

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn Term Newsletter 7 – Friday 11th December 2020

Key dates (please note that these may change.)

December	
Tuesday 15 th	Flu Vaccine Session
Wednesday 16 th	Reindeer Visit to School
Friday 18 th	Class Bubbles Christmas Parties Last day of term



Save the Children Christmas Jumper

The children (and staff) have certainly felt Christmassy today whilst wearing such fabulously colourful Christmas jumpers and raising money for Save the Children. We will confirm the amount raised, after it has been in quarantine in our final newsletter of 2020 next week, thank you for your generosity.

School will remain open on Friday 18th December

The Government announced this week that schools throughout the United Kingdom could move an INSET day from later in the academic year to Friday 18th December. After much discussion Mr Talmage, Mr Clode and Mrs Terry have decided that this would be too short notice for many of our families to arrange childcare and that our school will remain open.

Please see the posters at the back of the newsletter with important information as to how to keep your family safe over the Christmas period. A further letter was sent home today about Manor Court 'Track and Trace' procedures and responsibilities over the Christmas holiday.



Christmas Dinner

The children thoroughly enjoyed sitting together today in the school hall together to eat their Christmas Dinner. Christmas music was blaring through the speakers. Each child enjoyed pulling a Christmas cracker which were donated by Tesco's in Chard.

This will now be an annual event as we encourage the children to celebrate Christmas Festivities together.

The Reindeer are coming!

The reindeer have confirmed, that despite their busy schedule at this time of year, they will be coming to Manor Court this coming Wednesday morning. Each child from the pre-school to Year 6 will have opportunity to stroke and feed the reindeer from Cotley Farm.

Foundation Stage Nativity

The Foundation Stage Nativity has been added to our school Vimeo account this week. It is password protected so that only family members can watch it and the password was shared via Eylog. Please do not share the recording of the Nativity on Social Media as there are some children whose family do not wish for this to happen.



School applications for September 2021

For all parents with children starting school in September 2021, you can now apply for your child's school place by following the link below. If you or any of your friends would like to visit the school please contact the school office and we can arrange a socially distant school visit.

Please follow the link below to complete your application for a school place.

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/school-admissions-policy/>

Carol Concert

The Y1 to Y6 Carol Concert has been added to our school Vimeo account this week. It is password protected so that only family members can watch it and the password was shared via ParentPay. Please do not share the recording of the Carol Concert on Social Media as there are some children who's family do not wish for this to happen.

Christmas Parties

Christmas Parties will take place on the afternoon of Friday 18th December and children will play traditional party games within their class bubbles. As usual the last day of term is a non-school uniform day and children can arrive at school in their party outfits, Christmas jumpers or non-school uniform clothing.

Early next week children will bring home a small brown paper bag which they can bring party food into school on Friday. Please only send the children in with enough food for them.

If you need financial help

We appreciate that for some of our families, life is tough at the moment with financial constraints and especially with the recent news about Oscar Mayer. If you do need help, please contact the school and we can sign post you to organisations that can help.

Parental survey

This term we were unable to have face to face parents evening. We were delighted to have received 122 responses to our parental survey. The feedback that we have received has been excellent, with each response saying that they would recommend our school to another parent!

We will share results with all parents next week in a letter. Please do tell your friends who may be dissatisfied in their child's current school that we have spaces in all years apart from Y5 and Y6.

Year 5 History enrichment day

On Monday and Tuesday this week as part of their studies about the Second World War, Year 5 children took part in two World War II enrichment days. In some fantastic evacuee, soldier and land army outfits, the children handled wartime memorabilia, built Anderson Shelters, baked wartime recipes and re-enacted air raids.



Wraparound care

Our Wraparound care provision is proving to be extremely popular with the children and very useful for parents. If you would like to book sessions please speak to the office or use ParentPay. For those parents who use Breakfast and After School care and may be early or late 'picking up' we have a direct telephone number. You can contact the staff on number 07423 784981 and please do save the telephone number in your mobile phone.



EYC news from Laura

We have been busy creating our Christmas craft boxes. The children have made reindeer food, Christmas cards, salt dough decorations, and shortbread treats. We have been exploring the cold weather, and embracing play with ice, snowmen, and polar animals. We have been continuing our letters and sounds activities and practising our voice sounds. After Christmas we will be exploring around the world with vehicles, people and their communities, and our local surroundings.

FMCA Fundraising Day

On Wednesday 2nd December the FMCA held a Christmas fundraising day and raised £517.83. This is a tremendous amount of money and we are delighted that this money will be used towards the costs of the Christmas Dinner day today and the visit of the reindeer next Tuesday.

Art day with Darrell Wakelam

Last week the Year 5 children had a creative and collaborative day producing an evacuee project with talented Artist Darrell Wakelam. The children's work will be displayed in the school hall once it has received its finishing touches.



Pupil Premium

The pupil premium is additional funding that the Government provides for each child who 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 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 apply through this hyperlink https://secure1.somerset.gov.uk/forms/PortalShowForm.asp?fm_formalias=freeschoolmeal

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 Leads: Miss Gregory and Mr Talmage. The school Safeguarding & Child Protection Governor is Mrs Jo Boyland.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr L Talmage
Head Teacher

Mr A Clode
Deputy Head Teacher/Inclusion leader

Coronavirus Incubation Timeline

It can take up to 14 days to develop symptoms after coming into close contact with a case of covid19 - this is called the incubation period.



December 13

Harry was a close contact of someone confirmed with covid-19
(Harry must immediately self isolate for 14 days)

December 18

Harry doesn't self isolate and instead gets a test. The test is negative. (This is wrong. He had no symptoms and should not have got a test. He could still be incubating the virus so should self-isolate for 14 days despite the negative test result)

December 20

Thinking he didn't have coronavirus, Harry went to the pub with five other people. They shared a table for four hours.

December 22

Harry developed symptoms and tested positive.
He was contagious for 48 hours before his symptoms started (known as asymptomatic) and exposed five people to coronavirus. These five people must now self-isolate for 14 days.

They are all in self-isolation over Christmas

If you are a close contact of someone with coronavirus, you MUST complete your full isolation period, even if you feel well



Coronavirus Incubation Timeline

It can take up to 14 days to develop symptoms after coming into close contact with a case of covid19 - this is called the incubation period.



December 18

Jane was a close contact of someone confirmed with covid-19 (Jane must immediately self isolate for 14 days)

December 20

Jane is bored of self-isolating and feels fine so gets a test which is negative. (This is wrong. She had no symptoms and should not have got a test. She could still be incubating the virus so should self-isolate for 14 days despite the negative test result)

December 25

Thinking she didn't have coronavirus, Jane spent Christmas day with her extended family bubble of 12 people. Her Aunt is having chemotherapy for Breast Cancer and is clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV)

December 27

Jane developed symptoms and tested positive. She was contagious for 48 hours before her symptoms started (known as asymptomatic) and exposed 12 people to coronavirus. They must all now self-isolate for 14 days.

Jane feels better after a few days, but her Aunt becomes extremely unwell and is taken to hospital where she is placed in the Intensive Care Unit.

If you are a close contact of someone with coronavirus, you MUST complete your full isolation period, even if you feel well

