

Friday 2nd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the month of September comes to an end and the weather reminds us we are clearly in October, we can reflect on what a strange, unique, but positive month it has been, welcoming everyone back to Littletown. School does now feel very settled in terms of all the protocols and procedures we have in place. Thanks to all staff, parents and children making up our ‘Littletown BigTeam’ for making this so successful so far. We are also seeing more and more elements of school life operate within the new ways of working. Peripatetic music lessons began last week, Nursery have been baking Gingerbread men, Year 4 have enjoyed Outdoor classroom and 3RB/GH have visited the River Gissage this week (3JS/SD postponed to November due to weather).

Year 6 have also selected House captains and Prefects for the year. Congratulations to our new House Captains: Maple - Thomas and Niamh

Beech - Chloe and Freya

Oak - Noah and Hallie

Ash - Mya and Erin

Congratulations to our new Prefects: Poppy, Joshua, Katelyn, Ruby, Edward, Ruby, Amber, Bria, Jorga, Eloise and Roxy

I would like to thank the staff team and especially Mrs Hawkins for running the school and moving the school forwards so well in my absence of Paternity Leave. It was slightly surreal, but also great to experience the school as a Nursery parent for two weeks and to join you all in the queues for the playground! Thank you again for all the best wishes to me and my family on the birth of our baby Florence.

On Wednesday you should have received a letter about Parent Consultation phone calls. Please make sure you fill in the google form for your child’s class so these calls are as successful as possible.

Next week is Mental Wellbeing week featuring the annual Hello Yellow Day. This has been a focus for us with the children since returning to school, but this week will include a focus on the mental wellbeing for children, staff and parents at a time where I’m sure you will all agree it has never been more important. My thanks to Mrs Davis and her team for putting this brilliant week together. Please see further details from Mrs Davis below in this newsletter.

Finally, my thanks to the vast majority of parents for adhering to the staggered timings and waiting accordingly despite the wet weather this week. I know it's not easy standing in the rain watching other people go in.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**Mental Wellbeing Week and Hello Yellow Day**

Next week is the first of our Mental Wellbeing Weeks we are holding in school this academic year. Each of the weeks will coincide with a national mental health campaign. On Friday 9th October we will be raising money for Young Minds, a charity which supports children and young people coping with mental health issues. For a donation of 50 per child/£1 per family, children may come to school in non school uniform and/or dressed in something yellow. During the week the children and staff will be involved in lots of activities to support mental wellbeing. We have also been working with the Parent Support Hub and during the week we will be emailing out various parent support leaflets which we hope you will find helpful.

**Coats**

With the importance of time being spent outside being key to our Covid risk assessment and the start and end of day procedures resulting in more time outside, please make sure that your child has a coat each day they come to school.

**Breakfast and After School club booking**

Last week, Mrs Hawkins shared with you that we are now relaxing the rules about booking extra curricular provision to a two week cycle. If your sessions are the same each week, we will repeat your first booking form unless we have notification of alteration. To clarify, this does not mean that if your arrangements remain unchanged you have to refresh your booking every two weeks. It just allows more flexibility to parents who may need it. With tight capping of 15 pupils between two year group bubbles, we have to continue to ensure payment for initial bookings are taken in order to cover staffing costs. Can I also ask all parents using our provisions to complete an up-to-date registration form please. This is an annual requirement so that we have current medical and contact numbers for our records. If you haven't had a chance to use our booking or registration forms yet, please follow the links below.

**Registration form :**<https://forms.gle/pzEx85x2TCMLMs8KA>

**Booking form :**<https://forms.gle/joDayGpejWKdvYQw6>

**Honiton Community College video for Y6 families**

Year 6 families should have received the link to the HCC online video for next year’s Year 7. For those interested, here is the link: <https://www.honitoncollege.com/year6virtualopenevening>