

***Live . Love . Learn - Littletown***

Friday 6th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great for me to hear of how successful Parent Consultation phone calls have been this week which underline how well children at Littletown settle into new classes and year groups each year. Comprehensive handover meetings, a high level of whole school consistency and a culture of really getting to know each individual child helps this, but so does parents being proactive in approaching teachers via class email addresses etc when issues start to arise so they can be sorted quickly. Please get in touch with teachers if you missed your phone call so they can make arrangements to make contact with you.

Newsletters don’t tend to have themes, but this one almost does as there are many areas below involved with parental engagement in the school. Please do take opportunities to be a part of the school community as much as possible - the more who are, the better we become. A great example of this is the PTFA Annual General Meeting held at school on Monday. My thanks to all the parents and staff who attended and especially to those who have kindly stepped forwards into committee roles this year. Re-elected chairperson Sarah Ryerson will be in touch about how you can help in a range of ways and be a part of the PTFA this year.

On Wednesday we took lots of runners to take part in the first Stockland Cross Country race of the year where the children ran brilliantly. A special mention to those who went for the very first time and a huge thank you to the staff and parents who drove and accompanied the children.

Also on Wednesday, Year 3 had their outdoor classroom where they were busy making salt dough stone age artefacts and producing cave art.

Thank you for helping us by making our school dinner numbers really high for the school census yesterday. I’m sure the children will all agree the pizza was delicious!

This morning all of our Year 3 children visited Honiton Community College for a gymnastics workshop where they had a fantastic time. Staff were really impressed with the behaviour and attitude of the children. My thanks to parent volunteers who accompanied the children.

Next week is our first mental wellbeing week of the year. The highlight of which will be our annual ‘Hello Yellow’ day on Tuesday. Please find full information below in this newsletter. On Wednesday Year 1 have their outdoor classroom.

The following week, beginning 16h October, I will be holding six Parent Presentations in the Community room exploring the work of the school. I hope lots of you will be able to sign up for these. Please see more information below in this newsletter. After half term I will also be holding slots where parents can tour the school with me and we can see things mentioned in the presentations in action.

Yours faithfully

David Perkins 

Principal

Swimmi

**Mental**

**Children’s news**

**Nursery:** This week, Nursery children have been making play dough cakes and playing with the giant parachute.

**Reception:** This week, Reception children have been looking at different places in Honiton.

**Year 1 :** This week, Year 1 have been doing History timelines.

**Year 2 :** This week, Year 2 have been learning about number bonds to one hundred and have been using timelines.

**Year 3 :** This week, Year 3 have been making salt dough artefacts, had their outdoor classroom and have been to HCC for Gymnastics.

**Year 4 :** This week, Year 4 have been learning about packaging for different foods.

**Year 5 :** This week, Year 5 have been learning about bronze making and have done landscapes in Art.

**Year 6 :** This week, Year 6 have been doing circuit challenges in P.E. and continuing with their stitches.

**Littletown Learning Parent Presentations**

On Wednesday 18th, Thursday 19th and Friday 20th October I will be holding Parent Presentations in the Community Room after drop off (9-10) and before pick up (2:30-3:30). These will be a chance for me to talk parents through the current work of the school ranging from values, behaviour policy, curriculum and facets of Littletown teaching and learning. There will be time for parents to ask questions at the end and there will also be tea/coffee and biscuits! Here is a link to a form for you to sign up:

<https://forms.gle/ayBzK3bvTEmuSJVPA>

**Littletown’s Big 50!**

In 2024, at Littletown we will celebrate our 50th birthday having been officially opened on 20th March 1974. I would like us to hold a number of events and undertake a number of activities to mark the occasion of our Golden Anniversary that feature and cater for current children, families and staff, ex pupils, families and staff and the wider community. To begin with, I would like to put together a working party made up of Governors, staff and parents to work alongside me to plan for the occasion If you think you might be interested in being a part of this please email me [head@littletown.devon.sch.uk](mailto:head@littletown.devon.sch.uk) (otherwise everyone will have to endure my ideas).

**Parent Governor elections**

You should have received a letter and nomination form regarding Parent Governor vacancies on the Board on 25th November. These nominations close on 9th October. Being on the Governing Board is a great way of gaining a great insight into and having a direct input on the work of the school. Please do get in touch if you want to ask any questions about this.

**Contacting teachers**

Following the success of parent consultation phone calls this week. Please can I remind parents that unless it is of a very urgent nature, teachers are not able to talk to parents in the mornings at drop off as teaching begins at 8:50am. Please use the class email addresses to contact class teachers.

Please get in touch if you have any questions about this [head@littletown.devon.sch.uk](mailto:head@littletown.devon.sch.uk)

**Mental Wellbeing**

Our second Parental Minds coffee morning of the term will be being held on Wednesday 22nd November 9-10.30am in the Community Room.

Our first Wellbeing Week will be held next week and on Tuesday we will be *Standing Out and Showing Up* for ‘Young Minds’ by inviting staff and children to come to school in non-uniform wearing yellow or any bright colours on our Hello Yellow Day 50p per person/£1 per family, all money raised will go to Young Minds. The Wellbeing Ambassadors led assemblies for both Key Stage 1 and 2 children this week when they told them all about Hello Yellow Day and why we are raising money for Young Minds.

**Honiton bottom road park**

Yet another plea from me about the park across the road which continues to cause problems. Please supervise your children in the park. Incidents in the park are not the school’s responsibility. If you think your child is either experiencing or causing problems at the park I would suggest supervising closely, not taking them or taking them to a different park.

**Week Beginning 9th October 2023 events**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday 9th October** | **Tuesday 10th October** | **Wednesday 11th October** | **Thursday 12th October** | **Friday 13th October** |
|  | Hello Yellow mental wellbeing day | Y1 outdoor classroom |  |  |