

# Littledean Church of England Primary School

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*People with time for Children*

28<sup>th</sup> March 2017

## Newsletter 8

Dear Parents,

### Ofsted

Thank you to those that completed the Ofsted questionnaire and spoke with the inspector. The report was issued to parents yesterday and has now been uploaded on to the school website.

### Staff Changes

At the end of term 4 we say goodbye to Mrs Linda Ingledow in her role as Midday Supervisor and to Mrs Rebecca Ebdon who has decided not to return to work following her maternity leave. We also welcome Mrs Bonser back into school following her illness.

### Sponsored Bunny Bounce – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April we will be holding a sponsored bunny bounce in order to raise funds for the school. The children will be asking friends and family to sponsor them, seeing how many bounces they can do on a bouncy castle in 1 minute. Sponsor forms available from the School Office.

### Headlice – Nits

Over the past few days we have had many conversations with parents about headlice and nits. Please check and treat your child (and other family members) if necessary so that we can become 'nit free'. Further information is available from NHS direct <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice/Pages/Treatment.aspx> Thank you.

### PE Equipment

We would like to thank Virgin Active Gloucestershire for donating tennis balls for our PE lessons.

### Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

We are currently collecting these vouchers so that we can gain additional free equipment for the school.

### Free School Meals

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following: -

Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, the guaranteed element of Pension Credit, Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190), Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit Universal Credit.

The school also gets a premium of £1,320 for each child entitled to free school meals. This is used to provide additional support and resources for the children.

To apply please visit Gloucestershire County Council's new free school meals portal.

<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schoolsnet/your-pupils/free-school-meals/>

You will need a valid email address and your National Insurance Number to apply. You are welcome to use to schools computers if you do not have access at home.

Head teacher: Mrs Hayley McGoldrick

## School Meals

We have been advised that our catering contractor, Caterlink, will be increasing the price of a school meal to £2.28 per day, £11.40 per week from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Parent Pay will be automatically updated.

## Reminders

To help the school run efficiently and keep our children safe please can parents / carers remember:

- To update contact details when they change – ie phone numbers, addresses etc.
- Let us know if someone other than the usual is collecting your child from school.
- Collect children promptly at 3.00 or telephone the school if you know you are going to be late.
- Not park in the school playground or staff car park unless permission has been granted by the Head Teacher
- Not to bring dogs on the school premises – we are currently having issues with dog mess on the playground.
- Not to bring children onto the school site before 8.30 a.m. A member of staff will be on duty each day in the rear playground from this time.
- Not let children play on the outside equipment before or after school.
- Not walk through the school unless accompanied by a member of staff.

Thank you, your help is much appreciated.

## Attendance and Holidays in Term Time

Firstly a big thank you to our children and families for ensuring that attendance up to the end of term 3 has remained high at 96.5%, which is the Governors target figure. Currently 68% of our children are above this target and 18 children have 100% attendance.

We continue to implement the Government rules around holidays in term time. The 'Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006' amendments remove the ability for head teachers to grant holidays or extended leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Regular and punctual attendance at school is fundamental to ensure that children receive the very best possible educational provision in order that they may secure their best possible outcomes. If you chose to remove your child from school for a holiday or other absence you must put your request in writing to the head teacher. All requests will be reviewed on an individual basis.

## Communication with parents

Good communication with parents is essential to the smooth running of the school. You may have noticed that letters sent out this term have also been emailed to parents where we have up to date email addresses. All letters are also available on the parent app (if you have downloaded it), on the school website, and in the folder outside the office door, and the oldest child per family is given a paper copy. If you have not received an email with our letters drop an email to the school office – [admin@littledean.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@littledean.gloucs.sch.uk) - so that we can update our details. Thank you

## Money in School

You may be aware that the HSBC bank in Cinderford closed down in January. This is the bank that the school uses. Whilst we are looking at alternative banking arrangements we would be grateful if we could reduce the amount of cash / cheques in school and ask parents to use parent pay, [www.parentpay.co.uk](http://www.parentpay.co.uk), to pay for items in school. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

## Diary Dates

Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Sponsored Bunny Bounce
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Young Voices Concert for Parents 6.00 p.m.
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Service at 9.00, followed by Friends Coffee Morning
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Last Day of Term 4 – School closes at 3.00 p.m.
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	First Day of Term 5
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Visit from Welsh Birds of Prey Centre
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Nearly New Uniform Sale – 8.30 – 9.15, 2.00 – 3.00
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	School Closed for Bank Holiday Monday

Head teacher: Mrs Hayley McGoldrick