Friday 29th April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to start by welcoming you back to school for the Summer Term and I hope you all had a great Easter with the children. It was great to see the sun shining, flowers and trees blossoming and the children returning with smiles on their faces on Monday. There was lots happening at Littletown over the Easter holiday with some Year 5 children completing their bikeability course and lots of children attending the holiday activity club which was a great success. My thanks to Mr Bilcock and Primary Sports for running this at the school.

As we continue to do our absolute best to make up for lost time the children have experienced at school there sure has been a lot going on this week. Thank you for keeping upto date with all the admin and organisation! Year 6 children have been taking part in bikeability all this week and some Year 5 pupils have visited Honiton leisure centre for swimming lessons. On Tuesday, Year 4 had a brilliant trip to the National Marine Aquarium in Plymouth. Yesterday, some of our Year 3 and Year 4 children represented the school in the Honiton Learning Community ‘Quad kids’ event where they won the competition and behaved brilliantly. Full report from sports reporters can be found below. It has also been great to have Choir starting again on Mondays. My thanks to all the staff who helped organise and/or accompanied children to all these events.

Yesterday, all the children had their class photos organised at short notice due to availability from a cancellation. These seemed to go very well. Links to the digital photos will be shared via email as soon as we receive them.

Today, as we continue to explore and develop our school values together in assemblies, I spoke to the children about their learning and how at Littletown we aim for all children in all lessons to be challenged just the right amount and be in their zone of proximal development. We explored this by thinking about Goldilocks and how some porridge was too hot, some was too cold, but the middle one was just right etc. Ask the children over the weekend to tell you about their ‘goldilocks zone’!

Next week, Year 4 have their residential trip to Escot on Thursday and Friday.

Without restrictions in place we are now once again after two years able to run our incredible ‘Timid to Tiger’ parenting workshop course on Wednesday afternoons. Please see details on this from the Student and Family Support team below.

With this continuation of ‘return to normality’, it is exciting to see all the plans we have made in conjunction with the PTFA for the term outlined below such as Jubilee picnic and Summer fete. We very much hope you can join us for these after recent years of not being able to hold such great school community events. Please see details on these and all the news from the PTFA below in this newsletter.

Today you have received a termly newsletter for your children’s year group about the learning and events specific to them this term. Please do read them and discuss them with your children. You will also have received a letter from me outlining a proposal for extending the length of the school day and how to respond to the consultation on the proposal. Please do get in touch if you have any questions about this.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a lovely Bank Holiday weekend and look forward to seeing you all next Tuesday.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**News from the children**

**Nursery**

This week, in Nursery, we have been making chicks with playdough and paper plate chicks.

**Reception**

This week, in Reception, we have been practising estimating in maths and making a zoo book.

**Year 1**

This week, in Year 1, we have found some bones and we have been learning how school used to be.

**Year 2**

This week, in Year 2, we have been learning about dangerous animals and famous people from the past.

**Year 3**

This week, in Year 3, we started a new exciting book and a new topic which is very exciting.

We have finished our stained glass windows.

**Year4**

This week, in Year 4, we visited the Aquarium in Plymouth and started a new topic called ‘Blue Abyss’

We have started writing about when the forest meets the sea.

**Year 5**

This week, in Year 5, we have started to learn about the plastic environment. In Topic we are learning about time travel. We have started a new Power Maths book and the whole school has taken school photos.

**Year 6**

This week, in Year 6 we have learnt how to use pie charts. In Maths we have learnt what mean averages are.

We have been learning how to ride safely on the roads on our bikes and finally, we have been doing an independent project about countries.

**Sports reporters**

On Thursday 28th of April, we went to a Quad Kids athletics competition. We all enjoyed it. The activities were standing long jump, vortex throw, 400m run and a 50m sprint. Our overall score was over a thousand points so we came first place! We will be going to the East Devon finals. Thank you to the teachers who took us.

**Finley running for Ukraine**

Finley in Year 5 is running 31 miles in May with his dad to raise money for supporting families in Ukraine. You can see more info and donate via his facebook page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/donate/695641118304822/?fundraiser_source=external_url>

Well done Finley and good luck!

**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.

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| **Timid to Tiger Course run by staff in school starting Wednesday 25th May 1:3pm**  **A series of workshops to support parents with anxious children.**  Do you need strategies to help with behaviours that your child may show and that you find difficult ?  Do you need strategies to build your child’s self confidence?  Help them with their worries and fears ?  **Areas covered are**:  -Building child bonds  -Understanding fears and worries  -Managing worry  -Praise and reward  -Setting boundaries  -Attention  -Consequences  **Interested? Want to know more?**  If you would like more information or to sign up ,please ask to speak to Mrs Layzell or Mrs Canniford or call 01404 548749 and ask to speak to us.  There will be 9 sessions, **one afternoon a week on Wednesday 1.30pm to 3.00pm in our community room. There will be cake**! |

**New late sign in system**

A reminder that this week we have begun our new system using the screen in Reception. **All pupils who are late have to be signed in by an adult on the screen** by our reception desk inside the white internal doors. Parent/carers are to sign the child in and record the reason for lateness for records. Mrs Bruce will be on hand to support this.

**Summer uniform**

Now we are in the Summer Term, children are able to wear Summer uniform. This includes blue and white gingham dresses for girls and grey shorts for boys. Remember that PE hoodies are not school uniform for non PE days and should only be worn as part of PE kit.

**Week Beginning 2nd May 2022 events**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday 2nd May** | **Tuesday 3rd May** | **Wednesday 4th May** | **Thursday 5th May** | **Friday 6th May** |
| Bank holiday |  |  | Y4 Escot trip | Reception outdoor classroom |
|  |  |  | Nursery outdoor classroom | Y4 Escot trip |

**PTFA news**



**DOUGHNUTS – FRIDAY 20TH MAY**

After the success of the last doughnut sale our next ‘doughnut day’ is on Friday 20th May. You should have received an order form this week to pre-order boxes of 12 for £10 or 6 for £5. Please make sure your pre-orders are in by next Friday (6th May). Individual doughnuts will be available to buy on the day.

**SCHOOL DIAMOND JUBILEE PICNIC – THURSDAY 26TH MAY**

We will be holding a school community picnic on the afternoon of Thursday 26th May to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee. This will include children, parents and members of the wider community and we will have music, food and a chance to all celebrate together. The children will be asked to provide a donation of food to bring and share with their year group. They will be taking part in different activities during the morning associated with the Jubilee, and they can wear non-uniform or Red, White and Blue. Further details will be sent out soon and we hope that as many parents as possible will be able to join us.

**SCHOOL DISCO – FRIDAY 10TH JUNE**

We will be having a school disco on Friday 10th June. It has been a long time since we were able to have a disco and I know many of the children really enjoy these evenings.

**Key Stage 1** (nursery to year 2) **6-7pm**

**Key Stage 2** (year 3 to year 6) **7.15pm – 8.15pm**

Children must be collected from the school hall and will not be allowed to leave unaccompanied.

**£2.50 entrance fee to include crisps and drinks**.

If your child has any allergies or medical conditions which we might need to be aware of whilst your child is at the disco please let us know.

There will always be members of staff present but the PTFA are ultimately responsible for the running of the disco. We want everyone to enjoy their evening and work hard to make this happen. Any children who persistently misbehave may be prevented from attending future discos.

If you would like to help serve drinks or do tattoos on the night,

please message us on facebook or email us ptfa@littletownacademy.org

**SUMMER FETE**

The Summer Fete will be on Friday 24th June from 3.15pm. We are looking forward to this after not being able to hold one for a couple of years. There will be stalls, games, refreshments, a barbecue and entertainment so it promises to be a fun afternoon. If anyone has or knows of a business that may be willing to sponsor the fete or donate raffle prizes then please contact us.

Please make a note of the date and come along to support us. We will also be selling raffle tickets in the run up to the fete.

We will need helpers both setting up the fete and helping in the afternoon with selling refreshments, manning stalls and the barbecue, and face painting. Please contact us if you are able to offer us some time, even if it is just for half an hour. These events cannot take place without volunteers.