



LITTLETOWN PRIMARY ACADEMY and NURSERY

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Live • Love • Learn - Littletown

Friday 10th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Even though it is the 10th I will still start by wishing you all a Happy new year! It has been great to see all the children return to school this week and hear about their Christmases. It already seems a long time ago we were welcoming you all to the hall and church for Christmas performances. Time goes quickly. It is inconceivable to me how this week marks 7 years since I started as Principal at Littletown!

Thank you for your cooperation with our procedures for dropping off with the ice yesterday. My thanks again to Mr Jeffery for making safe paths across what was an incredibly slippery playground first thing in the morning so we could open safely at the usual time.

This week, on Tuesday, some of our children from across Key Stage 2 attended a coordination event at Honiton leisure centre. We also had some of our Year 4 children attend their first swimming session of the year and some Year 5 and 6 children taking part in the latest round of the Bee Netball at Honiton Primary School and they are now through to the semi-finals.

Today, you should have received curriculum newsletters from the teachers. Please do get in touch if you have any questions.

Next week, on Monday afternoon, we welcome M and M productions for a pantomime for the children which is a lovely way to start the new year. My thanks to the PTFA for funding this experience for all the children. Year 4 will go for their second swimming session on Tuesday.

It's the start of term, so please see reminders about attendance along with drop off and pick up arrangements below in this newsletter.

Here's to a wonderful 2025 at Littletown.

Yours faithfully

David Perkins
Principal

Children's news

Welcome to new editors; Alice, Amelia, Phoebe and Leo and to our new reporters; Esme, Sophia, Phoebe-Rae, Arthur, Toby, Ernie and Jasper.

Nursery

This week, we have been making junk model vehicles.

Reception

In Reception this week we have been learning about space and making 3D and 2D rockets.

Year 1

In year 1 this week we learnt to count to 20 and learnt about landmarks in Geography and a snow dance!

Year 2

We started a new book called Trolls and we had a new year's eve party. In RE, we had a Buddhist new year celebration.

Year 3

We have started our new book in English "stone age boy." In Maths, we have started to learn the more than, less than and equal to symbols. Also in Maths, we are learning the 10X (times) table. In Geography we have been learning the layers of the Earth.

Year 4

In DT, we have started fabrics. In Maths, we have been learning to times and divide by 100.

Year 5

We have started a new pathways to read book and have started long multiplication in Maths. In Literacy, we have started a new book called Arther and the Golden Rope. It is really fun, but we have only read a few pages so far.

Year 6

We have started learning about the Arctic and Antarctic in Geography and we are about to start the 5 power challenge . We have started a new fun topic in Maths all about ratios.

January Safeguarding update:

This month the safeguarding focus is on helping to keep our children safe outside of school. Please find attached our 'Dropping off and Picking up Before and After School Procedures' and a link to the NSPCC guidance on when to let your children stay home alone or go out without adult supervision.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/media/3271/home-or-out-alone-guide.pdf>

Attendance

Our Attendance Policy is inline with the Devon Model Policy/Government Guidance and our approach is in line with DfE expectations and as a result, the same as the vast majority of other schools. Please see below a summary of the key information and changes for parents/carers:

Attendance and Registration

- Attendance target is 97%
- Persistent absence is defined as under 90% attendance
- Persistent lateness is defined as 5 or more late marks recorded in a single half term
- The School day starts at 8.50am
- A pupil will receive a late mark if they are not in their classroom by 8.55am
- The register closes at 9.20am
- It is the parent/carer's responsibility to inform the school if their pupil is absent (each day) before 8.50am

Medical and Illness

- As far as possible, medical and dental appointments should be made outside of the school day
- Children are expected to attend school for as much of the day as possible on the day of appointment.

- Evidence of medical and dental appointments may be requested.
- If an illness lasts for 5 days or more parents may be asked for medical evidence

Holidays

- Request for leave is defined as exceptional circumstances, holidays are not usually considered as exceptional circumstances. Unauthorised holidays will be referred to County.

Monitoring

- The school monitors attendance of all pupils closely and reports data every 6 weeks
- The school will notify parents/carers by letter or phone if attendance is low, support will be offered to help improve a pupil's attendance, which may lead to external agency support or court involvement if required
- Specific information regarding the schools' possible statutory action following persistent absence and persistent lateness can be found under section 8 of the policy
- The Education Act 1996 states 'a parent commits an offence if they fail to ensure their child's regular attendance at a school they are registered with'

Safeguarding

- A pupil's attendance is fundamental to a pupil's safeguarding.

The full Attendance policy can be found on the school website.

Mental Wellbeing

Parental Minds continue to offer a range of support for families, both online and in-person, including their regular hubs and 1:1 bookable support sessions.

Face to Face Support Hubs

The hubs provide a safe space for families to connect, share, and receive support.

- Exeter Hub: Tuesdays at John Lewis Community Room
- Sidmouth Hub: Wednesdays at All Saints Church
- Online Hub: Various dates via Teams

1:1 Bookable Support

They offer personalised 1:1 support sessions via Teams for families who need more focused help.

Workshops for Families

This month, they are offering two key workshops designed specifically to support families caring for loved ones:

1. New Maudsley Approach – Caring for a Loved One with an Eating Disorder
A 4-part workshop for families, offering tools and techniques to support a loved one with an eating disorder.
 - Starts: Tuesday 23rd January 2025 | 19:00 – 21:00 | Online via Zoom Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/ParentalMindsEating>
2. Meltdowns & Shutdowns Skills Workshop
This workshop focuses on how families can support a loved one (and themselves) during a meltdown or shutdown.
 - Date: Monday 27th January 2025 | 19:15 – 20:45 | Online via Zoom Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/PMSWMeltdown25>

Family Hub Newsletter

Parent/carers the January newsletter from Devon family hubs is now available to view online. They have lots of tips and advice for what can be a tricky time of the year. This month, there is information on challenging behaviour and sleep ideas for all the family. This can be accessed by searching for Devon family hubs newsletter January.

Happy Families, Happy Futures Devon

The Happy Families, Happy Futures programme are now available for parents to book. This is a free service provided for families. These programmes are aimed at supporting parents, both together and separated, to help reduce parental conflict, develop positive communication and problem solving, to manage emotions and to create a more positive environment for their children. More information can be found Parental Relationships- Devon Children and Families partnership. Or, find me on the playground, each morning, if you would like more information about this.

Week Beginning 13th January 2025 events

Monday 13th January	Tuesday 14th January	Wednesday 15th January	Thursday 16th January	Friday 17th January
Pantomime at school pm	Y4 Swimming			

PTFA

Please find attached to this Newsletter the Flyer and table with the google links for the upcoming Neon school Disco on Friday 24th January. Please copy and paste the correct year groups link into your search engine to book. Payments can be made by Bacs or cash payments can be given to the Reception desk or paid on the night.

Community news

Honiton Community Theatre Presents: JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

Event Details:

Tuesday 18th - Saturday 22nd February 2025 | 2pm & 7:00 PM

Running Time: 2 hours 30 minutes with interval.

Ticket Prices:

Early Bird Adult £14 Under 12's £11 (Available until 02/01/2025)

General Admission: Adults £15, Under 12's £12

Group Bookings: 1 adult goes free with 8 children's tickets (Available until 02/01/2025)

About the Show:

Join us as we take you to the Land of Make Believe where Jack, Jimmy and Dame Trot take to the skies and back in their quest to rescue Jill when she is taken prisoner by Giant Grimm and his henchmen Bloodshot & Squint! Following hotly on their trail Squire Grabbem is after his overdue rent money. Land of Make Believe where Jack, Jimmy and Dame Trot take to the skies and back in their quest to rescue Jill when she is taken

prisoner by Giant Grimm and his henchmen Bloodshot & Squint! Following hotly on their trail Squire Grabbem is after his overdue rent money.

Watch in amazement as the beans, swapped for a bag of gold after selling Cow Pat at auction, are transformed into a beanstalk reaching into the clouds.

Filled with fast paced action, lively songs and a smattering of pies, Jack and the Beanstalk is a fresh fun filled Pantomime for the whole family to enjoy so join us on a retelling of everyone's favourite story!.