



*Loving one another, building each other up*

# Littledean C of E Primary School Newsletter 16

16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents,

## A Few Reminders..

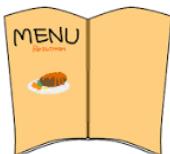
### Reporting an absence

All absences need to be reported by phone. Please do not email absences because emails may not be checked until later in the day. There is now a 24-hour voicemail service and an option to report an absence on the main menu when calling. The office telephone number is 01594 822171



### Ordering Hot Dinners

Weekly dinner slips are given to children on a Friday to be completed and returned to school during registration on a Monday. Please ensure you are completing and returning the slips so that we can plan the children's dinners for the week with Caterlink. If a child doesn't bring in a packed lunch and a dinner slip hasn't been completed then a meal will be picked for them.



### Sportily Dance Club

The weekly dance club with Sportily has been postponed now until next term. There will be no more sessions until further notice. More information on when they are restarting and how to sign up will be sent out closer to the time.



## Cricket Taster Day

On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January Gloucester Cricket will be in school for a Cricket Taster Day. All children will need to come into school wearing their PE kit. Please remember to bring extra layers.



## **Rags to Riches Clothing Collection – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Do you have clothes in your wardrobe that you no longer wear, maybe last year's fashions, or that buy that was too good to leave but it's not really you after all?

Please help us fundraise by donating your good quality unwanted, re-useable (clean, dry and wearable) clothes and accessories (please pair and tie shoes together)

Your donations become affordable clothing in other countries so please do not send poor quality, dirty or wet items, and no duvets, pillows, curtains, books, CDs or bric-a-brac.

STOP and THINK - is it something you'd wear out and about yourself or pass to a friend? If not, no-one else will want to wear it either, so unfortunately, it's not reusable and can't go in the bag.

Even if it's only one t-shirt please bring it in, as it will all help our school.  
If you can involve family, friends and neighbours please do.



**Please bring your donations to school on the morning of Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026 before 9.00 a.m. and leave in the covered area outside the rear entrance door.**

**Thank you.**

## **Holiday Requests**

Please remember that the Government's guidance remains very clear that we cannot authorise holiday requests in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. A Request for Leave of Absence form can be found on the school website at the following link or from the school office: [https://www.littledeanprimary.co.uk/website/attendance\\_at\\_school/169684](https://www.littledeanprimary.co.uk/website/attendance_at_school/169684)

You may be issued with a penalty notice for taking your child out of school during term time. Please note that a penalty is issued to each parent for each child taken out of school. A Penalty Notice is a fine of £80 if paid within the first 21 days which increases to £160 if paid between 21 and 28 days. Thereafter, if the penalty remains unpaid this may lead to prosecution through the Magistrates' Court.



## **Contact Details – Can we get hold of you in an Emergency?**

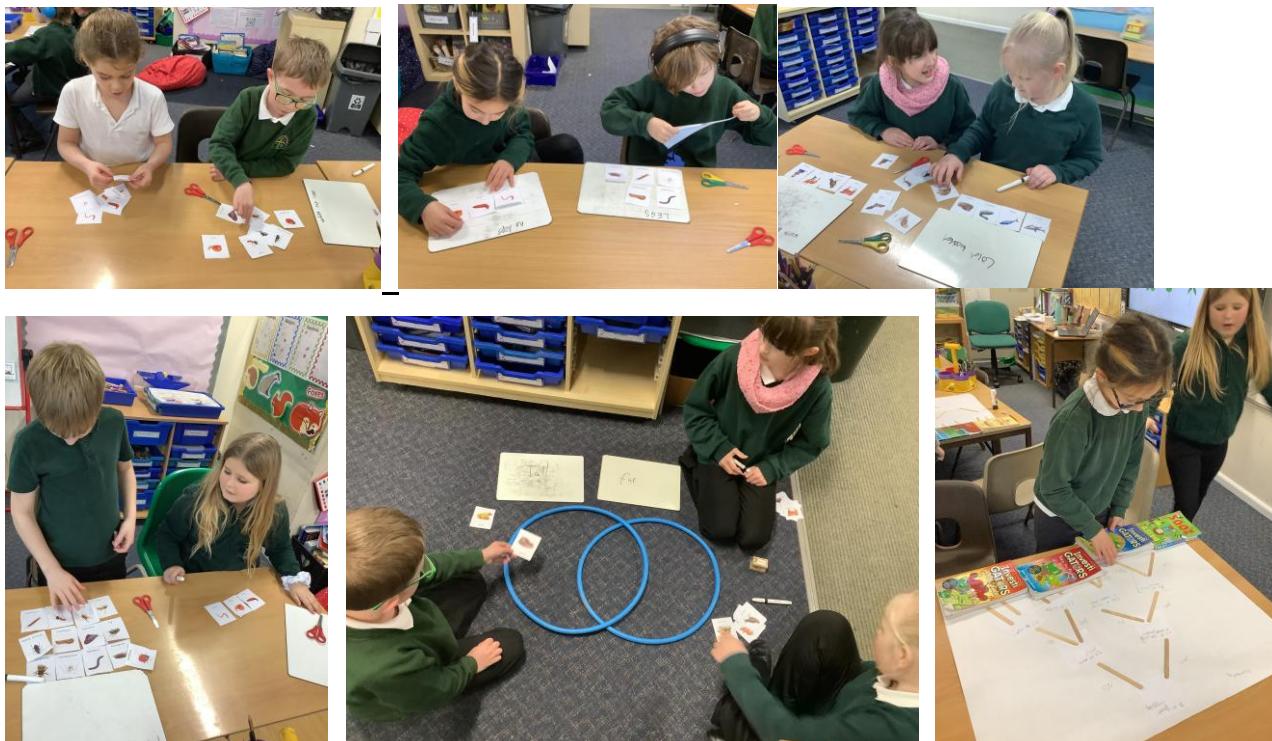


As most of our communications are now through email or postings on the school website it is even more important that we have up to date contact details for you. If you or your emergency contacts have changed telephone numbers, email addresses or have moved house please let us know as soon as possible.

If you are not sure please check with the school office or send an email to [admin@littledean.glos.sch.uk](mailto:admin@littledean.glos.sch.uk) with your new details. Thank you.

## Chestnut Class

Chestnut Class have had a busy week of science activities to start our new unit 'Classification and Changing Habitats'. We began the week recapping the terms vertebrate and invertebrate before sorting them using a Venn diagram and a Carroll diagram. We then moved on to sorting plants and leaves. We created a classification key for 8 leaves with a partner. We then hid the answers and tested each other's classification key to check that they worked. Next week we will move on to making classification keys for birds.



## Maple Class

Maple Class have been enjoying learning Spanish since the beginning of the academic year. So far, they can greet one another, ask how someone is, say what their name is, and tell others how old they are.

Today, we began our exciting new topic on Pets and Colours. The children have been learning how to ask “*¿Tienes una mascota?*” (Do you have a pet?) and are looking forward to expanding their Spanish vocabulary even further.



## Holly Leaves

In Preschool we have been counting up to and back from 6, using our maths resources to help us. The children successfully ordered the numbers in size identifying which number was the smallest and which was the biggest. As an extension activity, Holly Leaves enjoyed sorting the animals and cubes into colour groups using tweezers to help build on their fine motor skills



## Emergency Closure Procedures

Hopefully we won't need to do this anytime soon 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.glos.ac.uk/> (please note new address)
- Post the closure on our school website [www.littledeanprimary.co.uk](http://www.littledeanprimary.co.uk)
- Post the closure on our facebook page
- If possible a member of staff will be on site to advise of the closure.

## Smash Hit Music

From 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026 the Smash Hit Music sessions will change to Thursday afternoons each week instead of Friday Mornings.  
If you are interested in your child taking part in sessions please see below link for more information or to sign up:

<https://www.smashhit.co.uk/signup>





### Term Dates

These are also available on our website

**2025 / 2026 – Please see website for full details**

**Term 3** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**Term 4** Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Term 5** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

**Term 6** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026 – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026

**2026/2027**

**Term 1** Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026 – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2026

**Term 2** Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2026

**INSET Day 3** Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**INSET Day 4** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026

**INSET Day 5** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026

### Diary Dates

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2026

Cricket Taster day

Maple Class' Skillzone

Full Governors meeting

Preschool Stay and Play

Maple Class Activity Day

w/c 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Year 6 SATS week