

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

Friday 23rd September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Despite having a shorter week this week and after a quiet couple of newsletters, there is quite a lot of information in this one as we get fully into the Autumn Term and numerous events approach on the horizon.

This week on Tuesday we took part in not one, but two Cross Country running competitions. In the morning, children from across Key Stage 2 visited All Hallows where they ran brilliantly including winning quite a few races. Then after school some of the same children then went to take part in the first Stockland Cross Country race of the year.

Yesterday, you should have received an email from us about school dinners on census day on Thursday 6th October. I have always found it ridiculous that so much of how much money we get as a school is based not only on attendance on one specific day, but also, on how many children have a school dinner. However, this remains the case. This is always important, but with significant strain on school budgets due to utility increases and other pressures, we really do need every penny we can get at the moment! Please do book your child in for a school dinner on this day if you possibly can. I will be sure to remind you all again next Friday!

Thank you to those of you who have completed the parent survey on playtimes in order to inform our development of this via the OPAL programme. This is your last opportunity to complete the survey as it closes at 10am on Monday. Here is the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/X7TBZ3H>

Today in assembly I spoke to the children about swimming aids and how using them in the right order helps us to learn to swim under our value of Learn. We then discussed how all learning is sequenced this way and how it is important we always do our best so we get just the right amount of support to help us improve.

Next week, Year 4 have outdoor classroom on Tuesday and we will all be dressing in purple/pink on Friday. You can find information about this day below in this newsletter.

As part of our ongoing sporting development, we want to have as many Littletown children as possible take part in our nearest Park Run in Cranbrook on Sunday 16th October. Full information on this from Miss Bodgin and Mrs Hudson-Pike can be found below.

Below in this newsletter, you will find the grid of when you can expect your parent consultation phone call for your child week beginning 3rd October. These phone calls will focus on how the children have settled into their new year groups and be an opportunity early in the term to smooth over any slight issues there may be. In February parent consultations, parents will be invited in to meet teachers, discuss academic targets and see children’s learning.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**Children’s news**

A warm welcome to our new pupil reporters this year who are:

Nursery and Reception - Emily and Isaac C

Year 1 and 2 - Kahmali and Zahra

Year 3 and 4 - Alistair and Lily

Year 5 and 6 - Selina and Nathan

Editors - Kayla, Sebastian, Isaac L and Hannah

**House captains:** Today in assembly we met our House Captains for the year. They are:

Maple - Leiya and William

Oak - Sophia and Finley

Ash - Scarlett and George

Beech - Thomas and Chloe

**Nursery** This week we made gingerbread men! We also drew our loving families.

**Reception** Earlier this week, we made our fingers big and strong by threading beads. We also enjoyed having a lesson of P.E

**Year 1** are learning about the compass points North, South, East and West and in history they are learning about toys from the past and the present.

**Year 2** arelearning about counting in multiples of 3 and 5.

**Year 3** say they are reading a book called Seal surfer. The topic they are learning is called ‘Through the ages’. They are making some Christmas cards.

**Year 4** say their topic is ‘The digestive system’. In maths, they are comparing numbers. In literacy they are reading a book called ‘Gorilla’ and they are making mouths using marshmallows as teeth and pink cardboard.

**Year 5** In English, Year 5 are learning Queen of the Falls and fronted adverbials. We have been making Christmas cards to make into mugs. In Maths we have been doing number lines up to a million.

**Year 6** have been dissecting a pig's heart. We found out who the house captains, sports leaders and wellbeing ambassadors will be. In Maths they have been multiplying four digit numbers.

**Student and Family Support team update**

The Public Health Nursing Team have just launched 2 new websites: a child’s site and a teen’s site. Each site offers a range of support and information about a variety of topics, including sleep, diet, anxiety and other health issues.

* + [**www.healthforteens.co.uk/devon**](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.healthforteens.co.uk%2Fdevon&data=05%7C01%7Cearlyhelpmideastsecure-mailbox%40devon.gov.uk%7C202acfb68f4f4476dca108da9c8a8ba9%7C8da13783cb68443fbb4b997f77fd5bfb%7C0%7C0%7C637994416096498413%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Z0wJAZ%2FZDZkGzR9VUQydyCUljxE%2FvNizsnoj8vpxnGw%3D&reserved=0)
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A reminder of contact details for members of our SAFS team:

Family Support Worker - Miss Jackie Talbot [familysupportworker@littletown.devon.sch.uk](mailto:familysupportworker@littletown.devon.scch.uk)

Pastoral Lead - Mrs Karen Canniford [pastoral@littleown.devon.sch.uk](mailto:pastoral@littleown.devon.sch.uk)

**Mental Wellbeing**

Our first wellbeing week of the academic year will be held during the week beginning Monday 10th October and as in previous years it will be held in conjunction with Young Minds ‘Hello Yellow’ campaign. Our ‘Hello Yellow’ Day will be on **Tuesday 11th October** when children and staff will be invited to wear anything yellow into school. Please do not go and buy anything special for the event as it will be a non-uniform day for everyone. If you are able to donate 50p per child/£1 per family which will go to the charity Young Minds then that would be fantastic but this is purely voluntary. There will be more information about the week in future newsletters.

**Pink/Purple day next Friday for Charcot Marie Tooth UK charity**

Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) is a neurological condition that causes damage to the nerves. This causes progressive muscle weakness and loss of sensation in the legs and feet, moving into the hands and arms. It can cause difficulty with walking and fine motor skills. CMTUK is the leading charity supporting those impacted by this disease and fund research into a cure. At Littletown we have children who suffer with this condition and so we would like to support their vital work. We will do this by allowing children to wear anything in a shade of pink or purple to match the charities colours. We encourage a donation of 50p (£1 for multiple pupil families). We will also be welcoming a member of the charity to speak to the children in assembly.

**Pond project over half term - volunteers wanted!**

Lost Habitats is a project which supports the development of environmental areas. Our school pond, once in regular use, has understandably deteriorated in condition during the Covid-19 pandemic. Over the October half term we will be working with Andy McConnachie of Lost Habitats to renovate our pond area so it can again soon be able to be used by children and classes. We may well require some parent volunteers for this so please look out for full details on this in next week’s newsletter! If you think you might know you’d like to be involved email me [head@littletown.devon.sch.uk](mailto:head@littletown.devon.sch.uk) so I can add you to the lists! Should be fun!

**Parent consultation phone call grids**

**Week Beginning 3rd October 2022 3.45-6.15pm**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Class** | **Tues 4th** | **Wed 5th** | **Thurs 6** |
| **Nursery** | A - J (1.00-6.15pm) | N - Z 3.45 - 6.15pm |  |
| **RNC** | A - K | L - Z |  |
| **RNK** | - | A - Z |  |
| **1LM** | A - K | L - Z |  |
| **1SC** | A - P | R - Z |  |
| **2AL** | A - H | I - Z |  |
| **2MHP/DB** | A - L | M - Z |  |
| **3SD/JS** | A - L | - | M - Z |
| **3RB/AM** | M - Z | - | A - L |
| **4SD** |  | A - L | M - Z |
| **4GW/GA** | A - P | R - Z |  |
| **5ZH** | A - K | L - Z |  |
| **5CP** | A - H | I - Z |  |
| **6JF** | A - L | - | M - Z |
| **6CB** | A - M | - | N - Z |

**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 16th October, 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 on Sunday 16th October, 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 to accompany your child as they need to be with an adult at all times.

See you there!

Miss Bodgin and Mrs Hudson-Pike

**Week Beginning 26th September 2022 events**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday 26th September** | **Tuesday 27th September** | **Wednesday 28th September** | **Thursday 29th September** | **Friday 30th September** |
|  | Year 4 Outdoor classroom |  |  | Pink/Purple day for CMTUK |

**Community news**

**Parental Minds**

Following on from the introduction to Mrs Rossiter and Honiton Parental Minds last week, please see attached to this week’s newsletter a poster for the Honiton Peer Support Hub. More information can be found here:

Vanessa Rossiter

[www.parentalminds.org.uk](http://www.parentalminds.org.uk/)

[Parental Minds Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/parentalminds/)

Parent+ Support Text Line for Honiton: 07907 614516