

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn Term Newsletter 3 – Friday 5th October 2018

It will be a pleasure to show guests around during our open mornings next week. It is not too late to sign up if you would like to visit on Monday or Thursday morning, please tell the school office if you'd like to come.

Key dates (please note that these may change)

October	
Monday 8 th October	Open day
Wednesday 10 th October	Individual pupil photos
Thursday 11 th October	Open day
Friday 12 th October	Vision screening – Year 1
Saturday 13 th Saturday	Chard children's carnival
Tuesday 16 th October	Yrs 3 & 4 indoor cricket at Holyrood Academy
Friday 19 th October	FMCA Quiz
Monday 22 nd October	Parents Evening
Tuesday 23 rd October	E.R. Reilly – author visit Parents Evening Yrs 5 & 6 Football at Avishayes
Thursday 25 th October	FMCA AGM



Harvest Festival

On Monday children in Year one, two, three, four, five and 6 attended St Mary's church to participate in our Harvest festival, where there was wonderful signing and clear readings from some of our confident Year 4 and Year 6 children.

Thank you for the many donations that you brought into school, there was more than a supermarket shopping trolley's worth and all of this has now gone to the Lords Larder to be distributed to families around Chard who require its support.

Open mornings

On Monday 8th and Thursday 11th October we will open the school throughout the morning to parents, carers and extended family members. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase our school and the hard work that all of the children in our school are completing. It is not too late to book a slot, please contact the school office.

School council elections

This Wednesday, we held our 'Big vote' for school councillors and the new role of chairperson of the council. Every child from Y1 to Y6 had opportunity to stand for election as a councillor, write and present a manifesto to their class and children in year 6 could nominate themselves to be chairperson. This was an excellent opportunity for the children to learn more about British values and Democracy, as it concluded with a sequence of voting in the ballot box in the school hall.



Mrs Prevett

We are pleased to announce that Mrs Prevett and her husband are expecting their first child, which is due at the end of February. She will remain Badgers class teacher until at least the end of the Autumn term. Further information will be sent to parents of children in Badgers after half term.



School game accreditation

It is with great pleasure that we can inform you that we have achieved the Gold School games accreditation for the first time ever. This is a national award for PE in schools and a massive achievement that recognises the sporting opportunities for all children who attend Manor Court!

EAL drop-in café

We are pleased that our EAL drop-in café started this afternoon and will run fortnightly on a Friday afternoon at 2:30pm. Please do come to these informal meetings, where we hope to be able to explain any misconceptions over a cup of tea or coffee. Please speak to the school office if you require any further information.

Individual school photographs – Advanced warning!

Tempest photography will be taking individual and sibling photographs next Wednesday morning. They do make ideal Christmas presents.



Ofsted Parent view

Parent view is a way in which Ofsted surveys the parents of children within a school to find out their views on the school and how it can be further improved. These opinions become part of the overall judgment of the school. If you would like to pass your opinions to Ofsted, please complete the survey on the Parent view website. www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk

School admissions

We currently have places for children in all year groups apart from Y4 and Y6, in which we are oversubscribed.

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 link 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/>

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 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.

Parents' evenings

Our first parent's evenings of the school year will be held on Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd October. Appointment request letters will be sent home next week, so please do return these quickly as appointments will be made on a first come first served basis.

Year 4 Samba day

Last Friday, Year 4 had an amazing day with Alan King, learning Samba rhythms ready for the Chard children's carnival. As you can see, Mrs Anjos is truly getting into the carnival spirit! Children in Puffins and Eagles have received a letter containing the details about their participation in the carnival on Saturday 13th October. Please return the consent form to Mrs Terry or Miss Thompson as soon as possible.



Author visit

The author Eamonn R Reilly will be visiting Manor Court on Tuesday 23rd October. He will talk about his books and give an assembly to the children. Eamonn is a natural showman who will keep the children entertained with his funny and sometimes dramatic performance. Signed copies of his books will be available to buy – further details to follow.

FMCA activities

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 annual quiz night on Friday 19th October and their Christmas Fayre on Friday 23rd November between 6:00pm and 8:00pm!



ParentPay

There are still some families who have not activated their ParentPay account. Please do ensure that you take the time to do so, as we would hate for your child to miss out on the many exciting opportunities that they are offered at school and despite many reminders, some parents are being rather disgruntled with the office staff, as their child has missed out. If you have misplaced your activation code, please do go to the school office and they will be pleased to help you.

Head lice

Part and parcel of young children mixing together in schools around the country is Headlice. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat as and when necessary.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr L Talmage
Head Teacher

Mr A Clode
Deputy Head Teacher/Inclusion leader