

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn Term information newsletter 5 – Friday 9th November 2018

We hope that you had an enjoyable and relaxing half term holiday and were able to make some wonderful memories. Children have returned to school with a fresh enthusiasm and are all producing work of real quality in all of their subjects. In the build up to the Christmas period please take even greater notice of the key dates and save them in your diaries to save disappointment.

Key dates (please note that these may change)



November	
Friday 16 th November	Children in need non-school uniform day. £1 donation required Parents forum 9:10am after KS2 celebration assembly
Wednesday 21 st November	Parents forum in the school hall 3:30pm
Thursday 22 nd November	FMCA non-school uniform day
Friday 23 rd November	Governors training day at Manor Court. FMCA Christmas Fayre 6pm to 8pm
Monday 27 th November to Friday 1 st December	Year 6 assessment week
December	
Monday 3 rd to Friday 7 th December	Whole school assessment week 2
Monday 10 th December	Yr 5 Pantomime 6.00pm (tbc)
Wednesday 12 th December	Year 5 & Year 6 Carol Concert - 10:30 - 11:30am Year 1 & Year 2 Carol Concert - 1:30 - 2:30pm
Thursday 13 th December	10:30 – 11:30am Year 3 and Year 4 Carol Concert 2:30pm EYC Nativity in the School Hall. Tea and coffee will be available.
Friday 14 th December	Save the children 'Christmas jumper day' - £1 donation required if your child would like to wear their Christmas jumper.
Monday 17 th December	Drama club and Choir Christmas concert to parents 6.00pm
Wednesday 19 th December	Christmas dinner in the school hall. Further information to follow
Friday 21 st December	End of Autumn Term

Remembrance assembly and Year 6 project

Today all of the children participated in their Remembrance assembly led by Mr Roper (Head of History at Holyrood academy). This year to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War, our assembly commemorated especially the soldiers from Chard who died in this war. As you will have noticed, Year 6 have worked hard with their teachers and Mr Plumbley, to complete their Remembrance project. Please take the time to see the Year 6 project which is on display at the front of the school as we believe it is truly spectacular.



Wet weather

It is now the time of the school year when the weather is becoming increasingly unpredictable. Please ensure that your child has a coat in school at all times.



FMCA Christmas Fayre

The FMCA work tirelessly to support the school in raising finances that are used to fund additional enrichment activities for all children who attend our school. The FMCA will be holding their Christmas Fayre on Friday 23rd November between 6:00pm and 8:00pm and have many exciting and interesting stalls booked for you to purchase some excellent Christmas presents!

The FMCA will be writing to you next week asking for donations of cakes to be sold on the cake stall and tombola prizes to be raffled. To say thank you for contributions, we have agreed to have a non-school uniform day on Thursday 22nd November.

Twitter

The only social media that we as a school use is our Twitter page. This page is full of the most up-to-date news and photographs. Our Twitter page is @ManorCourtChard so please start to follow us.

Mrs Prevett's maternity cover

We are pleased to announce that Mrs Scott and Mr Clode will be teaching Badgers class during Mrs Prevett's maternity cover. Mrs Scott will teach Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mr Clode will teach the remainder of the week.



Children in need non-school uniform day

Next Friday (16th November) we will join thousands of schools throughout the country in raising money for children in need. We will be completing children in need based activities throughout the day and holding a non-school uniform day. If your child would like to wear their own clothes, please send them to school with a £1 donation. As usual no jumpers, or t-shirts with slogans, sporting shirts or offensive or indecent clothing to be worn. They may like to wear an item that has

spots on to stick with the Children in Need theme.

Parent forum

We will be holding two Parent forums in the upcoming weeks to discuss the progress of the school. Please do try and attend on Friday 16th November straight after KS2 celebration assembly or at 3:30pm on Wednesday 21st November. If you have any specific questions that you would like to ask Mr Talmage or Mr Clode at these meetings, please hand them into reception the day before.

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.



Advance notice of Christmas activities

We are pleased to confirm that the following dates have been confirmed and will all, apart from the EYC nativity, Foundation stage nativity and Drama club and Choir Christmas concert, be held at St Mary's Church.

- Wednesday 12th December Year 5 & Year 6 Carol Concert - 10:30-11:30am
- Wednesday 12th December Year 1 & Year 2 Carol Concert - 1:30 - 2:30pm
- Thursday 13th December Year 3 & Year 4 Carol Concert - 10:30 -11:30am
- Thursday 13th December EYC Nativity in the school hall - 2:30 - 3:00pm
- Monday 17th December Drama Club & Choir Christmas Concert to parents - 6pm
- Wednesday 19th December Christmas dinner in the school hall.

Scholastic book fair

The half price scholastic book fair is arriving again, this time from 27th November for a week. A wide selection of fiction and non-fiction books for all ages, from pre-school to teens, plus exciting school accessories will be available. It will be held in the school library after school every afternoon until 4pm. There will be lots of bargains for Christmas!



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/>

Lord's Larder

During the half term holiday we received a letter from the trustees of the Lord's Larder working committee thanking us for our donations from our Harvest Festival. Thank you once more for your donations which have now been given to local families.

Parents' evenings

Our parents' evenings last term was a great success. Thank you to many of the parents who took the time to complete a parental survey. The results to the overall survey were sent out before half term in a separate letter and this letter is already on our school website. We are very pleased with the further improvements in results!

Some parents took the time to write an individual comment. Such comments were:

"We think the school is making excellent progress. Well done everyone!"

Community links

Our whole school curriculum this half term is based around Chard. The children are learning aspects of its history and enjoying participating in many curriculum based trips. We are grateful for the benefits of the links that we have created with the museum, Chard bookshop, the Mayor and all of the Church's in Chard.

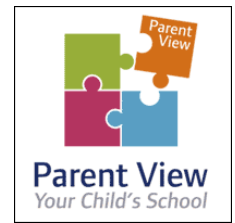
Paperless school community

To become more environmentally friendly, it is our intention to become as 'paperless as' we can by January 2019. Initially, we will trial sending home the fortnightly newsletters, via email and ParentPay and by uploading them to the school website from November, with the intention of converting to this method by January. All letters that we send home can be found on the school website.

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