll and mug of tea afternoon on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June from 2:40pm. It will be wonderful to see as many of our children's Dad's at these events as possible. Please do come along if you can!

### SOLE time

Manor Court Primary School offers a happy, safe and caring environment and we are committed to supporting the emotional health and wellbeing of children and staff alike.

To ensure that our children are emotionally healthy, we have introduced a new mental health and wellbeing policy, a pupil emotional health and wellbeing council and an initiative (created by Mr Pidgeon) called SOLE time. This is a regular short period of time when the children are able to focus on their emotions and complete activities that ensure that they remain emotional fit and healthy. Please talk to your child about their emotional health and SOLE time

The acronym SOLE stands for:

**Self-esteem** – We believe that mental health should be person (child and staff) centred.

**Often:** We have a consistent and regular approach to talking about to talking about positive mental health and wellbeing.

**Little:** We believe that little and often will encourage openness and transparency, encouraging children and adults to talk about how they are feeling.

**Everyone:** Emotional health is everyone's concern and that everyone is entitled to this support whoever they are.

## Contact details

At times it is necessary for members of staff to telephone home to pass on a message or to inform you that your child is unwell. It is becoming increasingly difficult to contact some families as we do not have the most recent telephone number. If you have changed your telephone number recently, please give this to the school office.

## Times Tables workshops

Times tables are an extremely important aspect of mathematics which we apply to scenarios in every day life. In June 2020, the government will introduce a multiplication check which focuses on pupils recall of their times tables for all children in Y4.

We are inviting all parents of children in Y1 to Y4, to a workshop in the school hall at 2:15pm on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June. Please see the letter sent via email and login to your ParentPay account to book your place.

## 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day

Yesterday, all of the children learnt about the history of the D-Day landings and the sacrifice that many men and women made to ensure liberty. The house captains attended a service of remembrance at St Mary's Church with Mr Talmage.

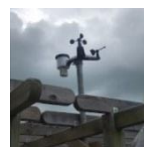


## Year 4 residential to Wildwood Escot

Next week (overnight Thursday) the Year 4 children will be having a fabulous time at Escot at their residential. Please remember to look at the last minute reminders sent by email via ParentPay today.

## Weather station

This week we have gratefully received a donation from one of our parents of a weather station. This has now been set up and will enable us to complete accurate science experiments and data handling activities in maths lessons.



## The Green Ship

Some lucky Year 1 and Year 2 pupils went to Chard Library on Wednesday afternoon to watch a travelling theatre company perform 'The Green Ship'. The children had a wonderful team and were especially delighted when Mrs Wilmington was asked to join the actors on stage.



## Online Safety news from Miss Thompson

Sometimes it can be difficult to know where to start if you're talking to your children about social media at a young age. New research suggests that children are using social media before their parents have spoken to them about how to use it responsibly and 48% of children have been exposed to it by age seven. To support parents and carers when talking about this tricky topic, Vodafone have created a new

version of Goldilocks, written by Jeanne Willis and illustrated by Tony Ross. It offers an accessible way for adults to discuss how to use social media responsibly with children. You can download it for free here:

<https://www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/digital-parenting/goldilocks>

## ParentPay

As you know ParentPay and the uploading of letters onto the school website is now 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.

## Multi-cultural day

This year we will be holding a multi-cultural day on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June, coinciding with Portugal Day, a national holiday in Portugal. During the day, each class will learn about the culture and history of three countries; England, Portugal and an additional country that a child in the school's family originate from. In the afternoon children will have the opportunity to sample traditional food and play traditional games from different countries. We are asking for children and staff to come to school on this day in non-school uniform that is either red to represent Portugal, white for England or the colours highlighted in the table below for the third country that your child's year group will be learning about. If your child has traditional clothing from any of the countries listed in this letter, they are more than welcome to wear it.



## 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. We will be hosting an end of year variety show, containing song, dance and drama at the Guildhall on

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July. Tickets will be on sale from the Guildhall box office from this weekend and all profits will be reinvested into the performance arts curriculum in our school.

### Message from Chard Library

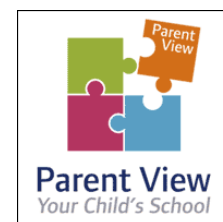
Chard Library have asked us to let all parents know that they have a new Facebook page 'Friends of Chard Library' where they post all the activities taking place. They often run clubs and holiday activities for children so it is worth keeping an eye on their page.

### 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.

### Ofsted Parent view – We still need your responses please!

Please take the time to create an account and respond to the Parent view survey, we've only had one response in the past year. Just to remind you, Parent view is a way in which Ofsted surveys the parents and carers 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)



### 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.

### Attendance

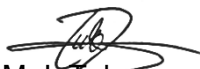
Whole school attendance at Manor Court Primary School is now good (96.26% whole school attendance today) and we strive for it to become even better. It has been proven that excellent attendance is linked with greater academic achievement and progress. Children who have regular absence, patterns of unauthorised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