

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

Friday 20th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This morning you should have received a letter from me informing you of potential disruption, partial or full closure of the school during Industrial Action by the National Education Union. Please do get in touch with me if you have any questions.

I have just about recovered from the PTFA school discos last Friday! It was great to see children having a great time and I was pleased with their behaviour again. My thanks to the PTFA for organising these and all the parents and staff who helped on the night. I’m sure the next one will be here before we know it!

It has been brilliant to take the next steps with our Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) project this week with a range of resources, areas and activities now in place at lunchtimes. I’m sure you have noticed tyres and reels on the playgrounds, ribbons on the fences, containers full of resources and a developing mud kitchen amongst other things! Hopefully your children have told you what they have been up to - if not do ask them! In assembly today children were able to link the OPAL lunchtimes to all of our school values. This really is a Littletown community project and I am so grateful for everybody’s contributions, donations and support. More information can be found below.

Please find below in this newsletter detailed information on our exciting No Outsiders programme starting this week and an update on attempts to improve parking on Honiton Bottom Road.

On Wednesday this week I was proud to take two teams of Year 6 children to take part in the Honiton Learning Community Youth Speak competition at Honiton Community College. The teams delivered speeches on topical issues that they had written together and did this with great maturity and presence. My thanks to the parents who accompanied me with the children. We now turn our attention to the Year 5 competition in a few weeks.

Next week is by far the busiest week of the term so far! On Tuesday some Year 6 girls visit Honiton Leisure Centre to take part in the Honiton Learning Community Futsal Competition. Also on Tuesday, we welcome the Police to speak to Year 6 about Online Safety. On Wednesday 4SD visit Honiton Community College for an exciting Science Workshop. Thursday is a busy day of sport for some Year 5 and 6 children as we attend both the East Devon Athletics Final at Kings School and also the Exeter City Football Tournament. Year 4 parents are invited to school after school on Thursday for an information meeting about the upcoming Escot Residential. As detailed in last week’s newsletter, on Friday, we have a non uniform day wearing blue, green or brown to raise awareness of the ‘See the Future’ Charity run by a Littletown parent. Full information can be found below.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**Children’s news**

We say a thank you to our Autumn Term news reporters and welcome for the Spring Term our new set of reporters from Year 5 who are:

5ZH - Ethan, Lilly, Amelia, Alex, Editors: Riley and Heath

5CP - Poppy, Charlie, Ben, Amelie, Editors: William, Penny

**NURSERY:** They had outdoor classroom in the snow and have made a map of what they would see out the window of a train.

**RECEPTION:** Receptionmade pop-up castles and were making Jack and the Beanstalk puppets when they were learning about fairy tales.

**YEAR 1:** Year 1 have been learning about Evergreen and Deciduous trees and have been choosing books from the library.

**YEAR 2:** Year 2 have been learning about keys in maps, and focussing on the 10 times table in maths.

**YEAR 3:** This week, Year 3 have been touch typing on chromebooks, making fossil booklets, learning about Carbon footprints and conducting experiments in science with a tennis ball.

**YEAR 4:** This week, Year 4 have been discovering the melting points of cheese, butter, chocolate and wine gums. They also did Arts and crafts and a diary entry about Pompeii.

**YEAR 5:** This week, Year 5 have been learning short division in Maths (Bus stop method).

In art they have been working on shading and in PSHE they were talking about their jobs and professions.

**YEAR 6:** This week, in Year 6, they have been finding percentages. They have been enjoying the OPAL equipment. In art they have been doing Inuit soap carving.

**Parking update**

This week I expect you have noticed our new banner and signs trying to raise awareness and support parents in parking legally and safely on Honiton Bottom Road. This does seem to have had some impact this week. Yesterday, I met with PCSO England and a representative from Honiton Town Council to share concerns and explore possible further solutions. I hope to be in touch again about this soon.

**No Outsiders**



With the final delivery of our picture books arriving this week and a recent Littletown tweet we are very excited to be launching our No Outsiders program. You may remember reading about the No Outsiders charity in a previous newsletter just before Christmas:

No Outsiders is a charity started by Andrew Moffat MBE which uses picture books to teach about difference and equality. Difference is protected under British Law and there are very clear aims in the Equality Act which provide guidance for schools to: have due regard for the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality and opportunity and foster good relations between different people.

We will be incorporating the picture books into our end of the day Storytime, whilst linking it with our PSHE curriculum too. Please use the link below for further information as well as having a look on our No Outsiders tab on the school website.

 [Teaching children diversity and tolerance | Andrew Moffat, Birmingham | Global Teacher Prize](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDYkzWyfwJA&t=3s)

**Non-uniform day for See the Future charity Friday 27th January**

You may remember in the Autumn Term we held a non uniform day to support a charity close to members of our school community when we wore purple and pink for Charcot-Marie Tooth. With January being ‘Love your opticians’ month, next Friday we will have another non-uniform day to support a charity founded by one of our Littletown parents about the importance of eye health and accessing eye tests - ‘See the Future’. Children will be able to wear green, blue and brown (the colours of eyes) if they have them and make a 50p voluntary donation. You can find out more information about See the Future here: <https://www.see-the-future.org/>

**Kitchen Assistant Vacancy**

Term Time only – Monday – Friday 10.00am – 2.00pm

£9.50 per hour

General kitchen duties which include food preparation, serving children’s lunches and cleaning the kitchen after service. Previous experience preferred.

Please apply by email with a CV to Kirsty Stevens, Kitchen Manager email address:- littletown@fresha.org

**OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)**

The project is progressing well with the children mixing at lunchtime every day. Equipment is being used on all the playgrounds, tweaking as we go. The children have been reminded today in assembly about their responsibilities to play safely when they are playing with the equipment. A massive thank you to everyone who has donated items for the children to play with, we wouldn’t have been able to do this without all the donations. There are still items that we need;

* Plastic dolls of various sizes and doll clothes
* Duplo
* Mega Bloks
* Scrap material and ribbons for weaving
* Collapsible toddler pushchairs (in working conditioner)
* Plastic watering cans

**Update from Devon Information, Advice and Support (DIAS)**

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We’ve got a new and improved telephone and email enquiry service!

To help more families get the expert advice they need, when they need it, while at the same time keeping waiting times down we have introduced a new helpline.

This means that when you call, or send a message in, our experienced and knowledgeable support team are on hand to deal with your enquiry using a solutions focused approach. That means we will help you find a clear and positive way forward with the issue you have that day.

You get the advice you need, when you need it, and help to take the next step. You can come back to us whenever you need more information or support.

The enquiry line is open 10am-3pm Monday to Friday and our web contact form is available 24/7 at [http://soc.devon.cc/KRaOB](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fsoc.devon.cc%2FKRaOB%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2wUFWp2L-uPGrf68NjmJ2eZW4S4rxpS00VQKZNTK3S5HYkF8nhxIU_0yk&data=05%7C01%7Cearlyhelpmideastsecure-mailbox%40devon.gov.uk%7C1a9b7d72703e46caa60908daf8af8902%7C8da13783cb68443fbb4b997f77fd5bfb%7C0%7C0%7C638095730034889306%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ApuKJSuKR3037UxR1JgkQFljSjwlF7aFdxYHSTXvDI4%3D&reserved=0)

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**Week Beginning 23rd January 2023 events**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday 23rd January** | **Tuesday 24th January** | **Wednesday 25th January** | **Thursday 26th January** | **Friday 27th January** |
|  | Y5 swimming pm | Nursery outdoor classroom | Y5/6 East Devon athletics finals | Reception outdoor classroom |
|  | Y6 Girls Futsal at HLC | Y4 HCC Science Workshop | Y5/6 Exeter City football tournament | See the Future non uniform day |
|  | Police online safety Year 6 |  | Y4 residential meeting for parents |  |