

Friday 4th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I will start by saying a very warm welcome back after half term and again thanking you all for your support and understanding for closing the school due to amber/red weather warnings on Friday 18th February. Thank you too, for supporting the children in remote learning on this day despite it being the last day before half term. Covid has at least ensured infrastructures and systems are well established for us to facilitate learning on days like this.

We have had a busy week back at school this week. On Tuesday, we again welcomed our external School Improvement Partner to discuss curriculum and teaching and learning development. On this visit, he was very impressed with children’s writing across the school and the progress made within teaching sequences. We have also had Parent Consultations via phone calls this week. My thanks to teachers for staying late into the evenings to facilitate these phone calls.

On Wednesday, our Netballers won the East Devon finals at Kings school. This is an amazing achievement for us to be very proud of. They will now represent the school in the Devon finals in Paignton in April. A report from the children can be found below in this newsletter. My thanks to Mr Bilcock and Mrs Stamp for accompanying the children. Yesterday, we marked World book Day with children (and staff!) looking amazing in their costumes. Children should have come home with a book voucher to be spent on books and we managed to raise £112 for us to spend on books for the children. Thank you too, for all the wonderful books donated for our bookcases. Today, Reception dressed up again to celebrate their ‘Fairytales’ day. They felt my ‘Prince Charming’ needed more work.

PTFA doughnuts were scheduled for the day of school closure. My proposal to have them all delivered to my house instead was sadly overruled and instead it was rearranged for today. A lovely way to end the week. My thanks to the PTFA for arranging this. Please see more news from the PTFA below in this newsletter.

You will be aware that ‘Covid rules’ have changed in England regarding isolation and testing. Confusingly, the DfE have briefed schools that our guidance remains unchanged. This means isolating when positive and returning to school when negative on two tests from day 6 onwards. The only change is that household members of positive cases no longer need to take daily tests. If you have any questions as usual, please don’t hesitate to get in touch.

Year 4 Roman day was also a casualty of the school closure and I am pleased to say this is happening on Tuesday next week. Outdoor classroom will be on Wednesday for Nursery and Friday for Reception next week.

A couple of requests from me today regarding school snacks and hoodies. Do get in touch with any questions you may have: head@littletown.devon.sch.uk

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**News from the children**

**Nursery**

In Nursery this week we have been making pancakes and Mrs Jackson was the Gruffalo.

**Reception**

This week, in Reception we have been having our Fairytales day and we had pancake races.

**Year 1**

This week, in Year 1, we have been investigating about an alien in the hall and we have had World Book Day.

**Year 2**

This week, in Year 2, we have been learning about measures and learning about diagrams. We watched a video about steam trains.

**Year 3**

This week, in Year 3, we had our outdoor classroom and made parachutes. In science, we are learning about magnetic forces and we finished our work in French.

**Year 4**

This week, in Year 4 we have started a new book about when the giants stand. We took part in World Book Day, life lessons. We have done some nouns work and adjectives about pictures.

**Year 5**

This week, in Year 5, we have started a new topic called Allotment and learnt what an allotment is.

Also, we have started a new unit in maths multiplying fractions. We wrote book reviews on our favourite books.

**Year 6**

This week, in Year 6, we have been learning about magic spells and in maths we’ve been doing algebra. We have also started a new book called The Selfish Giant. We learnt about the witches in Macbeth.

**Sports reporters**

**Netball East Devon Finals**

We were against Willand Primary twice because one team had dropped out. So we had automatically made it into the quarter finals. First match we scored 2-2. In the second match against them we scored 13-2 to us.

In the quarter finals we played Sidbury and beat them 9-0

We got into the semi finals and we beat Culmstock 10-3! The point of this netball is not just the winning but the appreciation and kindness you show to the opposing team.

When we were against Honiton Primary in the Finals we beat them 8 - 0 Which meant that we had won the finals and the tournament so we would go on to the Devon finals in Paignton.

The Team: Immy W, Emily, Imi C, Chloe L, Josh, Will, Sid, Chloe P and Logan.

Thank you to Mr Bilcock and Mrs Stamp for coming with us.

**Talking about Ukraine**

Thank you for the kind messages of support I have received regarding our approach to discussing this ongoing issue with the children. The staff have been blown away by the maturity, empathy and awareness shown by the children. Ironically, what was supposed to be us helping the children has almost equally resulted in the children helping the adults. Lots of you have valued the Newsround link. A parent has also recommended the free content on the website of ‘The Week Junior’ which gives excellent advice to parents. Here is the link for you to use if required:

<https://theweekjunior.co.uk/ukraine?fbclid=IwAR3lvOsZC77Q2k2u6I4FgL9bYWplR2VcCs3vX4YyK0E9ezCOg0FEt3wRm7s>

**Uniform**

I accept that with all that is happening in the world currently, it can seem inconsequential to talk about uniform. Our new Littletown hoodies are great for PE days, but are PE kit only and not part of school uniform. These are only to be worn on the days in which your child has PE, as mentioned in previous newsletters. Many thanks for your cooperation.

**Breaktime snacks**

Littletown Primary Academy is a healthy school. With this in mind, can I please remind you that breaktime snacks should only consist of healthy options, such as fruit and vegetables. Snacks such as cereal bars, cheese, crisps and chocolate bars are not permitted. It would be sad and unfair on the children were we to stop allowing them to eat these at school. It is much easier if they aren’t brought in in the first instance. Many thanks for your understanding.

**Comic relief**

Friday 18th March is Comic Relief day and from Monday we will be selling Red Noses in school. Red noses are £1.50 and will be available from your child’s class teacher. We will not be able to give change so please ensure that your child has the correct money. Your child’s name will be written on the box and looked after until the end of the school day. Please keep the red noses at home until Comic Relief day when they can be worn in school along with non-uniform for a donation of 50p per child/£1 per family. We only have a limited number of red noses available so for the first week children will be limited to buying 1 nose. Noses can also be purchased online <https://shop.comicrelief.com/> or from Sainsburys and Argos.

**Student and Family Support Team**

Each week the Student and Family Support Team (SAFS) will be sharing useful websites, support materials or free courses for parents and carers. We will also be updating you with any up and coming events that are running in school. This week the focus is on local sporting and physical opportunities for children with additional needs.

**Bikeability**Many thanks to all of the parents who responded to our letter regarding availability for the Easter holiday Bikeability course. We have chosen 18 children at random to participate in the holiday course and these children will come home with a letter today to confirm which dates they have been selected for. The rest of the year group will be offered a place on the term time course, which will run after the Easter holidays. Additional information for all Bikeability courses, including year 5, will follow in due course.

**Sports clubs for children with Additional Needs:**

[Honiton SEN Additional Needs Sports Group | Honiton Health Matters](https://honitonhealthmatters.org.uk/directory/additional-needs-sports-group)

Physical play is crucial to your child’s development. Come and watch your child thrive in an inclusive and friendly environment. We offer multi-skills sessions for 5 -9 year olds. Sessions will run every Friday at Honiton Community College, 4.45pm-5.45pm. Cost is £2.75 per child to support the group. Additional siblings £1.50

The sessions will be split into sections offering multiple activities, then a sensory calm activity before we will offer a fruit snack at the end of the session.

**Clip and Climb Exter:**

**Breakfast and After school club booking**

Please find here the link to the next booking form (April-July).

<https://forms.gle/dsP8VRtCH4eqxNtK6>

The deadline for guaranteed sessions is noon April 1st.

**Published book with Littletown illustrators**

You may remember a while ago lots of children took part in a competition making illustrations for a parent of Littletown who was having her book published. I am pleased to say that I have head back from Leanne this week. As the book is based around eye health, purchasing the book benefits children’s eye sight, raises money for charity and benefits our school too. Please see here more details from Leanne:

The children's illustrations that made the book are the following (and I can't thank them enough) -

Penelope

Poppy

Niamh

Amelia

Pippa

Emilia

A massive well done to them, the book wouldn't be a book without their amazing illustrations.

This children's book is explaining the importance of going to an opticians in a fun, educational way. Not only is it about spreading awareness of the importance of going to the opticians and help raise vital funds for local charity See The Future, each sale of this book a percentage of the money will go to Littletowns library.

It's a win win with buying this book.....You're supporting a charity, helping spread awareness, you'll receive a £35 voucher in the book to get your eyes tested including an OCT scan for FREE (for an adult as children's eye tests are free) and supporting Littletown Primary Academy.

You can place your orders of a book through info@seethefuture.co.uk at the price of just £5.

**Music at Littletown**

We are lucky enough to have 5 talented peripatetic music teachers at Littletown. If you are interested in your child having private music lessons please email littletownmusic@littletown.devon.sch.uk with your enquiry.

| Gail Denning (Tues) | Piano/Brass |
| --- | --- |
| Alan Webster (Wed) | Guitar |
| Joe Binmore (Mon) | Singing |
| Matt Parr (Thurs) | Drums |
| Emily Miller (Mon) | Violin/Ukulele |

**Week Beginning 7th March 2022 events**

| **Monday 7th March** | **Tuesday 8th March** | **Wednesday 9th March** | **Thursday 10th March** | **Friday 11th March** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Y4 Roman day  | Nursery outdoor classroom  |  | Reception outdoor classroom  |
|  |  |  |  | Performance to Y6 in school hall |

**PTFA News**

Thank you to all of you who have ordered doughnuts, and thank you for your patience in waiting the extra two weeks because of the school closure. We hope that you enjoy them tonight.

There will be some doughnuts available after school to buy for £1 each if you missed out on the orders.

**Mothers’ Day Presents**

As part of our fundraising this year we would like to give the children an opportunity to choose a Mothers’ Day gift for their Mum or other special person. Each gift will cost £5 and will need to be pre-ordered by next Friday (11th March). Once the orders are in, there will be a selection of presents which the children can choose from (for example chocolates, candles, toiletries, etc.) so Mums will have a lovely surprise. Once the children have chosen their present we will gift wrap it and give it to them on the Friday before Mothers’ Day (25th March) to bring home. You should find a letter with order form in your child’s book bag today. If you would like to join in and pre-order your gift then please complete and return the form below to school by Friday 11th March.

There will be other fundraising activities throughout the term. Please keep a lookout for them and support us as much as you can.

Don’t forget you can also support us when you shop online by using Amazon Smile or EasyFundraising. These are both easy to det up and we get a percentage when you shop without any cost to you.

**Community news**

**Honiton Foodsave**

We are committed to stopping food going in the bin. We collect surplus food from supermarkets and give it out for free to anyone in the community. No referrals needed, no questions asked – everyone is welcome, whether you have a specific financial need or have just forgotten an item of shopping.

Please see information on their website here: <https://honitonfoodsave.org.uk/>

**Swimming lessons available**

Seaton Swimming School based at Seaton Primary School is now taking bookings for children’s lessons on a Tuesday and Thursday 3:30 - 5:30, with a ratio of 1 teacher to 4 pupils, 30min/£9 per lesson.

Please email **seatonswimmingschool@gmail.com** **or call 07912 666536 to make a booking.**

**Ariya’s fundraising**

Ariya in Reception has decided to fundraise for Little Princess Trust. She is having her hair all cut on Saturday 26th March. If you would like to sponsor her, please see the link below:

You can donate to my JustGiving page by clicking here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ariya-crowther?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=ariya-crowther&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=89f378b02c6b4263b9c5a5993645ad8c>

**Maynards school discovery morning**

Please see attached a flyer for a discovery morning at Maynards school for girls aged 3-11.