

11th October 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I write this newsletter from North Devon where Mrs Hawkins and I have been attending the Empowering Leadership conference with the Devon Association of Primary Headteachers. We have been sharing the teaching and learning journey at Littletown, listening to key speakers talk about the educational landscape and networking to secure further school improvement. My thanks to the remainder of the School Leadership Team for managing the school so well in our absence.

On Monday this week Year 1 braved the rain to participate in the Honiton Learning Community Gymnastics festival. On Tuesday 3RB/BH visited Adelaide lodge where they joined the residents in making hand prints for a display in the lodge. My thanks to all the parents who assisted with accompanying the children for these events.

Yesterday we marked World Mental Health Day by saying ‘Hello Yellow’. Teachers were dressed up with accessories by their classes leading to some particularly interesting photographs! Thanks to Mrs Newman for organising this for the children. All money raised will be donated to Young Minds

Our first information meeting for parents took place yesterday evening with a focus on the Foundation Stage Curriculum. It was pleasing to see so many parents join us to find out about how their children learn at Littletown and how further support can be offered at home. An enormous thank you to the Nursery and Reception teachers for hosting this event.

Last week we held our first Growth Mindset assemblies of the year with all of the children, the children were fantastic at remembering what they had been introduced to last year: the learning pit, the idea of ‘I can’t do it YET,’ exercising the brain as a muscle and learning from our mistakes. Mr Townson kindly demonstrated his amazing skateboarding skills to the children and talked about how he had to persevere and not give up whilst he was learning new skateboard tricks. A great Growth Mindset role model!

Next week we have our Parent consultations. Please can I politely remind you to supervise your children around the school site. On Tuesday evening, as well as parent consultations, we have a Governors meeting taking place in the Community Room and we are hosting an East Devon schools music training event in the school hall so please be considerate of these events when moving around the school. Many thanks for your cooperation.

Finally, please see info below regarding Reception open morning. Please share with people you know who might be interested in coming along to see our fantastic setting.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**News from the children**

Nursery

We have been learning to use scissors safely.

We have been drawing houses.

Reception

We have learnt m d g o and c in phonics.

We have been reading with year 4.

Year 1

On monday we went to a gymnastics festival at HCC.

We’ve learned about Rosa Paris and our super senses.

Year 2

We are thinking about our mental health and starting a new book.

In our literacy our character has made an instrument.

Year 3

We have been baking cookies and sandwiches

We did an egg experiment and the egg lost its’ shell and became bouncy.

Year 4

We are typing up our own story Leon and the place between.

It was hello yellow day.

Year 5

We have been rounding and estimating.

We have been making posters about tudor houses

Year 6

We have been dividing 4 digit numbers.

We are making a paper chain for hello yellow day.

**Staff news**

During the October Half Term, Mrs Davis, together with family and friends will be climbing Mount Snowdon raising money for Devon Air Ambulance. If you would like to sponsor Mrs Davis and Thomas there is a collection box on the front desk or a donation can be made at [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/susannah-davis3](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/susannah-davis3) any donation will go towards the valuable service the charity provides. In 2018 it cost £7.5 million to keep the service operational so every donation made is greatly appreciated.

**Messages**

**Reception Open Morning for September 2020 on Friday 15th November at 9.30am**

We warmly welcome all families with children turning 4 years old during this academic year to come and visit our Reception classrooms on Friday 15th November at 9.30am. This will provide you with an opportunity to visit the classrooms, see our present reception children learning and chat with the Reception staff. Please share this date with friends and families!

**Deadline for Secondary place admission applications**

A reminder from the Devon Admissions team to all primary schools to ensure their year 6 parents are aware that they need to make an application for Secondary school before the 31st October deadline.

**A Plea from Year 3**

We are looking for donations of good quality board games, such as chess, scrabble and draughts, for the children to play during Golden Time in Year 3. Any donations can be handed into the office or the Year 3 area. Many thanks, Year 3 Team.

**A pleas from Nursery**

Do you have a slow cooker at home which you no longer use or need? If so, Nursery would be extremely happy to rehome it for you! Many thanks in advance.

**School events/Dates**

**Week beginning 14th October :**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
|  | Year 3 Farmwise Trip  Year 1 Express event at 2.30pm in the Hall |  |  | Year 4 Express Event - 2.30pm |

**PTFA News**

**School Disco: Friday 8th November 2019**

**Foundation & 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 collected from the school hall and will not be allowed to leave unaccompanied.**

**£2.00 entrance fee to include crisps and unlimited squash.**

**Children should NOT be using mobile phones at the disco. The same rules apply as during the school day so please don’t bring them.**

**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.**

**Parent Helpers Needed**

**In order for the disco to run smoothly we need parent helpers.**

**Please sign up on the PTFA noticeboard or contact**

**Kate Clarke (Reception) or Susie Davis (Year 3) if you have any questions.**

**You do not need to be able to stay for both discos, any help is greatly appreciated.**

**Thank you.**