

 10th January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

May I start by welcoming you all back to school and wishing you all a Happy New year! I hope you all had a wonderful festive period. It was, as always, great to start the term with our ACE assemblies celebrating the attitude, commitment and effort of 42 children across the school on Tuesday and to hear about the children’s Christmas and New Year celebrations.

Those of you who enter the school via the front entrance will have noticed the new garden and landscaping we have outside the school offices. Many parents have given feedback to me on how great the garden looks and the staff can’t wait to begin using it with the children as the weather improves. I would like to once again state our huge thanks to Mr and Mrs Payne for driving and coordinating this project on our behalf over the Christmas holidays. A number of different local companies also helped us greatly by either donating or significantly discounting products, services and labour. A massive thank you for this to: Axe Skip Hire, Chipper Hire South West, East Devon Tree Care, Blamphayne Sawmills and Combe Garden Centre. Without their help the project would not have been possible.

On Tuesday, Mrs Sillitoe, Chair of Governors, and I met with Cllr Mike Allen about the future development of the town and Littletown community. We made representations about the capacity of the school compared to the amount of houses being built, the decline in the usage of the neighboring children’s centre and the continued dereliction of the adjacent Millwater site. Cllr Allen is currently in the process of forming a group of willing people to assist in constructing a Neighborhood Plan. Neighbourhood plans are an integral way to ensure that the views and concerns of local people are considered in wider East Devon Infrastructure Plans. More information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2> If you think you might be willing and able to contribute to the development of this plan then please let me know so I can pass on your details.

Next week on Monday Year 3 begin their swimming at the leisure centre. On Tuesday Year 4 visit Plymouth Aquarium to launch their Cornerstone topic on Blue Abyss. Also on Tuesday, Year 1 and Year 2 parents are invited to a parent information evening on Maths at 6pm. As I have mentioned before, we are monitoring the attendance of these evenings in order to evaluate whether they are continued. On Friday Year 3 hold their express event for Mighty Metals at 9am. Next Friday evening is the return of the school disco. Please see information from the PTFA below.

Thank you to parents who have ensured that their children are in the classroom for 9am this week. Please see below the reminder about punctuality at the start of the school day and get in touch if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**News from the children**

**Nursery**

We have been talking about our pets.

We had 10 new friends join our school.

**Reception**

We have been learning ‘one less’ in power maths.

We have been reading fairy tales.

**Year 1**

We started a new topic.

A spaceship landed in our playground.

**Year 2**

We have started a new book.

We have started a new topic.

**Year 3**

We have been preparing magnetic experiments for express event

We have started a new book in literacy called the Kapok Tree

**Year 4**

We have been doing work with Atlases

We have started a new topic about the oceans

**Year 5**

We have started a new topic called Alchemy Island.

We have been taking and editing pictures of portals.

**Year 6**

We have dissected a pig’s heart

We have started Algebra in Maths

**Staff news**

This week we officially welcome Mrs Rossiter to our teaching team as she begins a contract teaching in Year 2 alongside Mrs Bentham.

We also welcome Alice Catcher to Year 4 as she begins her School Centered Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) placement with us for the Spring Term.

This term also sees an increase in Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) provision at Littletown with Mrs. Childs working alongside Mrs Trim as SENCO. This means Littletown has a working SENCO in school Monday to Friday and makes us one of the best resourced schools in this key area of school staffing.

**Messages**

**Punctuality at the start of school day**

As mentioned in the last newsletter of 2019 we are working to ensure a punctual start to the school day from this week onwards. As a reminder, doors open at 8:50am. Registration closes and doors close at 9am - this is when lessons start. Please ensure your child is at school and in the classroom ready to learn at 9am. Children will be recorded as being late if they arrive after 9am. Many thanks for your cooperation. Please do get in touch if you have any questions.

**Week beginning 13th January 2020:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| Y3 Swimming | Y4 trip to Plymouth AquariumKS1 (Y1 and Y2) Maths Parent information evening 6pm |  | Nursery outdoor classroom | Y3 Express Event 9amSchool Disco - KS1 6-7KS2 7:15 - 8:15 |

**PTFA News**



DISCO: The first school disco of 2020 is on Friday 17th January.

Foundation and KS1 disco 6 - 7pm, where all children need an adult supervising them.

KS2 7.15 - 8.15pm, all children to sign in and will need collecting from the hall at the end of the disco.

The toy shop will not be open for both discos until all the children are in the hall safely. The toy shop will close 10 mins before the end of each disco.

We really need helpers to make this run smoothly so please email ptfa@littletownacademy.org or see Mrs Clarke or Mrs Davis if you are able to help at either disco.

Look forward to seeing you there