



Loving one another, building each other up

Littledean C of E Primary School Newsletter 3

22nd September 2023

Dear Parents,

Rags to Riches Clothing Collection – Wednesday 20th September



Thank you for your kind donations, we collected 25 bags and raised £30.90 for the school.

Our next collection will take place on 24th January 2024

School Photographs

The children should have brought home their photos earlier this week. Online orders only this time, please order by Wednesday 4th October 2023 for free delivery to school. Orders can be placed after this but will incur a delivery charge.

Thank you



Changes to Forest Schools Sessions

We have made a few changes for Forest Schools Sessions

Thursday Holly Leaves and Holly Berries Classes (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) will take part in Forest Schools Sessions

Friday Holly Leaves Class (Reception), and Pre-School children will take part in Forest Schools Sessions

We ask the children wear their forest schools kit to school on these days.

Long Sleeved top, long trousers, wellington boots, waterproof coat and trouser if you have them. Also a spare pair of socks is always useful.

Attendance, Absences and Lateness

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| Governors Attendance Target | 96.5% |
| School Attendance 4/9/23 – 21/9/23 | 96.8% |

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| Lateness/Lost Learning 4/9/23 – 21/9/23 | 459 minutes (7 hours 39 minutes) |
| | 17 children have been late on at least one occasion |

School attendance and absence is high on the Governments agenda, therefore it is a priority for us. We understand that some mornings don't go as planned but persistent lateness needs to be addressed. Please aim to arrive at school on time, school starts at 8.40 a.m. and a member of staff is available in the playground from 8.30 a.m. If you have any concerns please speak with us.

If children arrive in school after the gates have been locked at 8.45 a.m. they must report to main reception, if as a parent, you are leaving the school site and let children through please remind them to go to reception door – thank you.

During registration 8.40 – 8.55 vital interventions occur, children also have the opportunity to practice spellings for the weekly spelling tests, improve handwriting skills, practice timetables and maths skills and read. Where children are persistently late they will be required to carry out this work later during the school day so that they do not fall behind in their learning.

A reminder that if your child is ill and unable to attend school please contact the school by telephone, 01594 822171, an answer phone is available. Please do not send an email as these may not be picked up until later in the school day.

Thank you for your co-operation

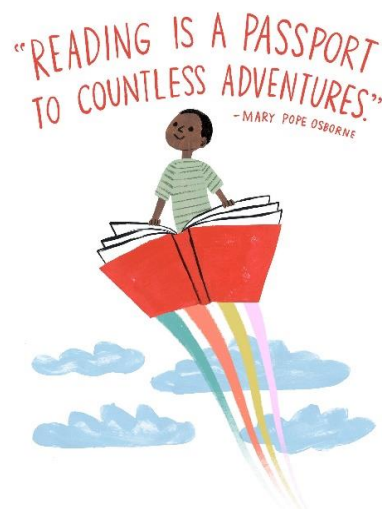
Go Read / Boom Reader App

Last week the children brought home a letter about our Go Read / Boom Reader App.

We ask that parents sign into the app and record any reading your child does at home.

We also use the app in school so we both should have a good record of reading progress.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.



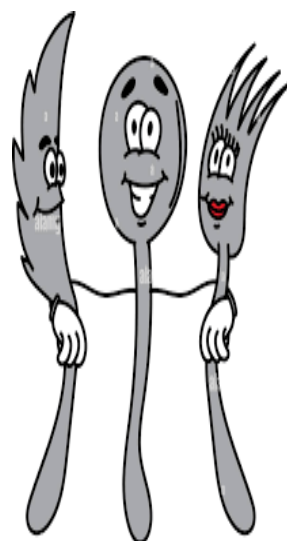
School Census Day – Hot School Meals – Thursday 5th October 2023

5th October is the national schools census day. School funding for the next financial year (April – March) is based on number of children registered at school on this day, also numbers who are on the SEND register, free school meals register and even those who eat a school meal on this day. So as to maximise the amount of funding we can receive we will hold a special meal on the Thursday and encourage everyone to try a hot school meal.

Thursday's Menu will be:

Hot dog or Vegetarian Hotdog with Chips Coleslaw and Salad and Syrup Sponge and Custard for pudding.

The weekly menu slips will reflect these changes. Please ensure menu slips are handed in during registration on a Monday morning. A hot meal costs £2.54 daily £12.70 weekly, (Pre-school £2.55 daily £12.75 weekly) and should be paid for in advance through our online payment system www.parentpay.com. Those children who are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 are entitled to a free meal under the Universal infant free school meal scheme, as are those entitled to free school meals.



Harvest Celebrations



Once again as part of our harvest celebrations will ask our school community to donate if possible towards the Forest Food Bank. We know what an essential service they provide not only to our community but across the Forest of Dean. Our Harvest Service will be held on Friday 6th October 2023 at St Ethelberts Church.



Further information about the Forest Foodbank can be found at <https://theforest.foodbank.org.uk/>

Would your child like to play in their very own rock band?

Rocksteady in-school band lessons are the perfect opportunity for your child to learn new skills, develop friendships and have the time of their life.

Watch this short video to see what learning in a band could do for your child's well-being:

<https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/watch-video/>

Rock Steady sessions take place every Friday morning in the Hall. For further information, please contact Rock Steady directly on 0330 1130330.



X (Formerly Twitter) account

Miss May has been very busy keeping our X (twitter) feed up to date and sharing our achievements with our twitter community. We can be found at @littledeansch. The feed is also available on the school website

www.littledeanprimary.co.uk



Emergency Closure Procedures

Hopefully we won't need to do this this year but just in case we need to close the school, here is a reminder of our procedures. Please ensure that we have up to date contact details for you.

If we need to close the school we will:

- Send you a text message / email through Eschools
- Announce the closure on Radio Gloucestershire – 104.7 fm
- Post the closure on <https://closures.gloucestershire.gov.uk/> (please note new address)
- Post the closure on our school website www.littledeanprimary.co.uk
- Post the closure on our X/twitter feed - @littledeansch
- If possible a member of staff will be on site to advise of the closure.

Year 6 – moving to secondary school

A number of secondary schools are holding their open days in the next few weeks, if you wish to visit secondary schools during the school day we ask that you let us know in advance. Many thanks.

Holiday Requests

We all look forward to a holiday away from home but, before you book, please remember that the Governments guidance remains very clear that we cannot authorise holiday requests in term time. Any requests submitted will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. You may also be fined for taking your child out of school during term time.



Term Dates 2023 / 2024

These are also available on our website

https://www.littledeanprimary.co.uk/website/term_dates/198634

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| Term 1 | Monday 4 th September 2023 – Friday 27 th October 2023 |
| Term 2 | Monday 6 th November 2023 – Friday 22 nd December 2023 |
| Term 3 | Monday 8 th January 2024 – Friday 9 th February 2024 |
| Term 4 | Monday 19 th February 2024 – Friday 22 nd March 2024 |
| Term 5 | Monday 8 th April 2024 – Friday 24 th May 2024 |
| Term 6 | Monday 3 rd June 2024 – Monday 22 nd July 2024 |

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| INSET Days | 1 | 4 th September 2023 |
| | 2 | 5 th September 2023 |
| | 3 | 22 nd December 2023 |
| | 4 | 8 th April 2024 |
| | 5 | 22 nd July 2024 |

Diary Dates

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| Saturday 23 rd September | Pre-Loved School Uniform Sale – front playground 10.00-12.00 |
| Wednesday 27 th September | Pre-School closed for Staff Training |
| Wednesday 27 th September | Full Governing Board Meeting |
| Thursday 5 th October | Special Census Menu |
| Friday 6 th October | Harvest Service at St Ethelberts Church |
| Tuesday 10 th October | Leadership and Management Governors Meeting |
| Tuesday 17 th October | Parents afternoon |
| Wednesday 18 th October | Parents evening |
| Monday 23 rd October | Flu Immunisation – Packed lunches required |