

# Littledean Church of England Primary School

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*People with time for Children*

4<sup>th</sup> October 2019

## Newsletter 4

Dear Parents,

### Twitter

The school twitter account is now live and we are tweeting frequently. You can find us at @littledeansch.

### School Website and School App

Earlier this week parents who have not previously logged on to the school website or downloaded the schools app were sent log in details. Please check book bags for your envelopes.

The school app works very much like facebook messenger, whatsapp etc. icons. All messages whether emails or texts are delivered to the app through a wifi connection, so no more frustrations with the lack of mobile signal in Littledean. There are a few benefits to using the app, namely you are notified when you have messages, all correspondence from the school are in one place, you are able to view your child's attendance and once we have the majority of parents signed up we will start using the booking system for parents evenings. The great benefit for the school is that it is free for us to use which given the financial difficulties the school faces releases much needed funds for other essential resources.

If you are unable to find your envelope or have forgotten your log in details please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Please remember that paper copy letters will be phased out towards the end of this term. We will only issue paper copies to those who request them.

### Bags to School

Our first collection of the year will be on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October. They accept adult and children's clothes, shoes – tied together, bedding, towels, jewellery, belts, hats, scarves, gloves, bags, purses, wallets, tights, ties and new underwear. All donations help the school raise money for our children. We are happy to receive donations into school between now and 9.00 a.m. Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October. Thank you.

### Friends AGM

A reminder that the Friends will hold their Annual General Meeting on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 9.00 a.m. we hope you are able to join them so that they can continue to raise much needed funds for our children and the school.

### Clothing in School

We have a large amount of uniform in our lost property bin which we are unable to return to children because they are not named. If your child has lost an item of clothing please check our lost property bin which is located in the School Library – Thank you.

We ask that all items of uniform, PE kit, bags and coats are **named** so that we can return items to the correct child if they lose them.

Head teacher: Mrs Hayley McGoldrick

We suggest for all classes including pre-school that PE kit (trainers, shorts, t-shirt) are brought into school at the start of each term and kept in school in the cloakrooms.

Pre-School children will need a PE kit each day as their sessions will change weekly. Pre-School staff also request that wellies are brought into school so that they can play in the garden with the mud kitchen. Thank you.

We ask that children also bring a weather appropriate coat into school as we will go outside most days during lunch and break times.

### **Toys in School**

We have had a couple of incidences where children have brought toys and items to school from home and 'swapped' with other children which has caused upset later in the day. We ask that children do not bring items in from home unless they have been requested to do so by the class teacher. Thank you.

### **School Attendance**

The School Governors have asked that the attendance data report for 2018/19 is shared with parents, please help us to make improvements for this academic year.

- Attendance for the year 2018/19 was 95.4% which is below governor target of 96.5%.
- Holidays in term time has reduced slightly on previous years: 268 sessions 2018/19 (354 sessions 2017/18, 323 sessions 2016/17). This relates to 19 families taking holidays in term time. It is equivalent to 134 days missed, which is the same as one child being absent from September through to the end of April.
- We will continue to discourage families taking holidays in term time, however the first two weeks of this term 8 children missed 44 sessions in total due to unauthorized holiday.
- Lates before registration closed at 9.00 a.m. were double previous years. 50 children (36 families) were late on 266 occasions, 11 families were late on one occasion only. 4 families were responsible for 51% of the lates before registration closed at 9.00 a.m. (136 times).
- Lates after registration closed at 9.00 a.m. were similar to the previous year. 21 families were late after 9.00 a.m. on 94 occasions. 11 families were late on one occasion only.
- In total 58 children were late (before and after 9.00 a.m.) on at least on occasion. 6350 minutes (105.83 hours, 19.25 days) were lost due to children arriving in school after our start time of 8.45 a.m.
- We celebrated 3 children receiving 100% attendance awards, 13 children receiving 99% attendance awards and 16 children receiving 98% attendance awards.
- 54% of our children were above our attendance target of 96.5%.

### **Diary Dates**

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Rags to Riches clothing collection
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00 a.m. Friends Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Individual and Sibling Group Photographs
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Immunisation Flu Programme for Years Reception – Year 6
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Inset day – Staff only to attend
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	8.45 a.m. Nearly new uniform sale – Willow room
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents Evening 4.00 – 7.00
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents Afternoon 1.00 – 4.00 – <i>Please note new date</i>
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	NSPCC Speak Out / Stay Safe
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Infant Performance Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Infant Performance Afternoon
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Infant Performance Evening
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School and Pre-School Pantomime at Roses Theatre
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Service at St Ethelberts Church
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Young Voices Concert in Birmingham
Weds 22 <sup>nd</sup> April – Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Maple Class Residential Visit

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