

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

Friday 4th November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term. I hope you all had a great half term and enjoyed the extra week. A reminder that this won’t be the case in October next year with the two week half term next taking place in May 2024. It was a very busy half term at school. Most notably, we had the second phase of the roof which is now complete above the Year 1 and Reception areas. We also had some remedial work completed in the pond area. We were pleased to welcome our new Premises Manager Mr Jeffery to the staff team just before half term. He has made a great start supporting us with a number of premises issues. You may have noticed him unblocking numerous drains and gulley’s in the pouring rain this week! Mr Jeffery also removed the rotting decking from under the ‘Littletown tree’ in the corner of the Y5/6 playground. This will now be turned into an area for reflection and wellbeing in the Spring.

A huge well done to all the children who represented the school at the Cranbrook ParkRun the first Sunday of half term. It was great to give out certificates to these in assembly today. My thanks to the staff that supported the children at this event. I look forward to joining lots of families at the next one!

This week, on Monday lots of families joined Mr Priddle and staff from Radio Exe to discuss walking to school on their way to Littletown from Willow Walk. A well done to all the children who were so sensible and well behaved during the whole school flu immunisations on Tuesday. Nursery had outdoor classroom yesterday and Reception have had their first ever outdoor classroom today where they have been exploring the outside area.

This week children from Reception to Year 2 have brought home reading books as part of the Read Write Inc programme. Please see information about these books and how to look after them from Miss Croft below in the newsletter.

Next week is a busy week for Littletown sport. On Tuesday Year 5 take part in the Honiton Learning Community Gymnastics festival at Honiton Community College. Our Netballers are also in action on Tuesday in their next mini tournament at Honiton Primary School. On Friday our successful Cross Country team travel to Bicton to represent the school in the East Devon Finals. My thanks to all staff accompanying the children to these events. Finally, next Friday, we have the first PTFA discos of the year. Please see details below from PTFA along with information about upcoming events such as the Christmas Fayre. Please do support the PTFA in any way you can. Not only do they raise essential funds for the school to spend on the children, but they are integral to helping our Littletown community enjoy so many events together.

The following week we take part in National Anti-Bullying Week which includes odd socks day on Monday 14th November. Please see full information from Mrs Hawkins below in this newsletter.

Lots of work and discussion has already gone into making plans for Christmas here at Littletown. I look forward to sharing dates and details with you of all the upcoming events next week.

Finally, in assembly today I asked the children to think over the weekend and write to me with how learning is like a firework. We also discussed firework safety.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**Children’s news**

**Nursery:** This week we have been little explorers and have been looking at Halloween jelly - it was very messy!

**Reception:** This week we made silks and strings. We used string to make strong fingers. We also used a wizard to add in Maths.

**Year 1**: This week we have been learning about portraits in Art. We have also been using number lines in Maths.

**Year 2:** We have been learning about column addition and exchanging in Maths. In RE we have been learning about Judaism.

**Year 3:** This week we have been doing column subtraction in Maths and learning about the layer of the Earth in Geography. In Computing we are designing a scene.

**Year 4:** This week we have been drawing Viking cartoons and in Science we have been creating poo machines! (the digestive system).

**Year 5:** This week we have made talking boxes using pneumatics! We have also started reading a new book called The Lost Happy Endings.

**Year 6:** This week we have started a new unit in Maths on fractions. We have started a programme called Pathways to Read. We have also started playing basketball in PE.

**Reading books in Reception and Key Stage 1**

We are really excited as this week we have started sending home our new ReadWriteInc books. If your child hasn’t brought home their reading books yet please be assured they will bring them home as soon as they finish their reading and writing activities linked to the book. Please read the guidance enclosed with the book to help support your child with reading at home.

Books need to be in school every day as the day books are changed varies. Please can we ask that you keep the books in the plastic wallet provided and Water Bottles are not placed in book bags (most accidents are caused by leaking water bottles). The school has invested significant money on the Read Write Inc books. We understand that accidents do happen, and sometimes books are lost, but every book is necessary and so we need to replace each damaged or lost book. In such circumstances, please inform the School Office or teacher with the name of the book which has been lost/damaged and pay £5.00 to cover the cost of a replacement book. Staff will send a letter out if a book has not been returned

## Anti-Bullying week Monday 14th November

We are excited to be participating in the National Anti-Bullying week later this month, including the famous odd socks day!

## What is Odd Socks day?

## Most importantly, Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It’s an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!

There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or to buy expensive costumes. All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks to your school; it couldn't be simpler! Odd Socks day will take place on the first day of Anti-Bullying Week on **Monday 14th November** to help raise awareness of bullying. We would like to support Anti Bullying week by asking families to make a donation (suggested 50p per family).

We will be participating in a variety of anti-bullying activities throughout the week which link well with our School Personal, Social and Health Education curriculum. All classes will be learning about ‘Celebrating Difference’ in their weekly class PSHE lessons throughout the second Autumn half term, as detailed below:

**Nursery and Reception:** Identifying talents. Being special Families. Where we live. Making friends. Standing up for yourself.

**Year 1:** Similarities and differences. Understanding bullying and knowing how to deal with it. Making new friends. Celebrating the differences in everyone.

**Year 2:** Assumptions and stereotypes about gender. Understanding bullying. Standing up for self and others. Making new friends. Gender diversity. Celebrating differences and remaining friends.

**Year 3:** Families and their differences. Family conflict and how to manage it (child-centred) Witnessing bullying and how to solve it. Recognising how words can be hurtful Giving and receiving compliments

**Year 4:** Challenging assumptions. Judging by appearance. Accepting self and others. Understanding influences. Understanding bullying. Problem-solving. Identifying how special and unique everyone is. First impressions.

**Year 5:** Cultural differences and how they can cause conflict. Racism Rumours and name-calling. Types of bullying. Material wealth and happiness. Enjoying and respecting other cultures.

**Year 6:** Perceptions of normality. Understanding disability. Power struggles. Understanding bullying. Inclusion/exclusion. Differences as conflict, difference as celebration. Empathy.

**Week Beginning 7th November 2022 events**

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| **Monday 7th November** | **Tuesday 8th November** | **Wednesday 9th November** | **Thursday 10th November** | **Friday 11th November** |
|  | Year 5 Gymnastics festival at HCC |  | Nursery outdoor classroom | PTFA discos |
|  | Netball tournament at Honiton Primary School |  | East Devon cross country finals at Bicton |  |

**PTFA news**



**PTFA News**

We look forward to seeing many of you at the disco next Friday. Thank you to all those who have pre-paid their tickets. Tickets will be given out next week and will need to be brought with you to gain entry and get your drink and crisps. If you have not already bought a ticket then you will still be able to pay on the night, but you will need to queue to pay and give your contact details at the door.

Thank you in advance to all those who are helping us.

School Disco: Friday 11th November 2022

Key Stage 1 (nursery to year 2) 6-7pm

All children for the above disco must be accompanied by an adult for the duration.

Key Stage 2 (year 3 to year 6) 7.15pm – 8.15pm

Children must be signed in by an adult.

They will also need to be collected from the school hall and will not be

allowed to leave unaccompanied.

£2.50 entrance fee to include crisps and drinks.

If your child has any allergies or medical conditions which we might need to be aware of whilst your child is at the disco please let us know.

There will always be members of staff present but the PTFA are ultimately responsible for the running of the disco. We want everyone to enjoy their evening and work hard to make this happen. Any children who persistently misbehave may be prevented from attending future discos.

There will be a toy shop available at both of the discos selling

pocket money toys between 30p and £1.50.

Temporary tattoos are 30p each.

There will also be a tuck shop at the Key Stage 2 disco – 50p per item

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

Our Christmas Fayre will be held on 10th December 2022 from 10am -2pm in the school hall.

We will have craft stalls, refreshments, games, a raffle and Santa’s Grotto.

Booking forms for Santa’s Grotto will be sent out soon for you to book a slot to see Santa.

You should have received a separate email about our rainbow raffle today. We are asking for donations of items of different colours for each year group. There will be a non-uniform day on Thursday 10th November when you can bring in donations.

Volunteers

We would appreciate any offers of help on the day, particularly to help:

setting up the evening before from 5:00,

looking after a stall or serving refreshments for part of the time from 10am until 2pm,

face painting

to help with clearing up afterwards.

We really cannot run the fete without helpers so if you can help then please email us ptfa@littletownacademy.org or contact us on our Facebook page.

Facebook page ‘Littletown Primary Academy PTFA’.

PTFA Team