

***Live . Love . Learn - Littletown***

Friday 14th October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

This afternoon I am writing to you from Devon School Leadership conference where headteachers from across the County have heard from lots of excellent speakers and collaborated on school improvement priorities. My thanks to the Senior Leadership Team members who have been ensuring effective running of the school these last two days.

This week has been our first wellbeing week of the year which traditionally features our ‘Hello Yellow’ day. This year, we raised £160 for the children's Mental Health Charity Young Minds. You may have seen in the media the concerning statistics about child and adolescent Mental Health and the crisis that support services are under. Since my arrival at the school in 2018 we have always ensured Littletown pupils consider and learn about their Mental Health and wellbeing alongside their Physical health. You can find lots of great photos of the children and what they got up to on Tuesday on our Littletown Primary Academy Facebook page and make sure you check out our Mind Apples display in Reception when you next visit the office. My thanks to Mrs Davis, our staff wellbeing team and our Mental Health Ambassadors for making this such a successful week.

Also on Tuesday, our Year 5/6 Netball team took part in the first of three Honiton schools competitions at Honiton Primary School. Mr Bilcock was impressed with the behaviour of the children and how they played with one team winning all except one of their games.

Lots of children have enjoyed outdoor classrooms this week with Year 3 children creating nature art and cave paintings, Year 2 identified different leaves and made leaf sun catchers and Year 1 built dens with specific design criteria including being stable and being able to fit 4 friends inside it.

Thanks to those who have contacted me to volunteer in our library. We’re still looking for a couple more if possible so please spread the word and get in touch with me if you think you can help.

head@littletown.devon.sch.uk

Thanks to those who attended the PTFA Annual General Meeting on Monday. My thanks to the committee for all their hard work and commitment. I hope you all enjoy the doughnuts this afternoon.

On Sunday, don’t forget we are looking for a massive Littletown turn out at the Cranbrook Park Run!! Please see all the information from Mrs Hudson Pike and Miss Bodgin at the bottom of the newsletter.

When we return after half term children receive Flu immunisations on the Tuesday of which you should have received information. Here is a reminder of the details:

To consent to, or to decline the flu vaccination for your child please click on the link below:

<https://schoolimms.hcrgcaregroup.com/flu/2022/devon>

Please note that this link will **close at midnight on: Tuesday 18th October 2022**.

It is important that you respond prior to this date for your child to receive their flu immunisation at the school session as there will only be one visit to school this season.

If you have any difficulties with completing the consent form, please contact the Immunisation Team Tel: 0300 247 0082 (lines are open 9.00 until 16.30) or Email: vcl.immunisations@nhs.net

Please see below exciting news about our working with Radio Exe to promote the importance of staying safe and active, and easing congestion on Devon’s roads.

Finally, today we break up for a two week half term. Governors met on Monday to discuss the consultation of staff and parents that took place on the continuation of the two week half term. After consideration and discussion the Governing Board decided to keep a two week half term, but to move it to May half term. This was a popular suggestion in both staff and parent consultation feedback. The Governors and I appreciate that there is a full range of views on this subject and that whatever was decided, some parents would be unhappy with the decision. The decision has been made in the overall best interests for Littletown, children, families and staff. As this decision represents a change to what has gone before, this will initially be reviewed annually by the Board. This means in the next academic year (2023-2024) the October half term will be one week and the May half term will be two weeks. Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any questions. For now, I wish you all a great couple of weeks and I look forward to seeing you all back at school on Monday 31st October.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**Children’s news**

**Nursery:** this week we made delicious mini pizzas! We also made yellow happy chicks for Hello Yellow day!

**Reception:** this week we have been drawing families, people and houses. We also had great fun on Hello Yellow day.

**Year 1**: we had outdoor classroom.

**Year 2:** we made masks in outdoor classroom, learnt how to use our number bonds to ten and about Judaism for R.E.

**Year 3:** on Tuesday in outdoor classroom we did cave painting and we are doing our writing assessment where we have been focusing on paragraphs.

**Year 4:** we finished our egg experiment. In literacy we are reading ‘**Gorilla**’ and in history we are looking at the Anglo Saxons.

**Year 5:**  made Hello Yellow paper chains, learnt more about basketball in P.E, learnt about lines, tones and shades in art and completed a test on ‘**Queen of the falls**’.

**Year 6:** made sunflowers for Hello Yellow, information pages about vultures, African colour patterns and in

science made artificial blood.

**Mental Wellbeing**

Our first wellbeing week of the academic year was held this week, with lots of children dressing in yellow to support Young Minds! Thank you to everyone who supported us and all the money raised will go straight to the Young Minds charity. In assembly, children learnt about the difference between small and big feelings and who they can talk to if their feelings become too big to cope with. Attached to this week’s newsletter is a signposting leaflet to help signpost you to different organisations which are there to support parents. On Thursday, the Wellbeing Ambassadors received their training from Mrs Luxton on the various wellbeing initiatives we have running in the school as well as how to be good listeners. All the staff have been adding their Mindapples to the Mindapple tree in the foyer, please take a look next time you are in school.

**Cranbrook Park run Sunday 16th October**

Dear Parents,

Every week thousands of young children, aged between 4 and 14, take part in Junior Park Runs across the country. Each Junior Park Run is run over a distance of 2km. They are open to all, free, and are safe and easy to take part in.

On Sunday 16th October, staff from Littletown will be at Cranbrook Country Park Junior Parkrun and we would love for as many children from Littletown as possible to come and join us and take part in a Junior Parkrun. Other local schools have been invited to take part in these events and it is a fantastic opportunity to show that we have active children here at Littletown.

You will need to register your child/children if they wish to take part, but this is free and simple to do <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/register/>

Once registered, you can print off barcodes that are unique to each child. The children simply run with their barcode in their hand and this is scanned at the finish line to record their time. Parkrun will then email you (at the address given when registering) by Sunday afternoon to give you lots of details about the run (for example how long it took them).

If you do decide to bring your children along on Sunday 16th October, could they please be in Littletown PE kit. We promise to get a shout out from the announcer before the run begins! The run begins at 9.00am prompt and most people are gathered at the start from about 8.50am. The run will be completed by 9.30am at the latest.

Please note that all staff will be there in a supporting capacity only and will not have responsibility for your children. Please do run to accompany your child as they need to be with an adult at all times.

See you there!

Miss Bodgin and Mrs Hudson-Pike

**Walk to school Monday 31st October**

Radio Exe is going back to school! Devon's only commercial station is teaming up with Littletown Primary Academy to promote the importance of staying safe, and active and easing congestion on Devon’s roads.

They want pupils, parents and teachers to come together and walk to school with a team from Radio Exe and Vision Zero South, plus you could also pick up your own hi-vis jackets – but you’ve got to be quick its first come, first serve. Join us on Monday 31 October at 8 AM at Willow Walk Park – and walk to school with us!

If you live near Willow Walk and want to walk to school with Mr Priddle and the Radio Exe Team, meet us there at 8am. If you normally walk to school with your parents, they will need to do the walk too as we are not supervising the walk to school.

TIMINGS

8:00 am | Meet the Radio Exe and Vision Zero SW team at Willow Walk, Honiton

• 30 hi-vis jackets will be handed out to pupils –it’s first come, first serve

• Radio Exe will record a short pre-recorded piece of audio for broadcast

• Vision Zero South West interviews will also take place with parents and children

08:10 am | We set off and walk to school

08:20 am | Littletown Academy

• Photos/videos with Radio Exe – photo opportunities (please make sure you only attend this if you are happy for you and your child to appear online and in newspapers.

• Vision Zero South West interviews

08:40 am | Event ends at Littletown Primary Academy.

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**Week Beginning 31st October 2022 events**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday 31st October** | **Tuesday 1st November** | **Wednesday 2nd November** | **Thursday 3rd November** | **Friday 4th November** |
|  | Flu immunisations |  | Nursery Outdoor classroom | Reception Outdoor classroom |