



Manor Park CE (VC) First School

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

Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday 18th March 2026

Dear Families,

A wonderful Science Week has come to an end. The children have been fully engaged throughout and have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work with visiting experts, exploring new ideas and developing their curiosity.

This week, we begin to immerse ourselves in History across the school, with exciting learning opportunities planned for all year groups.

Year 4 are preparing for their annual music concert, and we look forward to seeing them showcase their hard work and talent. Year 3 are eagerly anticipating their upcoming trip to Lyme Regis, where they will bring their learning to life through hands-on experiences. Meanwhile, Year 1 will be welcoming some very special "snakelike" visitors, which promises to be a fascinating and memorable experience for the children.

Wishing you all a wonderful week

Manor Park Team



- 13th - 29th March Keep Britain Tidy: Great Big School Clean
- 18th March Y2 hosting a cake sale for all @ 3- 3:30pm
- 19th March Chestnut Lyme Regis trip
- 20th March Sycamore Lyme Regis trip
- 20th March Buds Quiz Night (adults only)
- 23rd-25th March Y4 Hooke Court
- 23rd March Y1 trip to Lulworth Castle
- 25th March Buds Art Competition deadline
- 26th March Easter Church Service @ 1:45pm
- 26th March The Pantry Raffle draw
- 27th March Open Afternoon YR -Y4 @ 2:45pm - 3:15pm
- 27th March End of Spring Term**
- 13th April INSET Day
- 14th April Start of Summer Term**
- 14th -17th April NSPCC Pants week
- 14th April YR and Y1 Platform workshops
- 15th April SEND parent meetings
- 15th April Y2 and Y3 Platform workshops
- 16th April Y2 Mary Seacole digital session





Manor Park

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HIGHLIGHTS of the WEEK



Our Eco-Warriors took the lead in an inspiring launch assembly for The Big Plastic Count! They highlighted the impact of plastic on our environment; shared some surprising facts; and showed us all how to take part in this important challenge. Let's come together this week to count our plastic and make a difference for our planet!

Year 4 recreated the digestive system!



Our friends at Kalewa Primary School, in Kenya, have sent over some gifts for the school, to say a big thank you to Manor Park for raising money for their new school computer room.



Our new knitters are learning so quickly during knitting club!



Cedar Class in Year 4 have had a super afternoon exploring and making their own food chains. 🌿



In RE, Year One have been learning about the very first Easter.



The children in Buds Craft Club are hoping to attract fairies to their homes and gardens after they made fairy doors for them.



BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK 2026

6-15 March



YR - Y2 visited our Science Curiosity Fair in the hall.





BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK 2026

6-15 March



Year 4 visited The Thomas Hardy School today for British Science week. They took part in a workshop called exploding foods!

In Year 3 and 4, we had a visitor from Wessex Water as part of our British Science Week learning.

As Scientists, Year 4 carried out an investigation to test whether toast always lands butter-side down!



All proceeds
are used to
replenish stock
in The Pantry.

Manor
Park
CE (VC) FIRST
SCHOOL

EASTER RAFFLE



BY THE PANTRY

Tickets can be bought at The Pantry
or from Tina Hill on the School gate.

To be drawn on
Thursday 26th March 2026



20p a
ticket/
£1 a strip.





Cake Sale



50p per
cake

Wednesday 18th March 2026

3:00pm - 3:30pm

By the front gates on the
Reception playground



Hosted by Year 2

We are taking
part!



#GBSpringClean

**JOIN THE
GREAT BRITISH
SPRING CLEAN**

Love Where You Live
13 - 29 March 2026

During the campaign members of the great British public join a range of partners – from businesses, big and small, to community groups, schools, councils and politicians – coming together as a network of Litter Heroes to tidy up the places that we love.

At Manor Park, we are demonstrating our school values by pledging to collect 20 bags of rubbish over the next two weeks.



#LoveWhereYouLive





THE BIG PLASTIC COUNT 9-15 MARCH

JOIN 35,119 people AND TAKE PART IN THE UK'S BIGGEST PLASTIC INVESTIGATION!

Count your plastic for one week from **9th to 15th March**.

Thousands of people from households, schools and communities across the country will take part in the UK's biggest people-powered investigation into household plastic waste.

By taking part in The Big Plastic Count, you'll help gather important evidence to show the true scale of the crisis – and to tell the government we need them to produce less plastic. Since our last campaign, the UK has elected a new government – one that says it's serious about tackling plastic waste. This is our chance to put their promise to the test.

How to take part:

<https://thebigplasticcount.com/sign-up/>

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about STREAMING SERVICES

Streaming services are platforms that allow users to watch cartoons, documentaries and movies online immediately (often referred to as SVoD: streaming videos on demand). Ofcom reported that children and young adults prefer streaming services to traditional TV. With two-thirds of UK households subscribing to at least one streaming service, parents must understand how to manage screen time, set age restrictions and ensure safe viewing.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

COSTLY

Subscription services can be costly. As the main source of entertainment, most households have at least one streaming platform, and each platform has its own monthly subscription fee. Services are charging more for ad-free viewing, and better quality and resolution; however, there is a cheaper option with adverts. Due to price increases, Netflix and Disney+ reported a sharp increase in users subscribing to their ad-supported tier in 2025.

ILLEGAL STREAMING

Sharing passwords or using modified Fire Sticks to access streaming content without permission is illegal. Most streaming services have now put measures in place to detect account sharing. When account sharing is identified, platforms will offer an opportunity to pay for an added member or will ask the user to verify who they are.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most streaming platforms allow users to set up a profile for each family member, with the option of putting specific restrictions in place. These include adding a profile lock or PIN, controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings. Nonetheless, these restrictions aren't foolproof. Content which is rated as suitable for an age group may still include themes, language, or images which children and families find inappropriate.

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Excessive screen time contributes to sedentary behaviour and can negatively impact physical and mental health. Ofcom found that 4- to 15-year-olds averaged 2.5 hours per day across all video-sharing platforms, not including gaming. The vast range of content available, combined with features such as autoplay, makes it easy for children to watch for extended periods of time.

BINGE WATCHING

Features such as autoplay make it easy for viewers – especially young people – to continue watching episodes without a break. This can foster unhealthy and addictive patterns, such as consuming a vast amount of content in one sitting. With binge watching come a lack of social interaction, lack of physical exercise, and often late nights and sleep disruptions which impact their mental and physical wellbeing.

HARMFUL STEREOTYPES

Many platforms track viewing habits, time consumed, and preferences, and generate recommendations to encourage your child to keep watching. This results in your child being in a 'loop' whereby they think the 'recommended' shows would be something they would enjoy rather than thinking critically for themselves. This can shape their beliefs, values, and understanding of the world from a young age without even realising it.

Advice for Parents & Educators

SET UP INDIVIDUAL PROFILES AND ADD PINS

Almost all streaming services allow users to set up individual profiles where each family member can have age restrictions put in place for the content they can view. Adult profiles can be protected through the use of PIN. Keep this private. Use the options of putting specific restrictions in place such as controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings.

MONITOR AND TALK OFTEN

Discuss with your child what they are watching, find out which programmes are trending, and watch them yourself. Have a little look at their watch history to check the content of what they're watching. Some platforms have been known to recommend or autoplay older or graphic content after a child's movie has been played. While some TV shows or movies may have a suitable age rating, your child may still find the content scary, or it may explore themes you don't want to explore with your child yet.

TALK ABOUT ALGORITHMS

Talk to your child about how streaming services track what they watch, and base adverts and recommended shows/movies on previous viewing. Encourage them to critically think about whether the recommendations are suitable and how they want to spend their time. Discuss stereotypes with your child and challenge them to think about what they watch and how this may influence their beliefs.

SET TIME RESTRICTIONS

Many streaming services offer the opportunity to buy movies, or add additional features to your subscription such as sports channels, as well as play games. This can increase the amount of time young people spend sitting idly in front of the screen. Some platforms (e.g. Apple TV+) allow you to set screen time restrictions. If the streaming service doesn't allow you to set screen time limits, set a family rule and stick to it.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator, and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government, comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



See full reference list on our website



£1 per entry

Complete the picture for a chance to win a prize

Here are the eyes, what can you create?

Colouring sheets will be sent home with all children on 13th March, entries must be returned by 25th March

Win a prize per year, Either a Child in the Wild voucher, or The Works gift card

Drawing Competition

Dates for Your Diary

Friday 13th March - Art competition

Friday 22nd May - End of Term Disco



@Budsofmanorpark

BudsOfManorPark



You are invited to
THE SCHOOLS TRIATHLON



Bryanston School

Sunday 10th May 2026

Registration Deadline

Friday 13th March 2026

Registering

Register Here



1. Create a team of four children, then choose your team name!
2. Select one parent to register your team's interest in the event via the link above (you will need all participant names and their parent/guardian's email)
3. You will receive an email to confirm if your team has or hasn't been successful 3 weeks after the deadline date given above
4. If your team is given a place, we will email all parents within the team to invite them to register their child for the event

Fundraising & RESTLESS DEVELOPMENT

Each participant must fundraise a minimum of £60, with a target of £100. You can set up an [online JustGiving page](#) or download a [sponsorship form](#).

Your fundraising supports Restless Development: a global charity who champions the collective power of young people to create a better world. Watch [this video](#) to learn more!

Head to our [FAQs for more info](#) and to find out what's included!



Year Group	Swim	Cycle	Run
Year 3 & 4	50m	1000m	750m
Year 5 & 6	50m	1000m	750m
Year 7 & 8	50m	2000m	750m

As a relay, each participant completes these distances.



email us: schoolstriathlon@restlessdevelopment.org @schoolstriathlon



VOLUNTEER

RESTLESS DEVELOPMENT

at the Knight Frank Schools Triathlon!

Join Team Restless Volunteers and show your support for the work that we do and all the children taking part.

When? Sunday 10th May 2026

Where? Bryanston School

What will I be doing?

No experience is needed. Just bring bags of energy and enthusiasm. You'll support us to:

- Welcome budding young triathletes and their families at Registration.
- Help triathletes during their swim, cycle or run
- Steward triathletes along the course and brief them when they arrive
- Hand out medals and sweets to our excited finishers



Watch the event in action!

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER HERE

Find out about The Schools Triathlon ?

Watch to learn more!

How long do I need to volunteer for?

You can either help for the full day (8am-5pm) or half a day (either AM or PM)

We'll provide you with a free t-shirt and complementary refreshments.

What next?

Sign up today using this [link](#) to get all the information you need - and feel free to share it with friends and family so they can join too!

Who Are Restless Development?

We are a global charity who supports the collective power of young people to create a better world.

Eco Warriors' March Top Tips



Biodiversity

We can make homes for bugs and insects.



Healthy Living

We can drink plenty of water



Global Citizenship

We can treat everyone fairly and kindly



Energy

We can switch off screens and computers_



Water

We can use only the water we need



Litter

We can help pick up litter safely



Marine

We can learn about ocean animals



Waste

We can reuse items



Transport

We can scoot or cycle safely





Parenting Skills and Strategies

The opportunity for parents/carers to meet 1:1 with 2 members of our team to gain practical and friendly support, information and advice regarding children and young people aged 0-19.

Please book a 30-minute slot

10th March 10.00am-12.00pm, face-to-face in Dorchester Library or phone call

11th March 6.30-8.30pm, telephone appointments

14th April 10.00am-12.00pm, face-to-face in Dorchester Library or phone call

15th April 6.30pm-8.30pm, telephone appointments

To book a slot, please email:

dorchesterfamilyhub@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Please scan the QR code or search Dorchester Locality on Facebook for local events.



Facebook for local events.

EASTER Holiday Activities 2026

School holiday arts and sports events
for Dorset children who need additional support



Booking closes on
Wednesday 11 March

Artz+ Sportz+ is funded and organised by Dorset Council
dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/artz-sportz



Easter Holidays 2026



In 2024 Artz+ Sportz+ will celebrate 20 years of providing high quality arts and sports holiday activities. These activities are for families who have children and young people with a disability. Children aged 5 to 18 years can take part. The project has developed a Dorset wide school holiday and term time programme of high quality arts and sports activities.



Arts and sports events for Dorset children aged 5-17 who need additional support



Down on the Farm • Mini Ballers • Teenz events
Sensory Sessions • Outdoor adventures • and more!



View [full programme](http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/sport-leisure/artz-sportz)
or email leisure@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/sport-leisure/artz-sportz



Events

IN THE COMMUNITY

DORSET TENNIS ACADEMY



EASTER HOLIDAY TENNIS CAMPS



Mini Tennis for children 4-8 years old
Tennis for children 9-14 years old

WEEK 1: MONDAY 30TH MARCH – THURSDAY 2ND APRIL

WEEK 2: TUESDAY 7TH APRIL – FRIDAY 10TH APRIL

9.30am – 12.30pm

At St. Osmund's Sports Centre, Barnes Way, Dorchester

What's on offer

A fantastic, fun session of tennis including:-

- Great coaching from LTA qualified and accredited instructor
- Fun games, competitions and prizes
- Rackets provided if you don't have one
- Indoor facilities in case of bad weather



What to wear/bring

- Sports kit, trainers/tennis shoes, a coat if wet
- Snacks and drinks



SESSION(S)	PRICE
Per day	£17.00
Full week	£64.00

To book a place, please visit the Dorset Tennis Academy website using the following link or google 'Dorset Tennis Academy Holiday Camps':-

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/DorsetTennisAcademy/Coaching/Camps>

For more information, please contact Neil Darragh, DTA Manager/Head Coach on ndarrahtennis@gmail.com or 07788 973259

FREE EVENT

Easter egg ROLLING

EASTER MONDAY 6TH APRIL 2026
THE GREAT FIELD, POUNDBURY

BRING YOUR OWN DECORATED HARD BOILED EGG OR DECORATE FOR FREE AT PIPS (NO GLITTER PLEASE!)

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM - FREE EGG DECORATING AT PIP CAFE
9:30 AM - 9:45 AM - QUIET EGG ROLLING AND DECORATION JUDGING (SEND)
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM - EGG THEMED GAMES ON THE GREAT FIELD
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM - EGG ROLLING AND BEST DECORATED EGG COMPETITION FOR THE FOLLOWING AGE CATEGORIES:
5 YEARS, 5-10 YEARS, 10-15 YEARS, 15 YEARS+, 60+ YEARS

Coming Soon:
Easter Half-Term Workshops
at Sunnyside Studio

Spring-Scented Play-Doh Making

Slime Making

Fairy Garden Making

Decoupage Easter Eggs

Easter Wreath Making

Make Your Own Plush Bunny

Crafty Fun for Kids & Adults!

- Sessions from £5-£10
- All Materials Included!

www.sunnysidestudio.co.uk

EASTER EGG HUNT

Friday 3rd April - Monday 6th April 2026
at PIPs cafe, Poundbury

Grab your FREE Egg Hunt sheet from the café and search for all the hidden egg pictures in and around the Play Park. Find all 10 eggs and return your completed sheet to the café staff to claim your sweet treat (while stocks last). A free, fun, family-friendly activity—come and join the hunt!

Supported by
Dorchester Town Council

Weymouth junior parkrun

Sundays at 9:00 am
Ages 4-14 Years

Free weekly 2k run for kids!

Weymouth Seafront

POUNDBURY

Easter Market

10AM TILL 3PM

SUNDAY 29TH MARCH

ARTISAN SELLERS, FOOD & DRINK
LOCAL INDEPENDENT BUSINESSES

plus Easter Egg Hunt!

sponsored by Boo's
the magic toy shop

CROWN SQUARE

The Easter Story
A morning for children and their families

Stories, Drama, Song and Craft
Tuesday 31st March
10.30 am – 12 noon

St Mary's Church, Edward Road, Dorchester DT1 2HL

All welcome, please let us know if you would like to come
dorchesterstmarys@gmail.com
Entry free

EASTER

FUN AT FOREST SCHOOL!

10.30AM - 12.30PM

FRIDAY 10TH APRIL

AM SESSION - 10.30-12.30PM
PM SESSION - 2.30-4.30PM

EASTER THEMED SCAVENGER HUNT

EASTER NATURE CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES

HOT CROSS BUNS
COOKED ON THE CAMPFIRE!

Child of the Wild
Forest School



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



Attendance
Reception – Year 4:
94.2%

*Attendance Winners
this week are...*

EYFS
Hazel Class: 90.4%

K.S.1
Ash Class: 97.3%

K.S.2
Chestnut Class: 99.6%

*“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



@manorparkfirst



ManorParkDorchester

