

Friday 14th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week the children have worked very hard despite having missed so many break times due to the incredibly wet weather. This week, and over the next few weeks, we are welcoming several new families to the school as we see an increase in Admissions movement as restrictions ease. I am always impressed with how well Littletown children treat new children who join the school and make them feel welcome.

I’m aware I seem to be saying this every week, but we are still awaiting guidance from the Department for Education regarding a roadmap for loosening restrictions in schools. However, as the weeks go on I now feel it is important to let you know some rough plans and proposed dates between now and the end of Term as we make them. Please bear in mind that all of these can be subject to change. I will begin by sharing with you below in this newsletter our tentative plans for sports days this term.

We are fast approaching the final Mental Wellbeing week of the academic year and you will find below lots of details about this from Mrs Davis.

Please do read some important messages below about parking and Covid-19 testing. These are both about the overall safety of the whole school community. Please do get in touch via head@littletown.devon.sch.uk if you have any questions about either.

Finally, please also see at the end of this newsletter an opportunity for your child to become an illustrator for a published book.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**Mental wellbeing**

Mental Wellbeing

During the week beginning 24th May we will be having our final Mental Wellbeing Week of the academic year. We will be taking the opportunity to focus on the 10 ways to balance our physical and mental health. The money we raise will be split between mental wellbeing at school and The Parent Support Hub. The Parent Support Hub is a part of Honiton Health Matters and is a group supporting local families living with mental health issues. At school we would like to have ‘covered calm zones’ outside so children who need somewhere quiet to be during playtimes will have a place to go.

On **Friday 28th May** the children will be able to come to school in their own clothes and we would love it if they could dress in something colourful but please don’t buy anything specially. Children can either bring in a voluntary donation of 50p per child or £1 per family on the day..

The Year 6 Mental Wellbeing Ambassadors will be holding a ‘Lucky Dip Cake Sale’. We are not asking for home-made cakes but donated cakes from supermarkets, bakeries or coffee shops so if you are able to help please let us know via admin@littletown.devon.sch.uk. Cakes will be available on **Thursday 27th May** after school, Lucky Dip Cake Bags will be £1 and each bag will contain 4 cakes.

Today the children learnt about the challenge they have been set to complete during the week. During their PE lesson they will be asked to walk either half or one mile around the school grounds. Staff have been challenged to walk a mile a day. We will add up all the miles walked during the week and see how far we have walked. If you would like to support us in our challenge you can make a donation and send it to school in a sealed envelope with your child on Friday 28th May, labelled ‘mile challenge’.

**Sports Day**

As we know parents like to book time off work and make sure they can attend sports days, I wanted to let you know the proposed dates and the tentative plans we have in place while we anticipate further guidance from the Government.

We intend to welcome parents to school for a morning or an afternoon session where a selection of races and events will be held for children in two year groups. Seating areas will be allocated to parents of specific classes in locations either side of the running track as we anticipate to still be expected to maintain ‘class bubbles’. We hope you understand that it is likely this year’s sports day will have to be scaled down a little in order to allow it to take place, but nonetheless it will still be fun and enjoyable for all involved! We will give you confirmation of plans as well as start and finish times as soon as we receive further guidance and can plan in detail. Please do get in touch if you have any questions head@littletown.devon.sch.uk

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| **Provisional date** | **Morning**  | **Afternoon** |
| Tuesday 29th June | Nursery and Reception | Year 3 and Year 4 |
| Wednesday 30th June | Year 1 and Year 2 | Year 5 and Year 6 |
| **Bad weather back up dates** | **Morning** | **Afternoon** |
| Tuesday 13th July | Nursery and Reception | Year 3 and Year 4 |
| Wednesday 14th July | Year 1 and Year 2 | Year 5 and Year 6 |

**Relationships,Sex and Health Education**

Next week you will be receiving further information on the Relationship and Sex Education curriculum content to be taught after the May Half Term holiday. Please ensure you read the content to help support your child’s learning at home.

**Parking and dropping off**

Wet weather always makes things more challenging on Honiton Bottom Road at drop off and pick up. The lack of yellow lines, road markings and clarity on the mini roundabout also do not help. However, my staff, many parents and I are becoming more and more worried about safety based on things we increasingly see happen currently. Please ensure you do not park on double yellow lines, single yellow lines between 8am and 4pm (as it states on the sign), or the yellow zigzags outside school. Please also use your common sense and awareness for safety to not park on speed bumps, pavements, mini roundabouts, T junctions or anywhere else that may not be safe or appropriate. Please do not drop children off in the entrance to the staff car park, allow children to get out of cars in the middle of the road or T junctions and please do not drive into the school car park to drop off children. Many thanks for your cooperation. We all have a responsibility to behave appropriately and keep everyone safe outside a busy school.

**Clarification on Covid-19 testing**

It is great that so many families are now taking twice weekly Lateral flow Tests for Covid-19. It is really important that we are all clear that **if anyone in your household develops a possible symptom of Covid-19 a PCR test must be booked via the NHS and the household must isolate until a Negative PCR test result is returned**. This is exactly the same for myself and my staff who take LFTs twice weekly. In short, **LFTs do not replace or override PCRs for anyone displaying symptoms.** If you are unsure, please, please ask us at school so we can give you accurate guidance.

**School Uniform and shoes**

As mentioned in last week’s newsletter, we will be returning to the full expectations of the Uniform Policy after May half term. This gives you plenty of time to get the things you need to get, including the half term week. If you think you will have difficulties with this then please do let us know so we can support you accordingly. Many thanks for your cooperation.

**Community news**

**Opportunity to be an illustrator for a book:** We are very lucky to have an Author in our school community! Parent, Leanne Herrett founded her charity 8 years ago called See The Future - Opening eyes to a better health.

It's an awareness charity of the importance of going to the opticians, not just for vision but other health issues that can be detected.

She has written a book to further spread awareness of the importance of having eye tests in a fun and reassuring way. The book now needs illustrations for the animal characters and Leanne has kindly asked me to invite Littleown pupils to provide these illustrations!

The book is based on a family of 6 (therefore they would need to be the same animal). An optician (who can be any animal), and a Mum and daughter (who will be the same animal). The children can choose to either design one character or have a go at all of them.

The winning illustrations will be included in the printed book, along with their name as illustrators.

The money from the sale of the book will be going to See The Future and Littletown Academy.

Please may the children bring their finished characters to school by Friday 28th May where I will collate them and pass them to the author!