Friday 8th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I will start by saying what a lovely day we have had today as we hold our ‘Hello Yellow’ day in school. This has marked the end of our first Mental Wellbeing week of the year. There has been lots happening around this important area we value so highly as a school and we have also raised £227.68 for Young Minds and the school towards wellbeing spaces. You can read more about our wellbeing week from Mrs Davis below. My thanks to her and the team for making this a great week for the children and staff.

You will know we have had other events befall us this week. I have been so impressed with the overall behaviour of the children this week where we had such disruption. As you know, on Monday a power outage left us with limited and sporadic electricity in the school which persisted throughout the day and evening. I’m pleased that we were able to work with Western Power to ensure that power was restored to the school for Tuesday. I would like to thank Kirsty and the team in the kitchen for responding so quickly so that children could be fed. My thanks also to Mrs Hawkins and Senior Leaders for dealing with this so well in my absence on Monday and thank you to all of you for your understanding. We have been reassured that this should have been an isolated incident and don’t anticipate this happening again. We have also suffered high levels of staff absence this week. All our school infrastrucutres and curriculum approaches ensure high levels of continuity of learning despite staff absence and again, children have shown us great maturity and behaviour too.

This week it was also great to see the after school Choir start with over 70 children singing joyful songs in the hall. Year 3 had a good day doing outdoor classroom on Tuesday constructing wormeries.

Next week, Year 2 have outdoor classroom with 2AL on Monday and 2CL/DB on Friday. On Monday we will be holding the PTFA AGM at school at 3:30pm and we look forward to seeing lots of you there. Next Friday we are excited to be hosting our first inter school sport event since March 2020 when we welcome Honiton Primary School for a Year 5 and 6 Dodgeball match. On Thursday and Friday next week, some of the Senior Leadership Team and I will be attending the Devon School Leadership conference in order to take part in some high quality training and networking and discussing educational matters other than Covid-19! Remaining members of the Senior Leadership team will be released in order to ensure smooth operation of the school on these days. Details can be found below. I will still be able to be contacted via email on these days.

Finally, a reminder that next week is our last week of this half term as we have our two week half term.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**News from pupil reporters**

**Nursery**

This week, nursery children made cakes out of playdough.

**Reception**

This week, reception made paper chains in funky fingers and made bunting to decorate the classroom.

**Year 1**

This week year 1 have been learning about the five senses and subitising (recognising numbers from patterns).

**Year 2**

This week year 2 have been decorating their classroom and have made a photobooth.

**Year 3**

This week we have been making tishey paper for hello yellow day and making people.

**Year 4**

This week, we have been making paper bees for hello yellow day and paper chains.

**Year 5**

This week we have been looking at the different aspects of Tudor life. Did you know that in tudor schools they used a horn book? A horn book is a flat piece of wood with the alphabet and the Lord's prayer. We have also been reading the Queen of the Falls book.

**Year 6**

This week, we have been doing division in maths. Also we have been making flowers for hello yellow day. We have been doing a blitz poster and learning about the star of fear and the star of hope.

**Mental Wellbeing week this week**

This week lots of various activities have been happening as part of our Mental Wellbeing week. Our Mental Wellbeing Ambassadors have been holding a design a logo competition and children have been busy decorating classrooms in yellow with wellbeing messages. Assemblies have focussed on kindness and for older children, the disciplines of self soothe and self talk. Bulbs have been planted around school and today we had a whole school dressed in yellow as we raised money for school spaces and the charity Young Minds. More information about the work of Young Minds can be found here:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>

**Breakfast club timings**

Please can I remind you that in order for us to be able to provide children with breakfast they must be in Breakfast Club by 8:20am. We have to give use of the kitchen over to Fresha staff at 8:30am for school dinners preparation. We don’t want any children to go hungry, but we can’t offer breakfast options after 8:30am.

**Scooters**

Please can I remind all parents you are welcome to use the school scooter racks if your children are scooting to school however, please remind your children they must walk their scooters once on the playgrounds and they are not to use each other's scooters. some of the younger children have been having a go on scooters which don't belong to them.

**Parent Governor election**

This week you should have received a letter regarding the election of a new Parent Governor for the school. Please get in touch with the school if you are interested or have any questions.

**Senior Leadership cover arrangements Thursday and Friday next week**

The following Senior Leaders will be released at these points to assist with the operation of the school: Thursday am Mrs Wright and Mrs Childs

Thursday pm Mr Luxton and Mrs Childs

Friday am Mrs Davis and Mrs Childs

Friday pm Mrs Heywood and Mrs Childs

School office will be operating as normal and Mr Perkins can be contacted via email at

head@littletown.devon.sch.uk

**Burns awareness day**

Next Wednesday is Burns Awareness Day from the Children’s Burns Trust. Since spending more time at home due to Covid-19 there has been a significant increase in children burn injuries. Burns are an injury for life and can be life changing, but nearly all are preventable. Over 5000 children between 2 and 5 years old suffer burn injuries every year and 1,758 injuries between 5 and 14 years old. Here is a link to some excellent information to support parents in preventing burn accidents:

<https://www.cbtrust.org.uk/learning-zone/parents-carers-and-professionals/>