



## LITTLETOWN PRIMARY ACADEMY and NURSERY

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*Live • Love • Learn - Littletown*

Friday 24th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy week this week here at Littletown and this is set to continue as we enter the build up to the Christmas period. I know that sometimes there can be lots of emails and school admin to keep on top of. I appreciate your understanding of this and as a Littletown parent myself, I have to try and keep on top of it all too! I do believe a busy school is a sign of a good school and strong community though, so it is really positive that there is always so much going on to tell you about and keep on top of!

This week we have marked National Road safety week and the children have learnt about this in assemblies. To accompany this and as a timely reminder as the winter nights draw in and mornings and evenings get darker, please see start and end of day arrangements reminder attached to this newsletter for your information. Today in assembly we continued our series on British Values by focussing on the Rule of Law and how this links to school rules and values. I also had the pleasure of presenting certificates and the winners trophy to the children who won the Honiton Learning Community Sportshall Athletics event last Friday!

Also this week, Year 4 enjoyed their outdoor classroom on Tuesday where they made landscape art using the Autumn leaves and in the afternoon some of our children took part in the next round of the Bee Netball. Wednesday morning we welcomed Parental Minds to our Community Room for a session that was greatly valued by all the parents who attended. We will host them again soon. On Tuesday and Wednesday, our Year 6 classes visited Honiton Community College for a Science workshop. Yesterday, Year 1 enjoyed their outdoor classroom where they produced outdoor den structures. Yesterday we also welcomed children and staff from Offwell and Upottery schools to Littletown to join Mrs Davis and our Mental Health Ambassadors for training from Normal Magic. This included an assembly enjoyed by Littletown children and an excellent presentation to parents. My thanks to Mrs Davis for organising this event.

Next week is another very busy and exciting week for the children. On Tuesday, we welcome the Space Dome to the school hall for Year 5 and Year 6 children to experience as part of the curriculum. We also have the Aladdin pantomime on Thursday morning for the children to enjoy in our school hall. On Thursday afternoon we have multiple sporting events with some Year 5 and 6 children representing the school in the annual Exeter City football tournament and some Year 5 and 6 children taking part in an event at Honiton Bowls Club. On Friday, Year 2 visit Honiton Leisure Centre for their Multi Skills event.

Next Thursday we are excited to welcome M and M Theatricals to perform a pantomime for the children. This has been funded by the PTFA. It is a great example of a lovely experience for the children that we couldn't provide from school funds or ask parents to pay for and is why a successful PTFA is so crucial to the life of a school. You will be aware that next Saturday we have our PTFA Christmas Fayre and we are really struggling for enough help for this event. Please respond to the pleas from the PTFA if you think you can help in any way so we can continue to raise funds for events such as the pantomime for the children moving forwards. Thank you for all the donations to the Rainbow Raffle today. Next Friday we will again be in non-uniform and ask for donations of Jolly Jars.

We now have 123 parents who have completed the Parent Questionnaire so far. The questionnaire closes next Friday so if you haven't completed it yet - please do! Here is the link:

<https://forms.gle/PM4DA7psEA8SDE4dA>

Finally, please find below in the newsletter term dates for 2024-25, along with the reasoning for them and the delay in getting them to you. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this.

Yours faithfully



David Perkins  
Principal

### **Children's news**

**Nursery:** Nursery have been baking apples, bananas, cinnamon oat bake, and painting Vincent Van Gough pictures.

**Reception:** Reception have been learning about road safety and playing road safety games.

**Year 1:** Year 1 have been looking at aerial photos from the 1950 and learning about the five senses.

**Year 2:** Year 2 have been learning column subtraction in Maths and have been learning about Christmas in other countries.

**Year 3:** Year 3 have been dividing by 3 in Maths and learning how to make presentation slides in Computing. They have been discussing fairness and equality in R.E.

**Year 4:** Year 4 have been learning their times tables and made some leaf art in outdoor classroom.

**Year 5:** Year 5 have been learning about continents in Geography and ordering fractions in Maths. They have also been practising for their Christmas concert!

**Year 6:** Year 6 have visited HCC to do a science lesson and have also been making information sheets about different animals.

### **Mental Wellbeing**

Well done to the Mental Wellbeing Ambassadors; Emily, Penny, Isaac, William, Andrew and Rosalie for completing their ambassador training with Normal Magic. They are now trained to help me deliver training to the next group of ambassadors when they have been chosen in the summer term as well as helping children around the school.

## Term dates 2024-25

As you know, this year we did not have a two week half term in October and we look forward to having a two week half term in May. Since we made this change, Honiton Community College has joined Ted Wragg Multi Academy Trust and re-established their two week half term in October. A significant part of the rationale for our two week half term initially, alongside giving parents the chance to take a holiday avoiding higher holiday week costs, was to synchronise with the Secondary school to support the many families with pupils in each setting. Therefore, the Governors have taken the decision to again match Honiton Community College and re-establish our two week half term in October. We have had to wait until the College published these dates in order to publish ours to ensure they match. You will see that this means the Autumn Term next year will consist of an 8 week half term and a 6 week half term. We would have chosen to create two half terms of 7 weeks instead, but this would not have matched the extra week chosen by the College. We hope to engage in earlier dialogue with the college regarding future October half terms.

I appreciate your patience and understanding in waiting longer than usual for us to publish these dates as a result of the process above. I also understand the possible frustration with us moving to May this year only to move back again the following year. I can only apologise for this. We will always try to do the best thing for Littleton families with the information we have at the point of making decisions.

## Term Dates for 2024 - 2025

<b>Autumn Term 2024</b>	
Tuesday 3rd September	Non-pupil day
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Term begins for children
28th October – 8th November	Half Term (2 Weeks)
Friday 20th December	Term ends for children

<b>Spring Term 2025</b>	
Monday 6th January	Non-pupil day
Tuesday 7th January	Term begins for children
17th – 21st February	Half Term (1 Week)
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Term ends for children

<b>Summer Term 2025</b>	
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Term begins for children
Monday 5th May	Bank Holiday
26th May – 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Half Term (1 Week)
Friday 25th July	Term ends for children

## Christmas performances dates

Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 9.15	3CP	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2.45	3JS/SD
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 9.15	1LM	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2.45	1SC
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 9.15	2CL/DB	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2.45	2AL
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 9.15	4SD/CL	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2.45	4ZH
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 9.15	RNK	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2.30	RNC
Wednesday 13th December 9.30	Nursery		

### Week Beginning 27th November 2023 events

Monday 27th November	Tuesday 28th November	Wednesday 29th November	Thursday 30th November	Friday 1st December
	Space Dome in the hall Y5 and Y6		Aladdin pantomime for all children	Y2 multi skills event Honiton Leisure Centre
			Exeter City Football tournament Y5/6	
			Honiton Bowls 16 KS2 children	

### Community news

#### Honiton Family Church Christmas events

Please see attached to this newsletter a flyer advertising upcoming Christmas events held by the Honiton Family Church.