Friday 3rd December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a while since I have had to start a newsletter with a Covid risk assessment update, but I’m sure you will be aware of the current situation regarding the Omicron variant. You may also have noticed staff again wearing face coverings in and around school this week. The Department for Education emailed out a directive on Sunday for staff and visitors to begin wearing coverings again from Monday in response to the Omicron variant present in the UK. Currently, schools are once again receiving daily email updates from the DfE so please do be on the lookout for emails from myself should anything further change. **This means, at time of writing, we are still all systems go for Christmas performances from next week, but as mentioned above, all visitors will be expected to wear a face covering.** Please find detailed instructions for attending the performances in the newsletter below.

Below in this newsletter is a grid listing all the performances days, times and ticket allocations. Please note the change of day from Wednesday to Monday for Year 5 and Year 6. Parents were emailed about this change yesterday. We will continue to make the Christmas period as special as possible for children at school whilst also complying with DfE guidance and using our common sense to keep people as safe as possible. An example of this balance can be seen in our arrangements for Christmas cards this year which you can also find details of below. There are a range of Christmas competitions ongoing currently for children to get involved with if they choose to. PTFA competition went home yesterday along with Christmas raffle tickets and House captains have begun competitions in the school which they explain below.

It has been lovely to see the children in non uniform today due to bringing in Jolly Jars. Thank you for all your support with this. Reception children have also been donning wellies and pyjamas today. It has been another successful sporting week for the school. On Monday, 12 of our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils travelled to Honiton Leisure Centre to take part in sportshall athletics with other Honiton Learning Community Schools coming 2nd overall. On Tuesday, our Year 6 Netball team went undefeated at their Honiton schools tournament. Full reports from sports leaders can be found below.

Next week, we have lots happening as well as Christmas performances. Tuesday we hold our Annual General Meeting at 5pm, please see full information below. On Thursday, Year 6 hold their VE day celebration to finish their ‘A Child’s War’ topic. On Friday, as well as being Human Rights Day, it is Christmas Jumper day for Save the Children. Children can wear a Christmas jumper or item of clothing if they have one (please don’t buy one especially) as part of non school uniform. 50p donations will be given to Save the Children. House captains will be leading an assembly about the charity for the children on Friday morning.

Thank you for all of your support during what is a busy, but wonderful time for the children.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**News from pupil reporters**

**Nursery**

This week, Nursery have been learning how to draw christmas trees.

**Reception**

This week, Reception have been practising cutting and sticking by making owls and writing sentences about the hedgehog walk from their class book.

**Year 1**

This week, Year 1 have been skipping in PE and learning all about advent.

**Year 2**

This week, Year 2 have been writing letters to Browny the owl and coding in computing.

**Year 3**

We have been rehearsing our Christmas performance and starting our new topic ‘Cook and eat well’. We have also been making Christmas stockings and making art for our song called the Twelve days of Christmas.

**Year 4**

We have been learning about sound. We have decorated little long sticks and learning about a magician in literacy.

**Year 5**

We have been planning our Christmas poems. We have also started our new topic ‘Alchemy Island’.

This week, in our classroom we have been measuring area and perimeter.

**Year 6**

We have been learning about parenthesis which is using brackets, dashes and commas for extra information within our sentences.

**Christmas performances**

The children, staff and I can’t wait to welcome you into the school next week for Christmas performances. To make these as both successful and safe as possible please ensure yourself and those attending with you are fully aware of the following:

* Parents can come into the school 10 mins prior to the start of the performance.
* The PTFA will be offering cold drinks and cakes for a minimum £1.50 donation.
* Chairs will be set in the hall in pairs corresponding to the tickets to facilitate social distancing.
* We ask that parents/carers wear face coverings and sanitise their hands on entry into school/church.
* Parents/carers are allowed to film their child's performance to ensure the wider family are able to view the performance too to make up for the fact that there are only two tickets per child. Please zoom in to try and only film your child as much as possible and as usual, please ensure no filming is uploaded onto any social media platforms for safeguarding reasons.
* There is no creche available in school. Please consider if you really need to bring any younger siblings to the performance as we are trying to limit the number of visitors into the school at any one time. (Any younger siblings will need to be sat on your lap throughout the performance, but will not take up one of your allocated tickets).

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us as soon as possible. Here are the all important dates and times!

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year group** | **Day** | **Time** | **Audience** |
| Nursery | Tuesday 7th December | 9:15am | Mrs Jackson will contact you to allocated performance tickets |
| Nursery | Tuesday 7th December | 2:30pm |
| Reception | Wednesday 8th December | 9:15am | Parents of RNC |
| Reception | Wednesday 8th December | 2:30pm | Parents of RNK/MH |
| Year 1 | Thursday 9th December | 9:15pm | Parents of 1CV |
| Year 1 | Thursday 9th December | 2:30pm | Parents of 1LM |
| Year 2 | Friday 10th December | 9:15am | Parents of 2DB/CL |
| Year 2 | Friday 10th December | 2:30pm | Parents of 2AL |
| Year 3 | Tuesday 14th December | 9:15am | Parents of 3JS/SD |
| Year 3 | Tuesday 14th December | 2:30pm | Parents of 3RB/GH |
| Year 4 | Wednesday 15th December | 9:15am | Parents of 4SD |
| Year 4 | Wednesday 15th December | 2:30pm | Parents of 4GW/GA |
| Year 5 and Year 6St Paul’s church | **Monday 13th December(Previously Wed 15 Dec)** | 6pm | preference ticketing |
| Year 5 and Year 6St Paul’s church | Tuesday 14th December | 6pm | preference ticketing |

**Christmas cards**

All of the children are welcome to write xmas cards for anyone in their own year group. The children are invited to bring their cards into school and put them in a year group post box throughout next week. The cards will then be sorted into classes by the house captains and given out the following week.

**News from Sports leaders**

**Athletics by Chloe A**

On Monday 29th of November some years 5 and 6’s went down to Honiton Leisure Centre to take part in an athletics competition against 5 other schools. Each child had to do two track events and two field events and then at the end, we did a school race. A special mention to Chloe who had the longest shot put out of everyone who took part! We ended up coming 2nd overall and are going to the finals in January at Kings School. Well done to everyone who took part!

**Netball by Chloe P**

On the 30th of November some year 6 students were taken to Honiton Primary to take part in a school netball competition against 6 other schools. Although most of them had almost never played netball they managed to fit in some practice. Once they were there they went straight onto the 1st court ready to play. They played Offwell, Stockland, Awliscombe A, Awliscombe B, Honiton Red, Honiton Black, winning all their games(3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 1-0, 2-0, 2-0, 1-0) Imogen scored 6 goals and Josh scored 6 as well.

**Breakfast and After school club bookings for next term**

We have already had a great response from next term's bookings for Breakfast and after school club. If you are still needing to submit your booking form, please do so before 12pm on 10th December in order to not be disappointed.

Booking form Jan-Apr: <https://forms.gle/Rh4FLkba6VCUTjheA>

**Christmas competitions**

House captains are organising Christmas competitions for the children. Please see below information from them about these competitions:

* KS2 Christmas competition: Write a Christmas poem.
* KS1 Christmas competition: Draw/create a Christmas Picture.
* MUST write First name and surname and House - (Maple, Beech, Ash and Oak or as KS1 call them:Red,Yellow, Blue and Green) and CLASS on competition entry.
* Put them in the correct box on Mrs Bruce’s desk or give them to your teacher to do this.
* There will be a prize of a medal for each House in both KS1 and KS2. (8 Medals in total)
* The competition is FREE.
* All entries have to be in by Wednesday 8th of December.
* The House Captains will judge KS1 Christmas pictures.
* Mr Perkins and Mrs Hawkins judge the KS2 poem entries.
* If you write, make sure we can see the writing! It needs to be neat and clear!

Thank you,

The Littletown House Captains.

**P.E hoodies**

Pull on hoodies for PE are now available from Honiton Sports. They are navy and with the school logo. Uniform can also be ordered from their website;

<https://honiton-sports-ltd.myshopify.com/collections/littletown-primary-school-uniform>

**Choir**

Choir has finished for this term. It will recommence on **Monday 17th January.**

**Singing Lessons**

We are lucky enough to have secured a singing teacher from January. If you are interested in your child having singing lessons, either in a group or individually, or any other music lessons from our peripatetic teachers, please email littletownmusic@littletown.devon.sch.uk for more information.

**Annual General Meeting**

Honiton Littletown Primary Academy Trust

COMPANY NUMBER: 07851471

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting (the “Meeting”) of Honiton Littletown Primary Trust will be held virtually on Tuesday 7 December 2020 at 5.30pm to transact the following business:

1. To receive the Chairman’s report;

2. To receive and adopt the company's annual accounts for the financial year ended 31 August 2021 together with the directors' report and auditor's report on those accounts;

3. To appoint the Company's auditors to hold office from the conclusion of the meeting to the end of the next period for appointing auditors under section 485(2) of the Companies Act 2006, at a remuneration to be determined by the directors;

4. To appoint new Members to the Board and accept any resignations from the Board by current Members.

By order of the Board

Tina Sillitoe

Chair

Honiton Littletown Academy Trust

If you would like to attend please contact Jenny Rawlins (littletownclerk@littletown.devon.sch.uk)

**Car engines running and parking**

A couple of parents have contacted me regarding concerns of exhaust fumes from running car engines. It seems as the weather gets colder some drivers are remaining in cars and keeping engines running while children enter or exit the school. This makes the pavements not so pleasant to walk along, isn’t the healthiest for children’s lungs and is especially a concern for those with Asthma. Could I possibly request that with this in mind, if you park on Honiton Bottom Road to please turn off your engine until you are ready to depart. Many thanks for your cooperation.

You may also have noticed the road outside school is now being regularly monitored by PCSO England. He observes that mostly, everyone parks reasonably well when he is there. As we say to the children, this proves we can do it, so we can try to do it every day.

**Next week’s events**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday 6th December** | **Tuesday 7th November** | **Wednesday 8th December** | **Thursday 9th December** | **Friday 10th December** |
|  | Nursery Christmas Performances | Reception Christmas Performances | Year 1 Christmas Performances | Year 2 Christmas Performances |
|  | Annual General Meeting 5pm |  | Year 6 VE Day | Christmas jumper day for Save the Children |
|  |  |  | **Nursery Outdoor Classroom** | **Reception Outdoor** **Classroom** |

**PTFA News**

Thank you to everyone who has brought in Jolly Jars today. We are looking forward to the stall on Monday after school. Don’t forget to bring your £1 so you can get your jar.

All the children should be receiving a colouring competition sheet today. The competition costs £1 to enter and the winner from each year group will receive a prize. Make your design as colourful and Christmassy as possible and return them to school with a £1 coin attached by Monday 13th December. The winners will get their prizes at the end of term.

The PTFA will be providing refreshments at the Christmas performances over the next couple of weeks. There will be a choice of Christmas snack and cold drink for £1.50 (we will only be able to serve cold drinks this year). To avoid queuing please try to bring the correct money with you.

The PTFA raffle is going to be one of our big fundraisers this term. We have been lucky to have many great prizes donated by local businesses. Each child has been given a ticket to sell. Please return the ticket stubs and payment to school. We will also collect them in at the Jolly Jars or at any of the performances. Please can you also return any unsold tickets to us. Extra tickets will be available at the Jolly Jars stall and at the Christmas performances, or email/ message us through Facebook and we will get them to you. Good luck! Please sell as many as you can. The draw will take place on Wednesday 15th December.

**Community news**

**Operation Rudolph**

Operation Rudolph Honiton is here to help ensure nobody is struggling at Christmas. They want to help relieve the pressure on individuals and families who may find the Christmas season difficult financially or socially. The help provided by Operation Rudolph is open to anyone who feels they need it. [https://www.tripcta.org/rudolph/](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.tripcta.org%2Frudolph%2F&data=04%7C01%7C%7Cf8987b0701ed4d5e2fed08d9b418760d%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637738839415348319%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=1oxYrGcbVD07SX0zwj3yCslowfmY89cLGJvPbqUIew0%3D&reserved=0)