

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn Term information newsletter 7 – Friday 7th December 2018

We anticipate that the weather is now going to becoming increasingly cold and wet. Please ensure that your child has their coat with them at all times as they will not be allowed out to play and lunchtime without it.

Key dates (please note that these may change)

December	
Monday 10 th December	Y5 pantomime performance.
Tuesday 11 th December	Y1 trip to watch Aladdin at the Octagon theatre, Yeovil
Wednesday 12 th December	Year 5 & Year 6 Carol Concert - 10:30-11:30am at St. Mary's Foundation Stage Nativity in the School Hall – 2.30pm
Thursday 13 th December	Year 3 and Year 4 Carol Concert at St Mary's - 10:30 – 11:30am 2:30pm EYC Nativity in the School Hall. Tea and coffee will be available.
Friday 14 th December	Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas performance - 9:30 - 10:30am in the school hall Save the children 'Christmas jumper day' - £1 donation required if your child would like to wear their Christmas jumper
Monday 17 th December	Choir Christmas concert to parents - 3:30pm
Tuesday 18 th December	Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas performance – 1.45pm - 2.45 in the school hall
Wednesday 19 th December	Christmas dinner in the school hall. Further information to follow
Friday 21 st December	End of Autumn Term. Non School uniform day – no donation required



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.

FMCA – Christmas Fayre

We are pleased to announce that the FMCA raised £973.46 at their Christmas Fayre. Thank you for coming and supporting their hard work at this special event.



Paperless school community and ParentPay

Please remember to activate your child’s ParentPay account if you haven’t already done so. After the Christmas break, ParentPay will be our main form of communication with parents/carers for all newsletters, letters and information. We have been trialling publishing the newsletters alongside printed copies and this has been very successful, therefore we will no longer be sending home printed versions of these when we return in the New Year. Also, letters for trips, activities etc. will only be available through ParentPay. We will continue to upload copies of all our letters to our website www.manorcourt.somerset.sch.uk.

After School clubs

All after school clubs finish at the end of next week for the Autumn Term. You should have received a letter about the Spring Term clubs and there is still time to sign up through your Parent Pay account. Please hurry as places are filling up fast! All clubs will start in the week beginning Monday 14th January 2019. Please collect your child at 4:15pm from the classroom in which it is being held.

Items needed

We are currently restocking our supplies of toys and dressing up clothes for the EYC and Foundation Stage. If you have any good quality items that your children no longer play with, we would gladly receive them. Please pass any items to the Early Years Centre or Foundation Stage staff.



School admissions

We currently have places for children in all year groups, apart from Y4 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 2019 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/>



Christmas jumper day in aid of save the children

On Friday 14th December, thousands of people throughout the country will put on their Christmas jumper to support the Children's society Christmas jumper day. If you would like to support this charity, your child can wear their Christmas jumper (you don't have to buy a jumper especially but maybe decorate an old jumper) to school for a 50p or £1 donation. Each child should wear the rest of their school uniform as normal.

Extreme weather

It is coming to the time of year when more extreme weather may be experienced. We will endeavour at all times to keep the school open and will only shut if it is becoming dangerous for the children, if we are unable to provide a warm learning environment or if food is unable to be delivered to the school from the caterers.

Up-to-date information about school closure will be found in the following places.

1. The scrolling bar on the front page of our school website: www.manorcourt.somerset.sch.uk
2. The school twitter page: @ManorCourtChard
3. Somerset Learning Platform <https://slp.somerset.gov.uk>
4. Information will be broadcast on the following radio stations
 - BBC Somerset. 95.5 FM, 1566MHZ
 - Heart FM. 102.6 FM, 96.5 FM (Taunton Area)

Foundation Stage Nativity and learning about the meaning of Christmas

The Foundation Stage children have been preparing for their nativity performance. They are excited to be on the stage, as an Angel, Inn Keeper, sheep or even Mary and Joseph. If you have a child in the Foundation Stage please do attend their performance. The Foundation Stage children are visiting St Mary's on Friday to enhance their learning about the true meaning of Christmas.



Swimming

As you know, Cresta Swimming pool has now sadly shut and we are travelling to Crewkerne Aqua Centre for lessons. To make this accessible to as many children as possible we are taking two year groups at a time, and it is now the turn for year 4 and year 5, Please see the separate letter for further information. Children who have not chosen to go swimming will stay in school with one of the year group's teachers.

Year 5 Pantomime

If you have a child in Year 5, please don't forget to attend their Pantomime performance on Monday. All children are expected to stay after school before their performance. Tea will be provided for all children.

Ready to Learn

Please ensure your child has everything they need for their day at school, including drinks & lunchboxes. Increasingly items are being dropped into the office throughout the day which inevitably causes disruption to classes.

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, Miss Gregory or Mr Talmage. Alternatively, you can ring Children Social Care on: 0300 123 2224 or email childrens@somerset.gov.uk



Punctuality

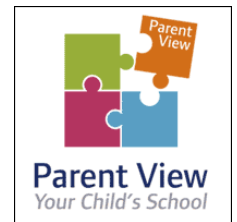
It has come to our attention that the same children are coming to school late on a regular basis. Can we remind all parents that the bell rings at 8:45am every morning and that registers officially close at 8:50am. We appreciate that children in KS1 must be walked to school by their parents and their lateness is not their fault and from Monday 24th September once a child has accumulated thirty minutes of lateness parents will be asked to meet with Miss Gregory and or Mr Talmage. KS2 children will be treated slightly and they will be kept in during their playtime to catch up on the work that they have missed.

Please see the school website for the punctuality and attendance phases. These can be found in the *Parents* drop down.

Ofsted Parent view

Thank you to those parents who have recently completed the Parent view survey, but it would be great to receive more survey responses.

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



Thank you for your continued support,

Mr L Talmage
Head Teacher

Mr A Clode
Deputy Head Teacher/Inclusion leader