



Love for God ~ Love for Each Other ~ Love for Learning

# Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday 10th December 2025

Dear families

Wonderful learning is going on at Manor Park. Our little scientist have been busy learning about materials and state of matters. Animations was the learning in computing and the children have excelled themselves.

As always, this Friday you have a chance to come into school and celebrate the work your children are doing as well as admire their wonderful displays.

Finally, a special 'Thank You' to Buds of Manor Park for buying two of our beautiful Christmas trees and Gould's Garden Centre for gifting us a 7ft Christmas tree for our hall.

Manor Park First School

## Save the Date

- 11<sup>th</sup> December Maple Class Christmas craft event 2:15-3:15
- 12th December Open Afternoon 'Celebrate'
- 12th December Buds Winter Fair
- 15<sup>th</sup> December Yr 1 and 2 Nativity Performance 10:30-11:30
- 15th December Y3/4 St George's Christmas service 1:45pm
- 16<sup>th</sup> December Yr 1 and 2 Nativity Performance 1:45- 2:45
- 16th December Signature House residents invited to watch the Nativity
- 17th December Christmas Carols at Signature House
- 17th December Christmas Jumper Day
- 17th December Christmas Lunch
- 18th December End of term**
- 5th January INSET Day
- 6th January Start of Spring Term**



*\*Further detailed information will be sent out via Arbor for specific events closer to the time.*



# Manor Park

## CE (VC) First School

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### HIGHLIGHTS of the WEEK



Year 3 have been investigating magnets in their Science lessons. They have asked fantastic scientific questions!



Year 2 have been learning all about everyday materials. So far, we have explored what a material is; what properties they have (hard /soft /smooth /shiny); experimenting with how a solid object can change shape by twisting, stretching, bending or squashing.

The strong winds kept Year 4 inside during our outdoor learning session, this week We made carbon dioxide in a sealed bag mixing sodium bicarbonate and vinegar together. It was fun watching the bag expand!



To share our love of reading, every day during Advent, we are gifting a book to a lucky Manor Park superstar.

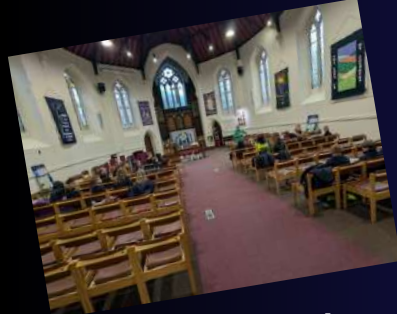


Our preschool children had a wonderful time visiting the woods for outdoor learning. The children explored the crunchy autumn leaves, looked for different colours in nature, and listened to the sounds of the forest.



Our Reception children had a wonderful trip to Nutley Farm today, where they went on an elf hunt, visited the reindeer, and had food around a campfire. What a wonderful start to the festive season!





# Manor Park CE (VC) First School

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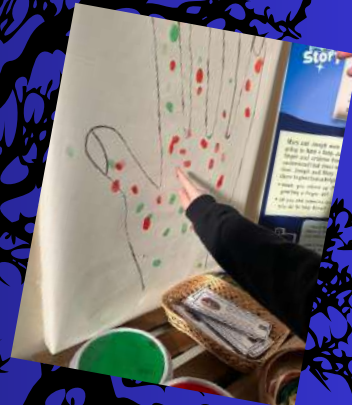
**United Church Dorchester**  
invites you to

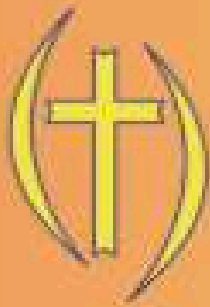
## JOURNEY TO THE STABLE

**Year 3 and Year 4**

Come and Experience  
the Heart of The Christmas Story

An opportunity for adults and children to  
reflect, respond and take something  
away with them...





# Is your child starting Middle School in September 2026?

You must apply for a *Middle School* place through the local authority where you live.

## If you are a Dorset resident:

**Apply online** on the website [www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions) via a smart phone, tablet or computer. You can create an account and then complete the application which should take no longer than half an hour. You will receive a confirmation email once you have submitted your application. If you cannot access the internet, please call 01305 221060 to discuss alternative ways of applying.

Please read the Parents' Guide before making your application. You can read or download the guide and the schools' admissions policies on the website:

[www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/school-admissions).



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND DEVICES

Electrical safety is a vital topic for parents and educators, especially with the growing use of devices like smartphones, laptops, and power banks. Electrical fires are a major risk and are the cause of many deaths and injuries each year. There are reportedly nearly 20,000 accidental fires of electrical origin each year in the UK. This guide offers practical advice to help families and schools prevent electrical hazards, and promote safety when using everyday devices.

### 1 CHECK FOR OVERHEATING

Devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones can overheat if used for long periods or when charging. Ensure that children don't use devices on soft surfaces like beds or sofas, which can block ventilation. If a device becomes unusually hot, turn it off and unplug it. Overheating can lead to fire if left unchecked.

### 2 INSTALL RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES

Ensure that homes and schools are equipped with Residual Current Devices (RCDs). These devices cut off the power if an electrical fault occurs, preventing electric shocks and reducing the risk of fires. RCDs should be tested regularly to ensure they are working properly. More information about RCDs is available from Electrical Safety First.

### 3 AVOID OVERLOADING SOCKETS

Plugging too many devices into one socket can overload the electrical system and cause a fire. In schools and homes, ensure extension leads are not overloaded and never 'daisy chain' multiple extension cords together. Educate children on the dangers of connecting too many devices to a single outlet.

### 4 POWER BANKS: SAFE USE

Power banks are a handy way to charge devices, but they can also pose a risk if misused. Ensure power banks are of high quality and comply with UK safety standards. Teach children never to leave power banks charging unattended, and to avoid placing them under pillows or bedding where they may overheat.

### 5 REGULAR DEVICE INSPECTIONS

Regularly check devices for signs of wear and tear. Frayed charging cables, cracked device casings, or devices that are slow to charge may indicate electrical problems. If any issues are noticed, stop using the device until it can be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician. This proactive approach helps prevent fires caused by faulty devices.

### 6 UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE

Encourage children and pupils to unplug devices when not in use, particularly overnight. Devices left plugged in unnecessarily can overheat or become fire hazards, especially if left charging unattended for long periods. Simple habits like unplugging can prevent serious incidents.

### 7 USE GENUINE CHARGERS

Always use chargers supplied by the manufacturer or from a reputable retailer. Faulty or counterfeit chargers can cause devices to overheat, short-circuit, or even catch fire. Teach children the importance of avoiding poor-quality chargers, and regularly inspect charging cables for signs of wear or damage. More tips on safe charging can be found at Electrical Safety First.

### 8 WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

Teach children that water and electricity are a dangerous combination. Devices should never be used near sinks, bathtubs, or swimming pools. Parents and educators should ensure that any electrical appliances near water sources have proper waterproof casings and are plugged into RCD-protected outlets.

### 9 KEEP DEVICES VENTILATED

Devices need proper ventilation to avoid overheating. Avoid stacking items on top of plugged-in devices like laptops or gaming consoles, and make sure there is enough space around devices to allow for airflow. Proper ventilation helps prevent dangerous heat build-up, reducing the risk of fires.

### 10 SUPERVISE YOUNG CHILDREN

Younger children may not understand the dangers of electricity, so it's important to supervise them when they are using devices. Keep electrical cords out of reach and always remind children never to put objects into electrical outlets.

### Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings as well as many other industries to help them maintain a safe working environment.



The National College®

See full reference list on our website

@wake\_up\_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

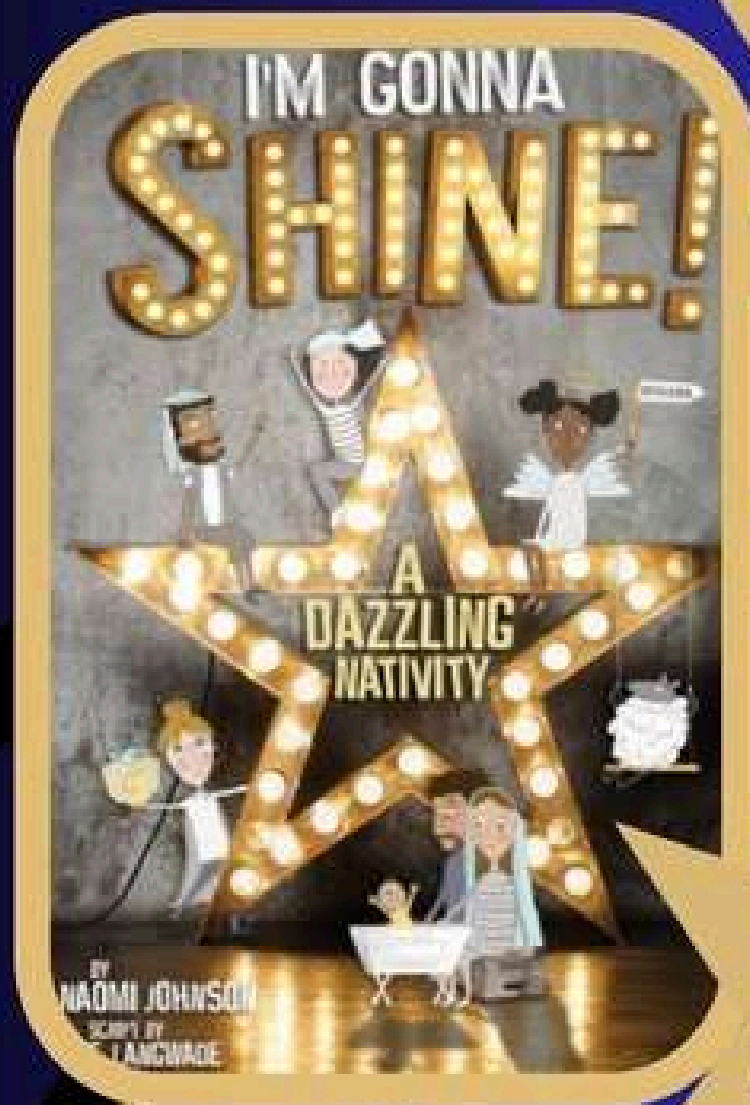
@wake.up.wednesday

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# Manor Park First School presents...



Performed  
by Year 1  
and Year 2

Monday 15th  
December  
10:30am -  
11:30am

Tuesday 16th  
December  
1:45pm -  
2:45pm

Two tickets available per child

Please contact the school office to  
reserve your seat:

**in person**

**email** - [office@manorpark.wessex.ac](mailto:office@manorpark.wessex.ac)

**telephone** - 01305 268741



Application  
Deadline: 15<sup>th</sup>  
January 2026

# Is your child starting school in September 2026?



Come and visit us to see for yourself, the fabulous provision we have for our children here at Manor Park First School.

We had two great open mornings recently. If you were unable to attend and would like to see our wonderful provision, please call the school office. We will be able to arrange a tour, where you will have the opportunity to meet our enthusiastic Reception team and see the excellent provision we offer to ensure your child reaches their full potential.

To book a tour, please contact the school office on 01305 268741 or email [office@manorpark.wessex.ac](mailto:office@manorpark.wessex.ac)

Applications for your child's school placement for September 2026 must be made by 15th January 2026 via the Dorset Council website:

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/starting-school-for-the-first-time> .



@manorparkfirst



ManorParkDorchester



THIS WEEK!

**BUDS OF MANOR PARK**

**WINTER FAIR**

FRIDAY DECEMBER 12TH  
5PM - 7PM

FESTIVE GAMES - RAFFLE - TOMBOLA  
ARTS & CRAFTS - FOOD & DRINK  
LUCKY DIP - GIFTS - SWEET TREATS

PLUS FESTIVE SHOPPING WITH  
LOCAL CRAFT AND ECO VENDORS

A 'TOKEN' MESSAGE FROM  
**BUDS OF MANOR PARK**

WE HAVE LOTS OF GAMES AND ACTIVITIES READY FOR YOU TO ENJOY AT THE WINTER FAIR, AND THIS YEAR WE'LL BE USING TOKENS AS A PAYMENT SYSTEM. THE TOKENS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO BUY ON THE NIGHT AND HAVE A VALUE OF 50P EACH.

ALL OUR GAMES ARE 50P PER PLAY AND INCLUDE:

- LUCKY DIP
- CHRISTMAS HUMAN FRUIT MACHINE
- PULL BACK RACERS
- LOLLIPOP HUNT
- PIN THE NOSE ON THE REINDEER
- SLIDERS
- AND MORE!

THE TOMBOLA WILL CONTINUE TO BE CASH AND BOTH CASH AND CARD CAN BE ACCEPTED FOR THE RAFFLE AND REFRESHMENTS.

PLEASE NOTE - TOKENS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

←

**ONE WAY**

Please note: We will have a one-way system around our Winter Fair.



@Budsofmanorpark

BudsOfManorPark





**On the first day of Christmas**  
**Buds of Manor Park**  
gave to me,  
time for a shopping spree!

Join us at our Winter Fair  
for some fabulously festive  
**Christmas gifts by Sam**



Friday 12th December  
5pm - 7pm

**On the second day of Christmas**  
**Buds of Manor Park**  
gave to me,  
a chance to shop sustainably

Join us at our Winter Fair  
for eco-friendly goods from  
**DORSETECO**



Friday 12th December  
5pm - 7pm

**On the third day of Christmas**  
**Buds of Manor Park**  
gave to me,  
gifts for the family

Come along to our Winter Fair  
for marvellous mugs and more from  
**Muggable**



Friday 12th December  
5pm - 7pm

**On the fourth day of Christmas**  
**Buds of Manor Park**  
gave to me,  
crêpes, sweet and savoury

Come along to our Winter Fair  
and treat yourself to some delicious crêpes with  
**Crepe Salut**



Friday 12th December  
5pm - 7pm

# Buds Winter Fair: 12 Days of Christmas

**On the fifth day of Christmas**  
**Buds of Manor Park**  
gave to me,  
the gift of beauty

Come along to our Winter Fair  
for some pampering products from  
**Oriflame**



Friday 12th December  
5pm - 7pm

**On the sixth day of Christmas**  
**Buds of Manor Park**  
gave to me,  
sweet treats so heavenly

Come along to our Winter Fair  
and try some incredible treats from  
**Freya's Fancies**



Friday 12th December  
5pm - 7pm

**On the seventh day of Christmas**  
**Buds of Manor Park**  
gave to me,  
a crocheted mince pie and teddy

Come along to our Winter Fair  
for some beautiful hand-crocheted  
gifts by  
**Alison**



Friday 12th December  
5pm - 7pm

To be continued...



@Budsofmanorpark

BudsOfManorPark



# Events

## IN THE COMMUNITY

### DORCHESTER FAMILY HUB COMMUNITY DAY

**MONDAY 15 DECEMBER 11AM - 2PM**

Discover what your Family Hub has to offer and celebrate the festive season with us! Meet the teams who support families in Dorchester, and enjoy Christmas crafts and activities.

**NO NEED TO BOOK!**  
Dorchester Family Hub and Library South Walks House, Dorchester, DT1 1EE

Meet the teams!

- Family Support Workers
- Target Youth Workers
- Early Years Advisors
- Midwives and Health Visitors
- DorPip
- Home Start Dorset

**AND OF COURSE...**

- Christmas nibbles
- Sensory fun with our new interactive projector
- Christmas Crafts and activities
- Baby massage
- More family fun and freebies!

**FREE: FATHER CHRISTMAS WILL BE THERE TO HAND OUT GIFTS!**

Part of Dorset's Family Hub network



### MAGICAL CHRISTMAS FETE!

**SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER, 10AM-4PM, AT OUR DORCHESTER OUTLET, UNIT D2, MARABOUT INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, MILLER'S CLOSE, DORCHESTER, DT1 1YA.**

Jewellery stall, cake stall, gift tombola, sweet tombola, children's stall, smelly stall. Father Christmas will also be here between 11am-1pm and 1:30-3pm. Cash only for stalls where possible please.

[weldmarhospicecare.org](http://weldmarhospicecare.org)



### Carols in the Gardens

**Thursday 18th December, 6.30pm**  
The Borough Gardens, Dorchester

Featuring  
Durnovaria Silver Band & Encore Singers  
Carol books provided

Festive refreshments will be available.

Bring your own homemade lanterns!  
To find out how to make your own lantern from recycled materials scan the QR code.

Friends of the Borough Gardens  
Supported by Dorchester Town Council & Keep 100



### DORCHESTER LIONS Santa on tour

Come and meet Santa and his Sleigh

Our very own Santa and his sleigh will be making a stop here

**Saturday 13th December 2025**  
**2.00pm - 4.00pm**

**Pavilion in the Park, The Great Field, Poundbury**

No booking needed  
All welcome  
£5 per child

Refreshments available from Pavilion in the Park

[www.lionsdorchester.org.uk](http://www.lionsdorchester.org.uk)



### Christmas in the woods

Festive fun for the whole family!

- Reindeer food mixing
- Festive scavenger hunting
- Willow star making
- Christmas decoration creating
- S'mores & 'fancy' hot chocolates under the twinkly fairy lights!

**Day 'till dusk**  
Monday 22nd December  
2.30pm - 4.30pm  
Limited spaces!




### JOIN US FOR A Tinsel & Twinkle SHOPPING EXPERIENCE

**THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER**

TWINKLE THROUGH YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST WITH LATE NIGHT SHOPPING & SPECIAL CHILDREN'S CRÈCHE AT **ROCK CHOIR**

FREE PROSECCO, EXCLUSIVE GOODIE BAGS AND THE UPLIFTING SOUNDS OF THE ROCK CHOIR PERFORMING FROM 6PM

WITH LOTS OF FESTIVE FREEBIES TO TAKE HOME, IT'S THE PERFECT WAY TO GET READY FOR CHRISTMAS

**5PM-7PM**

Discover our Christmas events programme at [brewerysquare.com](http://brewerysquare.com)



### Wonderful Wintery Wizardry

**Saturday 13 December 2.30pm**  
Dorchester Corn Exchange

### Christmassy Christmas Show

**Saturday 20 December 11.30am**  
Dorchester Corn Exchange




### Christmas at the Kingston Maurward Estate

**Friday 12th December: 4pm - 8pm**  
**Saturday 13th December: 11am - 8pm**

Kingston Maurward House will be opening its doors to help you get into the Christmas spirit this year!

The Bar will be open offering a variety of drinks including some festive favourites. Family films go show in our library hall. Take the opportunity to explore the landscaped gardens with your loved ones this festive season.

**Free entry!**

Kingston Maurward, Dorchester, DT3 6PY  
Hospitality@kmc.dorset.nhs.uk  
01305 215024





# Manor Park

CE (VC) First School



Love for God ~ Love for Each Other ~ Love for Learning



## YOUR NEAREST MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP

**Venue:** Manor Park First school, Dorchester, DT1 2BH

**Dates:** Mon 22nd & Tue 23rd Dec 2025 & Fri 2nd Jan 2026

**Times:** 9-4pm (9-1pm for 4 year olds)

**Price:** £26.62 9-4pm - £2 9-1pm - £13.84 per day

**Ages:** 4-11

**Additional info:** \*\*Sibling discount available\*\*



Our Holiday Camps keep children active, safe, and entertained throughout the school holidays.

Join us this Winter as we offer a wide range of fun activities, including sports, performing arts, and games, all at great value. There's something for every child to enjoy as they start 2026!

**Book now** for a holiday full of excitement!



**CAMPS ARE BETTER WITH FRIENDS!**



**TREAT YOUR FRIENDS TO 20% OFF...AND GET 20% OFF TOO!**

\*Ts&Cs apply. Refer a Friend discount on new bookings only.



Based on over 20,000 reviews



*Love for God ~ Love for Each Other ~ Love for Learning*



*Attendance Winners  
this week are...*

- EYFS
- Maple Class: 98.5%
- K.S.1
- Ash Class: 97.5%
- K.S.2
- Sycamore Class: 96.5%

*“Love is a safe place of shelter,  
For it never stops believing the best for  
others. Love never takes failure as defeat,  
for it never gives up. Love never stops  
Loving. 1 Corinthians 13: 7-8*

**01305 268741**

**[www.manorpark.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.manorpark.dorset.sch.uk)**



**@manorparkfirst**



**ManorParkDorchester**

