

Dear Parents and Carers,

Spring Term Newsletter 2 – Friday 26th January 2018



Key dates (please note that these may change.)



January	
Tuesday 30 th January 2018	Year 3/4 Tag Rugby Festival at Chard Rugby Club
February	
Thursday 1 st February 2018	Year 4 Fabdrumming workshops
Tuesday 6 th February 2018	Year 5/6 Indoor Cricket festival at Holyrood Academy (selected children)
Tuesday 6 th and Wednesday 7 th February 2018	Bikeability course
Friday 9 th February 2018	Last school day of this half term
Monday 19 th February 2018	Children return to school
Tuesday 20 th February 2018	Parents evening (3:30-6:00pm)
Wednesday 21 st February 2018	Parents evening (4:00-7:00pm)
Wednesday 28 th February 2018	Year 5 residential meeting in the school hall - 3:30pm
March	
Thursday 1 st March	World Book Day
Thursday 1 st to Wednesday 7 th March 2018	Book fair in the School Library
Monday 12 th March	Foundation trip to Axe Valley (details to follow)
Wednesday 14 th March	Year 4 Performance to Parents (details to follow)
Friday 16 th March	All After School Clubs for this term finish
Tuesday 20 th March	Games Competition Vs East Coker (selected children)
Friday 23 rd March	Last school day of this term Sport Relief Day

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 8:50. We appreciate that children in KS1 must be walked to school by their parents and their lateness is not their fault and from after half term (Monday February 19th) 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 differently and will be kept in during their playtime to catch up on the work that they have missed.



Building work

Our necessary building work started yesterday, when the scaffolding was erected at the front of the school. Contractors will be on sight from Monday for at least the next twelve weeks. Please bear with us during this work.



M&M Production of Dick Whittington

We'd like to say a big thank you to the FMCA who paid for the M&M production of Dick Whittington this week. It was a wonderful experience for all of our children, who laughed and hollered throughout the performance. The children haven't stopped talking about it since!

Parents' evenings

Our next Parents evenings will be held on Tuesday 20th February (until 6pm) and Wednesday 21st February (until 7:00pm). These appointments are invaluable for parents and teachers alike, where information can be shared, next steps created and children's progress and attainment can be celebrated. Please take note of the letter that will be in your child's school bag today and make an appointment to see your child's teacher. The only after school clubs that will run in this week are Drama Club and the Primary Stars club run by Yeovil Town Football club.

Head lice

Part and parcel of young children mixing together in all schools around the country is Head lice. Can you please check your child's head on a regular basis.

School uniform

Our school uniform looks extremely smart when worn correctly. Can we please remind you of our uniform expectations for all children. If you are unsure of anything, then please do come and speak to us or check the school website.

Boys	Girls
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Navy blue and red tie• White formal shirt for all year groups, apart from Reception and Year 1• Navy blue V-neck sweatshirt with school logo.• Black or grey trousers or shorts for the summer• Black school shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Navy blue and red tie• White formal shirt for all year groups, apart from Reception and Year 1• Navy blue V-neck sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo.• Black or grey trousers or skirt or a pinafore dress for the summer• Dark coloured tights• Black school shoes



Year 5 residential to the Ultimate adventure centre

This year, our Year 5 children will travel to the 'Ultimate adventure centre' in Westward Ho for their three day residential trip. There will be a short meeting to explain the itinerary and kit list etc. on Wednesday 28th February at 3:30pm in the school hall.

Fitter futures project

We are delighted to inform you that we have teamed up with 'Fitter Futures'. The aim is for it to improve fitness levels of our children across the school and by using 'Fitter Futures' it makes being active very accessible and fun for you and your child. It is completely free to use and can be accessed using your child's individual 'log in' on any tablet, laptop or PC, at the click of a button, as long as you have an internet connection. Further information and your child's login will be sent home in a separate letter.



KS2 SATs

Year 6 children are working especially hard at the moment in preparation for their end of Key Stage assessments, in Reading, Mathematics and SPAG (Spelling, punctuation and grammar). These assessments are between Monday 14th May and Friday 18th May and there is to be no Year 6 absence in this week please. If children are poorly, please send them into school to do their tests and then we will send them home as soon as it is finished.

EYC

At the EYC over the past few weeks we have been learning about popular fairy tales, re-enacting them using puppets and practising the phrases within them. We are still exploring letters and sounds which involves listening to familiar noises and matching them to pictures. We are continuing to develop independence, and lots of opportunities for mark making. Please follow us on twitter our address is @ManorCourtEYC. We are looking forward to welcoming our new pre-school pets after half term!

EAL drop in

We are pleased that our EAL 'drop in' sessions started last week. Just a reminder that these will be held fortnightly on a Friday and the next session will be on Friday 2nd February. 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.

Author visit

In partnership with Chard Bookshop, we have arranged for award winning author Emma Carroll to visit Manor Court on Thursday 8th February. Emma will complete an hour long workshop with Years 4, 5 and 6, in which she will talk about her books and spend fifteen minutes answering the children's questions. Emma will complete a book signing of her published books, this can be purchased in advance of the workshop from Chard Bookshop, or at the end of the workshop for £6.99.

It's been written about Emma Carroll "As the author of several bestselling children's novels, including *Letters from the Lighthouse*, *In Darkling Wood* and *Frost Hollow Hall*, Emma has done hundreds of school events and appeared at Hay, Edinburgh, Bath and Cheltenham Festivals – at the latter of which she was named "Top Five events to see for Kids' by the Telegraph"

This will be another exciting opportunity for the children and increase their love of reading and writing.



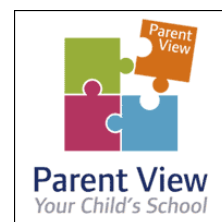
Coffee mornings

Miss Gregory has returned to school on a phased return after her bout of illness and we have decided to postpone the launch of our coffee mornings until the first day back after half term. From then on each Monday between 8.45am-10am, she will host a friendly, informal peer support coffee morning for parents and carers of pupils attending Manor Court. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available as well as a friendly face to talk to. This will be located in the Hub in the Year 1 block. Manor Court recognises that Family life can be difficult at any time. We are here to offer practical, emotional and friendly help to parents, either at school or in your own home, on areas of family life such as development of pupil self-esteem, confidence and emotional wellbeing, friendship issues/bullying: including social networking, family issues: bereavement, new baby in the family, parent's separation/divorce, key transitions including moving between schools/classes, behavioural concerns, and support for adults around finances, housing, mental health and adult education. Guest speakers from health, housing, education, behavioural support and children's mental health will be in attendance at various coffee mornings to offer support and advice.

All support is confidential and non-judgemental. We listen carefully to your needs and adapt a support package suitable to meet these. If you wish to speak to someone outside of the 'drop in' session or would like to arrange a visit, please contact the Miss Gregory on the school telephone number **(01460) 62350**.

Ofsted Parent view

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



World Book day – Advanced notice

Manor Court will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 1st March. Once again, we are planning a range of engaging activities to raise the profile of reading.

There is no specific national theme this year, but we have decided to have a Beatrix Potter focus. The children will be following a Beatrix Potter trail of her favourite characters like Peter Rabbit, Miss Tiggywinkle and Jeremy Fisher around the school, and there will be fun activities in the classroom. We are inviting children to come dressed as a character from a book by Beatrix Potter, or any book that they enjoy. Alternatively, pupils could bring in a prop/artefact or something they have made that relates to their favourite book or a character, which they can share with the class.

Each child will be issued a £1 National Book token to spend. More details to follow nearer the date, but have a look at home for any Beatrix Potter classics you might already have.



Sports relief – Advanced notice

This year we will be raising money for Sports relief and Mr Jackson is busily preparing an exciting fundraising day for all children on Friday 23rd March. Events planned already include a mile run around the school for all children. We will be selling the sports relief wrist bands in the school office during lunch and playtimes for £1 each from this Friday. We only have 120 bands and we expect that these will be extremely popular and sell out fast! More information will follow in due course.

Thank you for your continued support,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L Talmage'.

Mr L Talmage
Head Teacher

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'A Clode'.

Mr A Clode
Deputy Head Teacher/Inclusion leader