

Dear Parents and Carers,

Summer Term Newsletter 3 – Thursday 23rd May 2019

Since our last newsletter, the children within the school have completed in lots of healthy and sporting activities, in our healthy schools' week. These activities include dance, an inter-house football competition and lots of running. It has been so pleasing to watch children compete against each other so sportingly and within themselves, aspiring to beat their personal best.

The Year 2 and Year 6 children, have now completed their end of key stage assessments. We were especially impressed with the calm and confident manner in which they took these tests. Well done to all of these children!

Key dates (please note that these may change.)

June	
Monday 3 rd	Children return to school Yr 6 Butlins Residential meeting in Otters at 3.20pm
Wednesday 5 th	World Environment Day
Friday 7 th	FMCA BBQ – details to follow soon.
Monday 10 th	Multi-cultural Day



Sports days

The sun was shining on us for our two sports days this year, Keystage 1 on Wednesday and Keystage 2 on Thursday. As has become a tradition at Manor Court, the children took part in the more competitive races in the morning and welcomed their families to watch them participate in the more team based and fun events in the afternoon.

Key Stage 1's day was won by Morangis house and Key Stage 2's day was won by Stringfellow house (this news is hot off the press)!

New books

Thanks to the amazing amount of reward money that was raised from the scholastic book fairs last year, we have purchased ninety new books. The titles were chosen by the Year 2 and Year 6 pupils and are already proving to be a great success.

Foundation Stage – 'People who help us' study

This past week the children in our Foundation Stage have been learning about people who help us and have visited Chard's fire station and have been visited by a local doctor. During their visit last Friday, the children were excited to tour the fire station, meet various fire officers and even use the hose from on one of the Fire engines.

This Tuesday, the children were visited by Doctor Stavely from Tawstock Medical centre. The children learnt how to take blood pressure, use an ear thermometer, stethoscope and asked lots of questions about how she helps people every day.



EYC news from Laura

This half term we have been learning about people who help us. A vet came to talk to us and gave our guinea pigs a check-up. She talked about how she helps to care for animals. The children have also enjoyed making a large fire engine out of boxes, ambulance and police crafts, and exploring in our hospital role play!

The children are thoroughly enjoying their weekly music sessions with Declan, and also our link with the year 5 children who are being buddies for our children.

After half term our Topic is 'Pirates, and Fairies'.

We are also going to be having an Art exhibition, Bacon sandwiches for Father's Day, Grandparents Day, a picnic in the park and our school leavers party!



Recycling

The whole school community has recently been inspired to go green and recycle more! The children from Year 4 have completed the first count of the crisp bags and we have recycled over 400 bags in the first week alone. Thank you for bringing in bags from home and we have even heard that one of our local church's congregation are collecting them on our behalf!

World Environment Day news – Mrs Devereux

On June 5th the School Council have decided that they would like to participate in World Environment Day. In their last meeting they came up with a few ideas for the day and have proposed to their teacher that:-

- The class goes paper free! Ellie (school council secretary) has written a letter to the individual class teacher explaining the school council's reasons for wanting to do this.
- A poster competition, encouraging children to put their litter in the bin.
- If you'd like to/if there's time, organise a class litter pick.

Year 6 Movie night – Manor Court 48

As part of the Manor Court 48, the Year 6's will have their own movie night tonight in the school hall. Children should be dropped off at the School Hall at 7pm and need to be collected at 9pm. Children may wear pyjamas if they so wish. Refreshments will be provided. All children will need to be collected; children will not be permitted to walk home alone.

Yeovil Town Football club workshop

This week some of our Year 3 and Year 4 girls took part in an all-day workshop at Yeovil Town Football Club. They were mixed into teams with girls from other schools and then circulated around a variety of activities throughout the day. These included a tour of the stadium, a football match, learning key football skills, problem solving and dancing with footballs to the Spice Girls! They had a wonderful day in the sunshine and looked incredibly smart in our Manor Court PE jumpers.



Contact details

Occasionally 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.



Online Safety news from Miss Thompson

We've come across a few useful websites and apps for helping your children to be safe online recently so we thought we'd pass them on.

The first is the Childline app which you can download onto your child's phone. It's designed by young people and means children can access advice and message boards quickly and easily. It's also lockable with a PIN.

Next is the NSPCC Share Aware website which has lots of information about helping your children to stay safe when using social networks, apps and games. Find it here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/>

The NSPCC also have another great website called Net Aware where they clearly explain apps and games, giving useful information and tips as well as up-to-date news. <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

Finally, is the PEGI ratings website where you can find information about almost every game available. They give age rating guidance as well as descriptors to let you know what the content of a game is so you know exactly what your child might come across when gaming. <https://pegi.info/>

Multi-cultural day

This year we will be holding a multi-cultural day on Monday 10th 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 family originates 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 show at the Guildhall

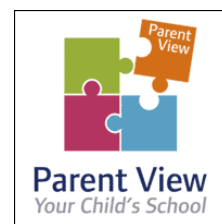
The Performing arts, is an important part of the curriculum and education that we offer to all children at Manor Court. We will be hosting an end of year variety show, containing song, dance and drama at the Guildhall on Tuesday 9th and Thursday 11th July. Tickets will be on sale from the Guildhall box office from the start of June and all profits will be reinvested into the performance arts curriculum in our school.

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



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