

Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It feels so refreshing and invigorating to be writing a newsletter with a hopeful, optimistic and excited tone as we get ready for school reopening on the 8th March as part of the Government’s ‘Roadmap’ out of lockdown. I am pleased to say that at time of writing we fully intend to welcome all children back from Nursery to Year 6 on Monday 8th March. Nursery parents should have received a letter from us yesterday. As per guidance from the Department for Education, we will be fully returning to the Covid-19 Risk Assessment which includes face coverings, staggered starts and our trusty yellow cones amongst other things! This means we are picking up exactly where we left off and so should be relatively straightforward for everyone. Breakfast club and After School Club will be restarting with booking procedures returning to normal. Mr Conybeare will be in touch about the recommencement of sporting clubs. We anticipate peripatetic music lessons to also recommence from this date.

Please find a full recap of these relevant details at the bottom of this week’s and next week’s newsletter to aid your memory and act as a reference. Please do read this information fully once through and make sure you get in touch with me next week via head@littletown.devon.sch.uk if you have any questions.

Thank you to everybody who has got in touch with me following this week’s assembly to let me know things they would or have put in their little ‘happy things tin’, or about what Patronus children would summon to deal with their worries. Next week I will be talking to you about shoes!

Next Thursday is World Book day, the children will be celebrating this both at home and at school through a range of suggested activities added to the Padlets for all year groups. We have made a conscious decision to not invite key worker children coming into school to dress up. This is to ensure that all children continue to receive the same opportunities regardless of whether they are learning at home or at school.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**Red Nose Day/Comic relief**

With the children back into the rhythm of being at school, On Friday 19th March, we will be celebrating Red Nose Day at school on Friday 19th March. On this day, all children are invited to come to school dressed as a superhero for a 50p (£1 per family) voluntary donation to the charity. There is no expectation for parents to buy costumes. Alternatively, children can wear non-school uniform. On the day, the children will be taking part in a variety of activities, planned to bring some laughter and cheer back after what has been such a difficult time for so many. A limited number of Red Noses will be available for the children to purchase the week before - further details about this will be in future newsletters.

**In school bits**

**Learning coming home**

One of the advantages parents have if they are remote learning is that they have a really thorough understanding and awareness of what their children have been learning over the last few weeks. We want you to be able to see what the children have been doing while they have been in school so you have a similar understanding and awareness of your children’s learning. Teachers have been assessing and giving feedback on this learning as it has been happening in school. We will be sending learning home with children next week that they have completed in school so you can see what they have been doing and discuss it with them.

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**At home bits**

**Almost there!! Keep going!**

As you will have seen above, your Remote Learning journey will be ending a week today! As ever, I want to thank you for all your hard work. The knowledge that children will soon be returning, the fact we’ve just had a holiday from remote learning, the nicer weather and the sheer length of time, all contribute to a feeling of wanting to ease off everything next week. Please can I urge you not to do this and please continue the efforts and hard work that has been put in every week so far. This is mostly because teachers will be busy planning the learning from 8th March onwards and we have to do this based on the assumption that curriculum coverage has taken place as planned. It is therefore really important that the remote learning is all completed next week in order to make the children’s transition back into school as successful as possible. Thank you for your ongoing support in this.

**A bridge back to school**

This week we have been talking about how best to prepare children who have been at home for returning back to school on Monday 8th March. Teachers will be giving instructions in the first google meet of the week for each year group about what we want children to do in order to reflect on their learning at home and how it links to coming back to school. I will be recording a video for the children on the padlets too aiming to reassure them about coming back to school and remind them that the children in school have been doing exactly the same as them and are no further ahead.

We won’t be asking you to send in all the learning with your children on the 8th March. This is because our structure and approach at Littletown has allowed for daily valuing and feedback on the learning as it is completed and submitted by teachers each day. This means the teachers already have a very good knowledge of what the children have done and their understanding to be able to plan effectively for their return. However, we will be asking each child to bring in one piece of learning that they are particularly proud of or represents a certain amount of resilience etc for them to talk about in a class assembly.

**Returning loaned chromebooks and keyboards**

It has been brilliant to be able to support so many families with the loan of USB keyboards and school Chromebooks for use for remote learning. Over 30 families have benefitted from this support. If you have borrowed a keyboard or chromebook please can I stress the urgency of returning these with your child on Monday 8th March. Parents can bring them to us on the afternoon of Friday 5th March if they would prefer. It is crucial that these come back to school so they can be cleaned and then put immediately to use, with all children returning to school.

**Full reopening Monday 8th March**

**Key Information**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Class** | **Start Time** | **Drop off Point** | **Finish Time** | **Collection Point** |
| Nursery | **9.00am** | In Front of the Nursery building | **3.00pm** | As drop off |
| Reception - Mrs Katene/Mrs Hawkins | **8.50am** | Front Playground (class lining up) | **3.05pm** | Slope on Front Playground |
| Reception - Miss Croft | **9.00am** | Front Playground (class lining up) | **3.15pm** | Slope on Front Playground |
| Year 1 - Mrs Veevers | **8.50am** | Front Playground (class lining up) | **3.05pm** | Slope on Front Playground |
| Year 1 - Mrs Lambert/Miss Meecham | **9.00am** | Front Playground (class lining up) | **3.15pm** | Slope on Front Playground |
| Year 2 - Mrs Bentham/Mrs Rossiter | **8.50am** | Front Playground (class lining up) | **3.05pm** | Scooter rack on Front Playground |
| Year 2 - Mr Luxton | **9.00am** | Front Playground (class lining up) | **3.15pm** | Scooter rack on Front Playground |
| Year 3 - Mrs Searle/Mrs Davis | **8.50am** | Classroom Door | **3.05pm** | Top Back Playground (from class line) |
| Year 3 - Miss Bodgin/Mrs Hugerre | **9.00am** | Classroom Door | **3.15pm** | Top Back Playground (from class line) |
| Year 4 - Mrs Wright/Mrs Arni-Tossell | **8.50am** | Year 3/4 Door | **3.05pm** | Top Back Playground (from class line) |
| Year 4 - Mr Driscoll | **9.00am** | Year 4 Music Room Door | **3.15pm** | Top Back Playground (from class line) |
| Year 5 - Mrs Binmore | **8.50am** | Classroom Door | **3.05pm** | Lower Back Playground (from class line unless walking home alone) |
| Year 5 - Miss Urry | **9.00am** | Classroom Door | **3.15pm** | Lower Back Playground (from class line unless walking home alone) |
| Year 6 - Mrs Fallon | **8.50am** | Classroom Door | **3.05pm** | Lower Back Playground (from class line unless walking home alone) |
| Year 6 - Mr Priddle | **9.00am** | Classroom Door | **3.15pm** | Lower Back Playground (from class line unless walking home alone) |

**Entering and Exiting the School Premises**

* Please adhere to the signs and one way systems at all times.
* Please ensure you are wearing a face covering when on the school premises
* Please phone or email the school if you need to speak to a member of staff. No visitors are able to enter the school building.
* All children are to enter the school premises through the main front gate and exit through the front gate next to the Nursery or via the back gate
* We ask that only one parent/carer comes into the playground to drop off/collect your child.
* If your child’s classroom is located at the back of the school please be aware there are steps.
* We advise only 1 person drops off and collects.
* If you have more than one child coming to school please drop off the child at the earliest start and end time. (We are aware that the staggered start/end times are not ideal, however we have tried to minimise any disruption matching most families to the same start and end time.
* If you are picking up before the end of the day please knock on the classroom window rather than entering the external classroom door.
* Please remember that staff are unable to assist by holding children’s hands at drop off time, if your child clings to you and refuses to leave you then you may need to take your child home.
* As soon as you have dropped off or collected your child, please leave the playground as quickly as possible. Please be aware, that in order to keep to current government social distancing guidelines, staff must adhere to 2m distancing from adults, and will not be able to take your children from your arms, should they be anxious or upset. Whilst the guidelines acknowledge that staff will not be able to keep to this social distancing with the children, due to their age and needs, we need to adhere to the guidelines when interacting with parents/carers.
* If you have any messages, these can verbally be given to the staff member receiving your child or rung through via phone.

**Additional Information**

* All children to wear full school uniform
* Please do not send your child with anything other than their book bag, fruit snack, lunch, water bottle, sunhat (suncream already applied if needed) and jacket/coat if necessary.
* We are hoping that Fruit snack will be available as normal for the Y1 and Y2 children but this is to be confirmed.
* Please give the teacher at drop off any new medication and asthma inhalers.
* Please inform the member of staff in the morning if someone different will be collecting your child. If changes happen in the day please ring the school.
* Please inform the school by phone or email if there are any changes to your home circumstances including change of contact numbers.

**What to bring to school:**

Your child needs to bring in (all named):

* Bookbag
* Water bottle
* PE kit and trainers (to stay in school and be taken home at half term)
* Lunchbox (if packed lunch)
* Fruit snack
* Coat and sunhat

Reading books and reading records will operate as normal. The school will provide children with their own pencil case with the resources they need.

Please **do not** bring:

* Stationery
* Hand sanitiser
* Toys/comforters/squishies etc (unless this has been approved previously by the SAFS team)

**Lunches**

Please continue to book lunches through ParentPay. If you are new to school you will be given a ParentPay login in the first week. Please remember to book school dinners by Friday night for the following week.

**Behaviour**The behaviour policy has been updated in accordance to the Government guidance. These changes reflect the importance for all children to follow the rules to keep themselves and others safe, for example not spitting. The policy can be found on the school website.

**If your child becomes unwell**

If your child displays covid symptoms whilst at school we will contact parents/carers immediately and ask you to collect your child from a specific school entrance. Your child will be isolated in a room with a staff member whilst awaiting collection. Parents/Carers will need to take their child to be tested.

If your child becomes unwell at home please contact the school and keep us informed of the type of illness. Please inform us immediately if it is covid.

If another child or adult in your child’s pod tests positive for covid then all adults and children in the pod will need to self isolate for 14 days.