

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

Friday 25th November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been nice to have some sunshine today after what has been an incredibly wet week. Children have behaved very well in school during the wet weather and the new roof has truly been tested as well. With the leaves filling drains (and every bit of water draining off the roof!) we did have small issues with flooding, but thanks to the amazing work of our Premises Manager Mr Jeffery, we were able to solve these issues quickly - younger children enjoyed watching the playground drains getting unblocked on Tuesday lunchtime. Sadly, but perhaps predictably, the only real major issue has been the parking on the road. You may have noticed that I asked PCSO Darren England to be present at the end of the day one day this week. Even on dry days this is an ongoing problem, but the scenes on the road during the wet days this week have been dangerous. Following discussions and observations I have requested with him that we have regular visits from Civil Enforcement Officers (Traffic Wardens) in order to try and deal with the parking on yellow lines, zigzags, close to junctions, on pavements and on speed bumps. I know this won’t be popular, but I need to make the parking situation fair for all the parents and carers who do abide by the laws and more importantly ensure the road is safe for our children. Do get in touch if you have any questions about this.

On Tuesday the sports hall athletics was postponed due to the hosts, Honiton Community College, having an Ofsted inspection. On Wednesday, it was a great pleasure to welcome lots of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parent/carers to two information meetings about our Read Write Inc early reading scheme. My thanks to everyone who attended and to Miss Croft and Miss Meecham for running these meetings.

Don’t forget on Sunday it is the next Cranbrook Park run where we hope lots of Littletown families attend. Please find full details below.

Next week, on Tuesday, our Netballers take part in the next round of the schools tournament at Honiton Primary School. Year 1 have their Roundball Hill walk on Wednesday. The week beginning 5th December is when we begin our Christmas events marathon! Please see all the key dates in the table below and do get in touch if you have any questions.

Please also find below in this newsletter information about our next Timid to Tiger course and an update from Mrs Davis on how you can help us with Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL).

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**Children’s news**

**Nursery:** This week, in outdoor classroom, the Nursery used broccoli as paint brushes!

**Reception:** This week, we have been learning their Christmas songs and learning to control a ball in PE.

**Year 1**: This week, in Maths we learnt about part whole models and in history we learnt about drune coronations

**Year 2:** This week, we made an information manual about ourselves and in R.E we learnt about Christianity.

**Year 3:** This week, in Literacy, we have been reading a book called a Summers Child

In Maths our unit is the 8 times table. We created google slides.

**Year 4:** This week, in Maths we are multiplying and dividing. We are also doing auditions for Christmas.

**Year 5:** This week, we attempted to measure the amount of hail. We sketched landscapes and have been looking at the five scientists who helped to discover gravity.

**Year 6:** This week, we are doing basketball in PE and learning to divide fractions. We have been using digi maps to measure distances in geography.

**Staff news**

Mrs Bruce leaves us as Receptionist next Wednesday as she moves on to another exciting opportunity. Mrs Bruce joined us as Receptionist in April 2021 in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic when the school admin was both very different and very challenging to say the least - including managing the nightmare that was the Littletown Covid spreadsheet! I’m sure you will join me in thanking her for all she has done for the school and wish her the very best for the future. Last week, we appointed Mrs Burton to the Receptionist position who will start with us after Christmas. Please be aware therefore, that between next week and Christmas we will be short staffed in the school office.

**Reception Admissions for September 2023**

Is your child 4 years old before August 31st 2022?

If so, please remember to apply for a Reception class place by 15th January 2023 at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline.

Please contact us to book a tour of the school on 01404 548748 or admin@littletown.devon.sch.uk

**Timid to tiger**

A series of workshops to support parents with anxious children.

Want to help them with their worries and fears?

Do you need ideas to build your child’s self confidence?

Do you need strategies to help with behaviours you find difficult?

Areas we cover are, Building bonds, Understanding fears and worries, managing worry, praise and reward, setting boundaries, Attention, Consequences.

There are nine sessions, Thursday afternoons 1.30pm to 3.15pm in our community room.

Starting on the 12th January 2023.

There will be cake !

If you would like more information or to join please contact us. pastoral@littletown.devon.sch.uk or ask to speak to Mrs Canniford or Mrs Layzell

**Cranbrook park run Sunday 16th October**

Dear Parents,

Every week thousands of young children, aged between 4 and 14, take part in Junior Park Runs across the country. Each Junior Park Run is run over a distance of 2km. They are open to all, free, and are safe and easy to take part in.

On Sunday, staff from Littletown will be at Cranbrook Country Park Junior Parkrun and we would love for as many children from Littletown as possible to come and join us and take part in a Junior Parkrun. Other local schools have been invited to take part in these events and it is a fantastic opportunity to show that we have active children here at Littletown.

You will need to register your child/children if they wish to take part, but this is free and simple to do <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/register/>

Once registered, you can print off barcodes that are unique to each child. The children simply run with their barcode in their hand and this is scanned at the finish line to record their time. Parkrun will then email you (at the address given when registering) by Sunday afternoon to give you lots of details about the run (for example how long it took them).

If you do decide to bring your children along, could they please be in Littletown PE kit. We promise to get a shout out from the announcer before the run begins! The run begins at 9.00am prompt and most people are gathered at the start from about 8.50am. The run will be completed by 9.30am at the latest.

Please note that all staff will be there in a supporting capacity only and will not have responsibility for your children. Please do run/walk to accompany your child as they need to be with an adult at all times.

See you there!

Miss Bodgin and Mrs Hudson-Pike

**OPAL (Outdoor Play & Learning) News**

Today, in assembly Mrs Davis and I talked to the children about the OPAL project and the plans for the next few weeks which are as follows: We will be trialling letting all the children from Reception to Year 6 mix during lunchtime. Next week the Year 6 classes will be invited to go to the KS1 playground to mix with the younger children and the younger children will be taken around all the outside areas so that they know where they will be allowed to play.

During the week beginning 5th December the children will spend two lunchtimes mixing and being allowed to play in any of the allowed areas. Hopefully, as we gather resources we will begin to introduce various pieces of equipment so that the types of play the children will experience will become more varied and exciting.

Items needed for the OPAL project:

* pairs of wellies in good/fair condition (no holes)
* plastic buckets and spades
* Tarpaulins
* pop up tents
* dinosaurs/little cars/farmyard animals

Please leave any donations in the entrance foyer, labelled ‘OPAL project’.

Please visit the link below for more information about the project;

<https://www.littletown.devon.sch.uk/website/opal_outdoor_play_and_learning/620998>

**Week Beginning 21st November 2022 events**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday 28th November** | **Tuesday 29th November** | **Wednesday 30th November** | **Thursday 1st December** | **Friday 2nd December** |
|  | Netball at Honiton Primary School | Y1 walk to Roundball Hill | Nursery outdoor classroom | Reception outdoor classroom |

**Christmas Dates for your Diary**

With Christmas fast approaching please see below some of the key dates for our festive events. Further details to follow, as required, from each Year Group. No tickets will be required for the events.

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| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Event** |
| 6th Dec | Year 3 Christmas performance Mrs Searle/Mrs Davis’ class 9.15amYear 3 Christmas performance Miss Bodgin/Mrs McFaddon’s class 2.45pmYear 5 and 6 Carol Concert (in the church) 6-7pm |
| 7th Dec | Year 5 and 6 Carol Concert (in the church) 6-7pm |
| 8th Dec | Year 4 Christmas performance Mr Driscoll’s’ class 9.15amYear 4 Christmas performance Mrs Wright/Mrs Arni’s class 2.45pm |
| 9th Dec | Year 2 Christmas performance Mr Luxton’s class 9.15amYear 2 Christmas performance Mrs Bentham and Mrs Hudson-Pike’s class 2.45pm |
| 10th Dec | PTFA Christmas Fayre 10-2pm |
| 12th Dec | Year 1 Christmas performance Miss Meecham’s class 9.15amYear 1 Christmas performance Miss Chalmer’s class 2.45pm |
| 13th Dec | Reception Christmas performance Miss Croft’s class 9.15amReception Christmas performance Mrs Katene/Mrs Hawkins’ class 2.45pm |
| 14th Dec | Nursery Christmas party (9-1pm)Reception Christmas party Year 1 Christmas party**Whole school Christmas Dinner (all children are welcome to wear Christmas jumpers/accessories with their school uniform.)**Nursery Christmas performance 2.45pmYear 5 Christmas treatYear 6 Christmas treat |
| 15th Dec | Year 3 Christmas treatYear 4 Christmas treat |
| 16th Dec | Year 2 Christmas treat**Whole school Non Uniform day** |

**Community news**

**CO-OP Christmas Card Competition**

Don’t forget to get your Christmas card design entries in by Wednesday 30th November for Honiton Foodsave. The winners will have their design printed on Foodsave Christmas cards as well as other prizes including: WHSmith vouchers and Christmas chocolates. It would be great if the designs could include food but they don’t have to. Entries need to be given to your child’s class teacher. Write your name, age and class on the back of your entry. Please see the attached poster. Many thanks for the entries that have already been given in, they look fantastic.