

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

Friday 18th November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was fantastic to see so many children (and Reception/Key Stage 1 parents!) enjoying themselves at the PTFA school discos last Friday. Not only did everyone have a great time, but we raised £976 for PTFA funds. My thanks to the staff that helped and a massive thank you to all the PTFA helpers that make these discos possible. I was very impressed with the children’s behaviour. The next PTFA event will be the Christmas fayre on Saturday 10th December 10am - 2pm.

On Monday, we began our Anti-Bullying week by having our ‘odd socks day’. As well as acting as a great visual example of how we celebrate differences in life, we also raised £80 for the Anti Bullying Alliance’s charity ‘National Children’s Bureau’. Children have been engaging in activities in classes throughout the week considering the importance of belonging and acceptance. As you would expect, this links very closely to our school values of ‘Live’ and ‘Love’. On Wednesday, it was fantastic to see the children looking so super smart for their school photographs. After not being able to do so for several years, it was wonderful to be able to welcome preschool age siblings and parents for family photographs before school. My thanks to the Admin team for organising this and ensuring smooth running throughout the day. Today, Year 4 have enjoyed outdoor classroom where they have made some wonderful natural Autumn artwork.

Today the school has once again been awash with colour, mostly yellow, as we take part in Children in Need. Huge thanks to everyone who contributed ‘coppers’ to our Pudsey face on the playground expertly drawn by Mrs Hawkins. We will be taking the coins to be weighted and totalled at Natwest next week and I will update you on our total in next week’s newsletter. In assembly, I showed the children a speeded up film of everyone laying their coins this morning which they enjoyed before sharing the work of the Children in Need charity and how supporting this links to our school values of showing ‘Love’ to people we don’t know.

Next week, on Tuesday, some Year 5/6 athletes take part in the Honiton Learning Community ‘Sportshall Athletics’ competition at Honiton Leisure Centre. On Wednesday, we look forward to welcoming lots of Reception and Key Stage 1 parents/carers to our Read Write Inc information meetings. Next Sunday (27th November) we will be attending the Cranbrook Park run for the second time.

Please 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).

Finally, on Tuesday this week I was privileged to visit Honiton Community College alongside Primary colleagues to spend some time with the recently appointed Principal Mr Kirkbride. As well as spending time checking in with last year’s Year 6 in order to improve transition, we discussed lots of ways our schools can broaden collaboration and work together to support all children in Honiton to thrive.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**Children’s news**

**Nursery:** This week, we talked about the things that make us special and the things we have that are the same and different.

**Reception:** This week, we learned that everyone is different and wore odd socks. We also made night time owls.

**Year 1**: This week, we have been learning that everyone is different and nobody deserves to be bullied.

**Year 2:** This week, we learned how you need to reach out to someone if you are feeling upset.

**Year 3:** This week, we explored the definition of Bullying and drew hands of our trusted people.

**Year 4:** This week we have worn odd socks and learned about different people’s hair styles.

**Year 5:** This week, we have learned about the many different roles that make a part of Bullying. These are; bystander, ringleader, defender, target, assistant and reinforcer.

**Year 6:** This week, we wrote acrostic poems on the theme of ‘reaching out’.

**Littletown Sports leaders newsletter**

This week key stage 2 have been progressing in basketball skills shooting and dribbling leading up to the inter house competition which some of our house captains and sports leaders will be helping with.

In indoor P.E we have been doing gymnastics focusing on backbends, shoulder stands, head stands, cartwheels and handstands focusing on their balances.

As well as that key stage two has also been having lots of after school clubs. Girls football and dodgeball!

In the key stage two playground there have also been a lot of ball games like football,tag rugby,tag,dodgeball,hide n seek,netball,basketball (shooting games)catch all sorts.

**Choir extension!**

Starting from next Monday, (21st November) choir will run for an extra 15 minutes from 3.30-4.15. Letters have been sent home with choir children today with this information. This is a permanent change of timings.

**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](mailto: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

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

Lots of work has been going on behind the scenes with our OPAL project so I thought it would be a good time for an update. We have been given funding from the PTFA for two storage sheds and we have begun to start collecting resources and equipment for the project. For us to get the project underway we will need lots of specific play equipment. I will include a list of items that we need in the newsletter and on the OPAL noticeboard in the playground, any donations can be left in the foyer, please label them ‘OPAL project’. Until we are able to get the new sheds storage is limited.

Items needed:

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

Towards the end of term we will begin to allow the children to mix at lunchtime and some of the Year 6 children will begin to visit the KS1 playground during lunchtimes in the coming weeks to start socialising with the younger children.

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

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

**England world cup game on Monday**

After discussion at School Leadership we have decided we aren’t able to allow children and classes to watch England’s world cup game versus Iran on Monday. The main reasons for this are that we have classes doing outdoor PE, sessions out of class and classes in the hall which would mean it was unfair if some children watched it and some didn’t. Along with other schools, we also want to value sports equally and value Men’s and Women’s sports equally and therefore won’t show enhanced emphasis to men’s football unless a very rare occasion such as the European Championships final last year. We will make sure children do not know the score in case they wish to watch a recording of it as soon as they get home.

**Week Beginning 21st November 2022 events**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday 21st November** | **Tuesday 22nd November** | **Wednesday 23rd November** | **Thursday 24th November** | **Friday 25th November** |
|  | Sportshall athletics Y5/6 | Read Write Inc parent meetings 2:45 - 3:30 and 5:00 - 5:45 | Nursery 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 9.15am  Year 3 Christmas performance Miss Bodgin/Mrs McFaddon’s class 2.45pm  Year 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 9.15am  Year 4 Christmas performance Mrs Wright/Mrs Arni’s class 2.45pm |
| 9th Dec | Year 2 Christmas performance Mr Luxton’s class 9.15am  Year 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 9.15am  Year 1 Christmas performance Miss Chalmer’s class 2.45pm |
| 13th Dec | Reception Christmas performance Miss Croft’s class 9.15am  Reception 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 2.45pm  Year 5 Christmas treat  Year 6 Christmas treat |
| 15th Dec | Year 3 Christmas treat  Year 4 Christmas treat |
| 16th  Dec | Year 2 Christmas treat  **Whole school Non Uniform day** |

**Community news**

**CO-OP Christmas Card Competition**

Children are invited to design a Christmas card 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. The closing date for the competition is Wednesday 30th November when all entries need to be given to your class teacher. Write your name, age and class on the back of your entry. Please see the attached poster.