



MANOR COURT Community Primary School

incorporating **Manor Court Early Years Centre**

A Member of Preston Primary Academy Trust

Head Teacher Mr L Talmage

Deputy Head Teacher Mr A Clode **Assistant Head Teacher** Mrs G Terry

Duck Lane, Chard, Somerset TA20 2ES

Telephone 01460 62350 • email office@manorcourt.ppat365.org

manorcourtcommunityprimary.co.uk • x [@ManorCourtChard](https://www.instagram.com/ManorCourtChard)

Friday 30th January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

World Book Day - Thursday 5th March 2026

World Book Day is an annual national event which changes lives through a love of books and reading. At Manor Court, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March 2026.

Did you know this year is the 'National Year of Reading.' Millions of children, families and communities will benefit from the power of reading as the government and National Literacy Trust support campaigns to get everyone reading in 2026. There is a worrying decline in reading for pleasure, especially among young people which has dropped to its lowest level since 2005, with just one in three 8 to 18-year-olds saying they enjoy reading in their spare time and teenage boys affected the most – in 2025, just 25% of boys aged 8-18 said they enjoy reading, compared to 39% of girls.

The year aims to address this challenge head on, bringing together everyone from families and schools, to libraries, businesses and ambassadors to connect people of all ages with the joy – and varied benefits – of reading for pleasure. This means encouraging the reading of anything that works for our pupils, from playlists and football, to films, food and family time in whichever way works, whether reading a novel, an e-reader, a comic, a magazine or an online blog.

The mission for World Book Day is to promote reading for pleasure, offering the opportunity for all pupils to be given a book of their own. Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success – more than their family circumstances, their parents' educational background or their income. We want to see more children with a life-long habit of reading for pleasure and the improved life chances this brings them.

This year, we are inviting pupils to come to school dressed as their favourite book character if they so wish, but we are mindful that dressing-up clothes can be expensive, so there is no need to buy anything new unless you choose to. There is also the option for pupils to wear their own comfy pyjamas to school, as we know a lot of our pupils enjoy reading at bedtime. They can also choose to wear their favourite everyday clothes, or they can wear their normal school uniform.

The children may choose to bring in a prop from their favourite book, or just the book itself.

The children will be taking part in a range of fun activities; they will complete a character trail around the school, they will visit another year group to complete a reading swap, all children will create a potato book character (potatoes provided by school!) and there will be a special assembly.

During the lead up to World Book Day, there will be another Rock Up and Read session too, where we invite parents and carers of each year group into the school hall to read with our pupils. Please see dates below:

<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Date</u>
EYC	Thursday 26 th February 2.30-3.00pm
Foundation Stage	Tuesday 24 th February 2.30-3.00pm
1	Friday 27 th February 2.30-3.00pm
2	Monday 2 nd March 2.30-3.00pm
3	Tuesday 3 rd March 2.30-3.00pm
4	Wednesday 4 th March 2.30-3.00pm
5	Thursday 26 th February 8.50-9.15am
6	Thursday 5 th March 2.30-3.00pm

After school there will be a second-hand book sale on the playground. Books will be priced between 10p – 50p. If you have any books to donate towards this, please drop them in at the Office, or pass to your child’s class teacher. Please ensure someone knows they can be sold. This money will support our School Council’s charity of the year, Young Lives Vs Cancer trust.

All children will receive a World Book Day token. This can be used in two ways. The first way is that the token can be used to save £1.00 on the cost of a purchased book. The second way is that the token can be exchanged for a complete World Book Day book, which can be collected from book shops and some supermarkets. The choice of ‘free’ books that can be exchanged for the token vary from early readers to teen reads.

As well as reading 5 times a week at home, daily guided reading sessions and reading 1:1 with adults in school, we have also pledged for all our pupils to visit Chard Library throughout the year. We want our pupils to be the best readers they can be. With this in mind, we are trying to make our school library and reading corners in our classrooms as welcoming as possible. If you have any unwanted bunting, cushions or books, please send them in so we can create the best reading environment we can in school.

Thank you for your ongoing support. If you have any questions regarding World Book Day or any other part of your child’s education, please speak to me or your child’s class teacher.

With all kind regards,



Mrs G Terry
English Lead & Assistant Head Teacher