

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn Term information newsletter 4 – Friday 19th October 2018

This is the last newsletter before the half term holidays. We hope that you all have a happy and safe holiday and a well-deserved rest!

A polite reminder from Mr Clode and the classroom teachers; please remember to read with your child as often as you can (at least five times a week), as this does have a positive impact on your child's learning.

Key dates (please note that these may change)

October	
Friday 19 th October	FMCA Quiz in the school hall
Week beginning Monday 22 nd October	Whole school assessment week 1 (Year 1-Year 5)
Monday 22 nd and Tuesday 23 rd October	Parent's evenings in the school hall. No after school clubs run by teachers will be held
Thursday 25 th October	Yr 3/4 Home Football match v Tatworth & Combe
Thursday 25 th October	FMCA AGM
Friday 26 th October	Last day of this half term.
November	
Monday 5 th November	Children return to school for the second half term.
Tuesday 6 th November	Yr 5/6 Away football at Bucklers Mead, Yeovil
Friday 9 th November	No Celebration assemblies due to whole school remembrance service
Friday 9 th November	Yr 2 Trip to Fleet Air Arm Museum



Foundation Stage – 'All About Me' exhibition

It was lovely to see so many family members celebrating the excellent start that the foundation stage children have had to their education on Wednesday in the school hall. The children enthusiastically shared the work that they have completed so far in the 'All About Me' exhibition!

Open Mornings

Our recent open mornings were a great success and it was pleasing to receive such glowing feedback from our guests. Some of this feedback included the following comments:-

1. The values and ethos of the school are evidence for all to see.
2. "I genuinely thought it was wonderful! The children, the displays and the teachers."

If you haven't ever looked around the school during the day when the children are working, please do contact the school office and someone would be delighted to show you around.

Parents' evenings

Our parents' evenings will be held on Monday and Tuesday next week and all meetings will now be in the school hall. Please access the hall by using the KS2 playground gate and the door at the top of the building, opposite the Y6 classrooms. You will have received your appointment time earlier this week, if you haven't yet received this, please do speak to your child's teacher at the end of the school day.

Parents will be asked to complete two forms before they leave; the parental survey and a name updated GPDR form. We apologise for the need of sending another GPDR form, but this is due to us joining a new Multi Academy Trust. During the Parents evening there will also be opportunity to complete the online Ofsted Parent Forum survey.

School council elections

On Wednesday 3rd October we held our school council elections and all children, from year 1 to year 6, voted to choose their school councillor based on the individual manifestos that the children had written. Nine Y6 pupils also took to the floor in front of 250 pupils (all of KS2) to deliver their manifesto to become school council chairman. Izzy was elected into the role and she and the school councillors were presented with their badges and certificates of achievement by the mayor of Chard, Cllr Garry Shortland on Friday 5th October.



One of the tasks this year of the school council is to raise as much funds for their chosen charity of the year 'When you wish upon a star'. This charity raises funds to grant the wishes of children living with a life threatening illness. For further information about this worthwhile cause, please see their website www.whenyouwishuponastar.org.uk.

News from Laura and the EYC staff

We have had a very busy first half term and have had the pleasure of welcoming lots of new families to the EYC, who have settled in really well. All of the children are looking very smart in their uniforms.

Like the rest of the school, we have been out visiting the community more and have participated in trips to Chard Library to find our favourite books and talk about them. Next half term we are going to be visiting Sunnymede Care Home each week where we will create a link with the residents of the home and be participating in a range of activities with them. We are very much looking forward to this.

We have introduced weekly cooking sessions and our children have started to use the 'school ready room'. Children from Year 5 have started visiting us twice weekly where they are working with our children, establishing friendships and supporting the children in their learning. We are also pleased that Declan the 'music man' has also been visiting us weekly, where we have been learning about rhythm, sounds and movement. We all thoroughly enjoy these sessions and it's lovely to see the children shine!

Year 1 trip to Pecorama

The year 1 children had an enjoyable day yesterday visiting Pecorama in Beer. During their visit, they rode on the steam train, studied the indoor play area to compare it to the play areas in Chard for their topic work, and completed the nature trail.



Year 4 Chard Children's carnival success

The Year 4 children's 'Manor Court 48' opportunity this half term was to participate in Chard's children's carnival. The children had prepared for this experience by learning to play the Samba drums, made their own costumes and learning about carnival in Somerset and Rio. This exciting opportunity for the children on Saturday was made even better as they won two trophies and a shield! Well done to all children and thanks to all staff, parents and carers



involved!

School admissions

The way in which parents of children due to start school in September 2019 apply 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 the web address below 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/>

Eamonn Reilly author visit

Published children's author, Eamonn Reilly, will visit Manor Court on Tuesday 23rd October to talk all children from year 1 to year 5. The assembly contains funny parts to amuse the younger children, together with a good deal of dramatic tension for developing and advanced readers. Eamonn will leave a collection of his books at school, which can be purchased at a later date. A letter confirming the titles and prices will be sent home following his visit

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.



Paperless school community

To become more environmentally friendly, we will become as 'paperless' as we can by January 2019. From November we will trial sending the fortnightly newsletters via ParentPay and by uploading them to the school website, with the intention of converting fully to this method by January. All letters that we send home are uploaded to the school website. Please do sign up for ParentPay, if you haven't already done so.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mr L Talmage
Head Teacher

Mr A Clode
Deputy Head Teacher/Inclusion leader