

Littledean Church of England Primary School

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Loving one another, building each other up

23rd September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Rags to Riches – Clothing Collection – Wednesday 22nd September 2021

Thank you for your kind donations towards our clothing collection. We raised a total of £39.76 for our school funds. Our next collection will be in January 2022.

School Photographs - Wednesday 22nd September 2021

School photos have been issued to children today, please check book bags. We prefer parents to order online, as we receive more commission for the school. Can all orders be placed on or before Sunday 3rd October 2021. Many thanks.

After school clubs

Our after school clubs start this week. Mr English our PE coach will carry out multi sports sessions with Year 6's on Monday, Chestnut Class on Tuesday, Holly Berries Class and Year 1's from Holly Leaves on Wednesday and Maple Class on Thursday. If you would like your child to attend and haven't as yet returned the reply slip please do so as soon as possible or email admin@littledean.gloucs.sch.uk with the details.

Forest Schools Session week commencing Monday 27th September

Unfortunately Miss Worgan has to attend a training session on Wednesday 29th September so for this week only we will hold our Forest Schools session on Friday 1st October 2021. That's normal uniform on the Wednesday and Forest schools kit on the Friday.

Twitter account

Miss May has been very busy keeping our twitter feed up to date and sharing our achievement with our twitter community. We can be found at @littledeansch. The feed is also available on the school website www.littledeanprimary.co.uk

Shelter in the rear playground

You may have noticed that we have been doing some work on the shelter in the rear playground. We are gradually converting it into an outside classroom and hope to be using it very soon. If it is set up with tables and resources please do not use it. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Flu Immunisation – 22nd October 2021

The Flu Immunisation packs were issued last week, thank you for the high number of forms returned so far. There is still plenty of time to return forms, if you have misplaced yours please ask for a copy from the office. Unfortunately the NHS are not using an electronic registration service this year.

Morrisons – Free gardening equipment

We have linked up with Morrisons to get some free gardening equipment. All you need to do is collect tokens for us. Download the MyMorrisons app, register for Littledean C of E School, scan the app every time you shop at Morrisons and for every £10 you spend we receive a Grow Token. Please share this with parents, grandparents, friends and neighbours to help us get some new equipment.

Head Teacher: Mrs Hayley McGoldrick

The School Grounds

Over the past few months we have been trying to get the school grounds up together and tidy but it feels like a never ending task. If any of our parents or grandparents have a few hours to spare to do a little weeding / digging / tidying / painting we would be extremely grateful. Also any offers of taking garden waste to the tip would save us £290 ie the cost of another skip.

We also have a large number of wooden pallets that we would like to get rid of. Ideal if you have a wood burner or outside fire and would like some free wood.

Please contact Mrs Worgan in the School Office if you are able to help.

Volunteer readers

If gardening isn't your thing and you would like to help us we are also looking for volunteers to help with listening to the children read. If you have a spare hour or so on a regular basis then this could be for you. Contact Mrs McGoldrick for further information. You will be required to complete a DBS check.

Chestnut and Maple Class – break time snacks

Please remember that children in Chestnut and Maple classes can bring in a healthy snack to eat at break times. Unfortunately the free fruit is only for the infant children and we do not have enough to be able to give a piece to the junior children.

School Census Day – Hot School Meals – Thursday 7th October 2021

7th October is the national school 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.

Week commencing Monday 4th October we will change Thursday's and Friday's meals over.

Thursday's Menu will be:

Fishfingers with Chips or BBQ Quorn with Chips, or Jacket Potato. Beans and Sweetcorn and Chocolate Cookies for pudding.

Friday's Menu will be:

Chicken Pie with Chips or Vegetable Pasta Bake or Jacket Potato with Cheese. Peas and Iced Bun 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 £2.34 daily £11.70 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.

Free School Meals

If your circumstance have changed recently please consider if you are entitled to free school meals. If in doubt apply, all applications are treated in confidence.

Why should you apply?

For every child that is entitled to free school meals the school receives extra funding to enhance provision and improve progress and outcomes for children. So please apply even if you do not wish to take up your free school meal.

What are the qualifying criteria for 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

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- 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 - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

If you feel that you may be entitled to free school meals you can check your eligibility and apply for meals by visiting: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/> All applications will be treated in confidence.

October Half Term – Holiday Free School Meals (FSM) Scheme

For the October half-term, Gloucestershire County Council is providing vouchers to parents who have signed up to our Holiday Free School Meals (FSM) scheme. These vouchers are provided by Gloucestershire County Council as part of its commitment to 'no child goes hungry'. The vouchers are funded through COVID-19 grant funding we have received and is separate to that of the term time free school meals.

Parents who have signed up to the scheme will receive a voucher for £15 for each child who is eligible for FSM which will cover the half-term week.

Parents who have signed up previously do not need to re-register, they have already been included, but, to ensure we get all who are eligible, we are encouraging new parents to sign up as soon as they can.

Applications for Holiday Free School Meal Vouchers for October Half Term is open from Monday 13 September until midday Friday 24 September. Vouchers will be sent out between Monday 27 of September and 30 of September. Vouchers are being sent out this early due to Covid grant stipulations.

For more information and to sign up if you haven't already please visit our website: the [Holiday School Meal vouchers page on](#) our website. For any queries please contact: childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Reading Books

We have a shortage of reading books in school, please check to see if you have any at home and return to school as soon as possible. Thank you.

Cases of Covid 19 and self isolation

If your child is unwell before the start of the school day, please do not bring them into school. Please phone the school office and let a member of staff know exactly what symptoms your child is exhibiting, even if you do not suspect Covid-19. If your child has symptoms: persistent cough, high temperature, loss of sense of taste or smell please arrange a PCR test.

Your help is very much appreciated in helping us to keep our school community Covid safe.

Contact Details

As the vast majority of our communications will now be through email or postings on the website or twitter 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.

Diary Dates

Thursday 7 th October	Special Caterlink Hotmeal
Tuesday 19 th October	Harvest at St Ethelberts Church – children only
Thursday 21 st October	Full Governors Meeting – 5.30 p.m.
Friday 22 nd October	Flu Immunisation
Friday 22 nd October	Packed lunches only, hot meals unavailable

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