

Friday 15th July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have to start by saying a huge thank you to everyone for what were four wonderful Littletown sports days on Tuesday and Wednesday. It was amazing to have so many parents and family members come to watch and a special mention to those families who attended at least two or three of the events! The children seemed to have a wonderful time putting on some brilliant races on the track and behaved really well yet again. My thanks to the staff for running these for the children and to the PE team for organising the events. Thanks also to our brilliant Year 6 sports leaders who assisted with the running of all these sporting events. This week also saw Year 1 and Reception take part in their sports carousel scoring points for their houses. This drew to a close all the events contributing to the house sports cup with each year group completing sports day races, Dartmoor 3 ball and sports carousel over the last few weeks. All of the points were added together across the whole school (via Mr Bilcock’s rather impressive spreadsheet!) and the final results calculated as follows:

1st: Beech 147

2nd: Maple 145

3rd: Oak 137

4th: Ash 133

Congratulations to all the children on what is our closest ever sports day final scores. Beech ribbons replace Maple who won our last ‘proper’ sports day in 2019. The scores were announced and the trophy presented to Beech house captains this morning in assembly. More importantly though, approximately 100 children were recognised across the school with certificates for showing exceptional sporting values of; honesty, respect, determination, teamwork, self belief and passion. Following pupil voice sessions in all classes prior to sports day, the children decided the winning house is to have a non-uniform day so all children in Beech can come in non-uniform on Monday.

If you attended sports days, you will have noticed and hopefully been a customer of the wonderful businesses set up by our Year 6 children this week. They each used the £5 given to them to work in groups to make profit. At time of writing I can tell you that they have made £405.37 of profit. I am incredibly proud of their efforts, but even more proud that they have asked me to only keep half the money for the school to spend on the children and have asked me to split the other half across a local based charity and the International charity supporting Ukrainian children here in the UK. They have also asked me to thank all the parents and children for their support in making this project such a success.

While I am in the rhythm of praising our amazing Year 6 children, today we shared their SATS results with them and they will be taking these home today. Although we rightly always remind the children that school and Year 6 is about far more than these tests, we are incredibly proud of their hard work and achievements this year. 64% of them attained expected in all subjects which is 5% higher than the national average. We also have appeals in process where we feel children have been marked unfairly so this percentage could rise further. All of the children have made fantastic progress over their time in the school even despite their last three years being so impacted by Covid-19. I hope today they are all rightly proud of their achievements.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our new teacher meetings yesterday after school. My thanks to the teachers for hosting these meetings after school.

As you will have seen via email from Mrs Hawkins this morning, the school held another ‘ready for anything’ practice this morning in order that job share teachers and absent children from the last practice had experienced the drill. Children did amazingly well again and have been well supported by staff. With this completed, we now move to an annual cycle for these practices. My thanks to Mrs Hawkins for leading the development and compliance of this so well over the last few months.

Our amazing school choir will be singing at Cotleigh fete tomorrow - see flyer below in this newsletter. My thanks to Mrs Binmore and Mrs Heywood for accompanying the children on their weekend.

Next week, 2DB have their outdoor classroom on Thursday and 2AL will have theirs on Friday. On Wednesday we have the rearranged Honiton Learning Community Games.

Finally, please see below important information about school on Monday and Tuesday next week where the forecast indicates very high temperatures and an amber weather warning. Please don’t hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions [head@littletown.devon.sch.uk](mailto:head@littletown.devon.sch.uk)

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**News from the children**

**Nursery**

This week, in Nursery, we have been doing sport’s day and making pirate parrots.

**Reception**

This week, in Reception, we have done sport’s day and designing gups ready to make next week.

**Year 1**

This week, in Year 1, we have been counting in 10s and 100s and have made a fact file on bears.

**Year 2**

This week, in Year 2, we have been writing a list to improve the playground and learning to tell the time.

**Year 3**

This week, in Year 3, we made ammonites out of clay and had our literacy assessment. We also had a maths assessment on capacity.

**Year4**

This week, in Year 4, we have made an info board about animals. We have also made a story slider about a living tree house. We have made electrical switches.

**Year 5**

This week, in Year 5, we have been doing a Maths test on volume and have finished our maths book. We have also done a science experiment to see what materials would be better to use for a log flume.

**Year 6**

This week, in Year 6, we sold things on sports days and made a lot of money. We have also been doing Science of electricity-a whole day of science.

**Staff news**

**Goodbye to three of our premises staff**

This term we have said farewell to Mr Cramer who worked as a cleaner at the school for the last few years. We wish him our best for the future. We have also said a farewell to Mrs Carter who has worked at the school both as a cleaner and a mealtime assistant for an amazing 24 years. We would like to thank her for all her long service and wish her the very best for the future. We will also be saying goodbye to our Premises Manager Mr Firth at the end of the term after 10 years of service. I would like to thank him for all his work for the school and wish him the very best for his new role.

**Hot weather Monday and Tuesday**

As I am sure you are aware, there is an amber weather warning in place for Monday and Tuesday next week due to high temperatures. The DfE has written to schools about this with guidance which I have read. They have made clear that they expect schools to be open. In order to secure the wellbeing of the children on these days I need you to ensure you help us with the following advice for these days:

* Send your children into school in PE kits and as loose fitting as possible.
* Ensure your child has a hat. Caps are good, but wide brimmed sun hats are even better at shading the back of neck and face.
* Send them in with a drinks bottle. A top tip is having ice in it which melts to cold water over the morning. Staff will ensure these are refilled.
* Although we will be significantly limiting the amount of time children spend in the sun on these days, please apply sunscreen to children before sending them to school.

At Littletown it appears we have already implemented all of the recommendations issued by the DfE. Therefore, we will continue to maximise ventilation in the school, keep the children hydrated, avoid all vigorous physical activity, turn off the lights, spend time outside in shaded areas and reduce the amount of time children spend outside especially in the sun.

If we feel any children are showing significant signs of affects from the heat we will call parents to collect just as we would for the onset of any other illness symptoms at school.

**Scarlet fever**

I need to inform you that we have had several recent cases of Scarlet fever in school. For more information about signs and symptoms please visit: <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions>

**End of term**

A reminder that the last day of term for Littletown is Thursday 28th July.

**Breakfast and After school club -** 2022-23Sessions and prices

The new timings for sessions from 1st September and the costs are detailed as follows:

Breakfast club - 7:50am until school starts - £4.50

After school club - until 4:30pm - £4.50

- until 5:15pm - £9.00

- until 6:00pm - £13.50

Booking for September-December is now available via this link: <https://forms.gle/Taccvz8u6bDvFQcW8>

An up to date registration form must also be submitted as this needs to be refreshed annually. It can be reached using the following link: <https://forms.gle/YxEJXjWCSEZaA7Ne7>

If you have any queries, please email Hannah on [hannah.groves@littletownacademy.org](mailto:hannah.groves@littletownacademy.org)

**Week Beginning 18th July 2022 events**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday 18th July** | **Tuesday 19th July** | **Wednesday 20th July** | **Thursday 21st July** | **Friday 22nd July** |
| Nursery outdoor classroom |  | HLC Games | 2DB outdoor classroom | Reception outdoor classroom |
| Beech house non-school uniform |  |  |  | 2AL outdoor classroom |

**Music at Littletown**

We are lucky enough to have 5 talented peripatetic music teachers at Littletown. If you are interested in your child having private music lessons please email [littletownmusic@littletown.devon.sch.uk](mailto:littletownmusic@littletown.devon.sch.uk) with your enquiry.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Teacher** | **Instrument(s)** | **Day** |
| Joseph Binmore | Voice | Monday |
| Emily Miller | Violin/Ukulele | Monday |
| Gail Denning | Trumpet/Cornet/Piano/Keyboard | Tuesday |
| Alan Webster | Guitar | Wednesday |
| Matt Parr | Drums | Thursday |

**Community news**

**Cotleigh Village Fete - 2pm - 16th July 2022**

Choir singing at **2.30pm**

Free dancing class at 3pm (All welcome)

***(Choir please meet either Mrs Binmore or Mrs Heywood at the entrance to the fete at 2.20pm. Wear your loveliest summer clothes)***