

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Spring Term information newsletter 5 – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Key dates (please note that these may change)



March	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Cross Country Event (selected children)
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Year Visiting Oak Lodge Nursing Home
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	FMCA Easter Bingo – All Welcome
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Foundation Visit to Axe Valley Wildlife Park
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Foundation Mother's Day Assembly
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	After School Clubs finish for this term

### Comic relief non-school uniform day

Today the school was awash with the colour red as children and staff supported Comic relief in our non-school uniform day. When this newsletter went to press we had raised a total of £276 so far with more donations still being given. We thank you for your support!

### Pupil Voice survey

Recently all of the children in the school completed an anonymous questionnaire about their experiences at school. The children were positive about their education and are happy to attend Manor Court. Find the survey at <http://www.manorcourt.somerset.sch.uk/february-child-survey>

### Thesauruses

We are extremely fortunate to have a hardworking and committed friends of school committee who raise much needed funds for the school. They have recently agreed to purchase 100 thesauruses for classes from Y2 to Y6. We were also provided the funds for another fifty thesauruses. Each one of these thesauruses will be used to increase the variety of vocabulary used by our children.

We are grateful for our friends from St Mary's Church who have agreed to pay for a class set of Bibles to be used in the children's religious education lessons.



### Farewell

Today we bid farewell to one of our long-standing staff members. Mrs May has decided to take early retirement after 18 years of service at Manor Court. We thank Mrs May for all her hard work over the years and wish her a very happy retirement.

### Calendar on website

At the request of a few parents we have updated the dates on the calendar section on our school website. We will try our best to keep this up to date with all of the exciting activities that the children participate in. It is possible to 'sync' these dates with your smart phone to ensure that you're getting regular updates. Please follow the instructions on the website to do this for yourself.



### CAFOS concert

On Wednesday some of the children in the KS1 and KS2 school choir participated in the CAFOS music performance at Holyrood School. This was an exciting opportunity for the children to sing and celebrate their musical talents. Mrs Johns conducted their performance which consisted of three songs; Somewhere over the rainbow, Sing together and Engine, Engine.



## Lockdown System

Like all schools, ensuring the highest level of safety and welfare of the children in our care is the most important role we play. During the past couple of months, we have been working to produce a policy that focuses on emergency situations that might require the school to go into 'lockdown' for a period of time. These situations may involve an unauthorised person on site, an unruly pupil causing significant distress to other pupils, unrest in the immediate vicinity of the school, a wild animal on the loose or dangerous pollution etc.

During singing assemblies next week, Mr Talmage or Mr Clode, will inform children of the emergency procedures. Following this, and again in the interests of safety, in the following fortnight we will have a brief practice so that the children are aware of the system. Once approved by the Governing Body, the Lockdown Policy will then be available on the school website. Please do not be alarmed by this, but with the safety of each individual child is absolutely paramount.

## Oak Lodge

As part of the Manor Court 48, all children from Y4 are spending a morning at Oak Lodge residential care home. Residents and children alike are thoroughly enjoying sharing stories, playing traditional board games and laughing together.



## Healthy snacks

As part of the science, PE, and PSHE lessons, we teach the children the importance of a balanced diet. We are becoming aware that some of the snacks, which some children are eating during morning break, are not the healthiest. Please ensure that your child does not have chocolate, sweets or fizzy drinks in their bag to eat. We appreciate your support in this matter.

We would like to also you make you aware that Aspens catering can provide a hot lunch for any child who is not entitled to a free school meal, at the reasonable cost of £2.60 per day. Menus are available from the school office. Please be advised that if you do provide your child with a hot lunch from home, we cannot keep it at the correct temperature and for the safety of all children in the dining hall, we would advise against supplying hot food in their lunchbox.

## 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 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.

### **Ofsted Parent view – we still require your responses!**

Thank you to those parents who have recently completed the Parent view survey, but it would be great to receive more survey responses, especially as we are due an inspection at some point in 2019.

As you know 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)

### **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.

Thank you for your continued support,



Mr L Talmage  
Head Teacher



Mr A Clode  
Deputy Head Teacher/Inclusion leader



## Manor Court Primary School and EYC Term and Holiday Dates 2019/2020 Academic Year

<b>September 2019</b> M 2 9 16 23 30 Tu 3 10 17 24 W 4 11 18 25 Th 5 12 19 26 F 6 13 20 27 Sa 7 14 21 28 Su 1 8 15 22 29						<b>October 2019</b> M 7 14 21 28 Tu 1 8 15 22 29 W 2 9 16 23 30 Th 3 10 17 24 31 F 4 11 18 25 Sa 5 12 19 26 Su 6 13 20 27						<b>November 2019</b> M 4 11 18 25 Tu 5 12 19 26 W 6 13 20 27 Th 7 14 21 28 F 1 8 15 22 29 Sa 2 9 16 23 30 Su 3 10 17 24					
<b>December 2019</b> M 2 9 16 23 30 Tu 3 10 17 24 31 W 4 11 18 25 Th 5 12 19 26 F 6 13 20 27 Sa 7 14 21 28 Su 1 8 15 22 29						<b>January 2020</b> M 6 13 20 27 Tu 7 14 21 28 W 1 8 15 22 29 Th 2 9 16 23 30 F 3 10 17 24 31 Sa 4 11 18 25 Su 5 12 19 26						<b>February 2020</b> M 3 10 17 24 Tu 4 11 18 25 W 5 12 19 26 Th 6 13 20 27 F 7 14 21 28 Sa 1 8 15 22 29 Su 2 9 16 23					
<b>March 2020</b> M 2 9 16 23 30 Tu 3 10 17 24 31 W 4 11 18 25 Th 5 12 19 26 F 6 13 20 27 Sa 7 14 21 28 Su 1 8 15 22 29						<b>April 2020</b> M 6 13 20 27 Tu 7 14 21 28 W 1 8 15 22 29 Th 2 9 16 23 30 F 3 10 17 24 Sa 4 11 18 25 Su 5 12 19 26						<b>May 2020</b> M 4 11 18 25 Tu 5 12 19 26 W 6 13 20 27 Th 7 14 21 28 F 1 8 15 22 29 Sa 2 9 16 23 30 Su 3 10 17 24 31					
<b>June 2020</b> M 1 8 15 22 29 Tu 2 9 16 23 30 W 3 10 17 24 Th 4 11 18 25 F 5 12 19 26 Sa 6 13 20 27 Su 7 14 21 28						<b>July 2020</b> M 6 13 20 27 Tu 7 14 21 28 W 1 8 15 22 29 Th 2 9 16 23 30 F 3 10 17 24 31 Sa 4 11 18 25 Su 5 12 19 26						<b>August 2020</b> M 3 10 17 24 31 Tu 4 11 18 25 W 5 12 19 26 Th 6 13 20 27 F 7 14 21 28 Sa 1 8 15 22 29 Su 2 9 16 23 30					

### Key:

	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Term Time
	Inset Day

### Term dates summary:

Term 1: 02 September – 25 October 2019 (40 days)  
 Term 2: 04 November – 20 December 2019 (35 days)  
 Term 3: 06 January – 14 February 2020 (30 days)  
 Term 4: 24 February – 03 April 2020 (30 days)  
 Term 5: 20 April – 22 May 2020 (24 days)  
 Term 6: 01 June – 20 July 2020 (36 days)

**TOTAL = 195**

### Bank and public holidays 2019/2020

Christmas Day Bank Holiday	25 December 2019	Easter Monday	13 April 2020
Boxing Day Bank Holiday	26 December 2019	May Day Bank Holiday	04 May 2020
New Year's Day Holiday	01 January 2020	Spring Bank Holiday	25 May 2020
Good Friday	10 April 2020	Summer Bank Holiday	31 August 2020

**Anticipated** start date for the 2020/2021 academic year: 01 September 2020. The Local Authority will consult on prospective dates for the 2020/21 academic year and report the final dates will be published in April 2019