



Loving one another, building each other up

Littledean C of E Primary School Newsletter 8

24th October 2025

Dear Parents,

Flu Immunisation – Consent Needed

We sent an email with details of how to consent for your child to receive the nasal flu immunisation. This will take place on Tuesday 4th November – The first day back after half term. **We ask that you complete the form as soon as possible as consent needs to be given before Monday 3rd November otherwise your child will not be able to have the immunisation in school. There are still a large number of outstanding consent forms to be completed.**

Please see following link:

<https://www.ghcimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

Unique Code: GC115631

Hot Dinners

Caterlink have introduced a new menu for the Autumn and Winter Term, starting week commencing Monday 3rd November 2025 – the first day back after half term will be Tuesday 4th November. The new Menus have been emailed to you, they are also on the website and the new dinner ordering slips have been handed to children today for the first week back after half term.



Payment for meals should be made through www.parentpay.com and **should be paid for in advance of the meal being taken.**



We've noticed a large number of hot dinners being ordered that haven't yet been paid for and large numbers of outstanding balances on accounts recently. If meals are not paid for in advance, then you may be asked to bring a packed lunch to school instead. Thank you for your co-operation.

Staff News

We would like to let you know that Mrs Richards will be leaving at the end of December to pursue a new opportunity. We are incredibly grateful for her dedication and the wonderful contribution she has made to our children and school. We wish Mrs Richards all the best in this next chapter.

Recruitment for a full-time class teacher to join our team will begin shortly, which means that we will also be saying goodbye to Mrs Allen. We would like to thank Mrs Allen for her support and dedication to the school and wish her all the best. We will share further updates once an appointment has been made.



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Once again we are supporting the Poppy Appeal. This year we have the following items in our box (suggested donation):



Zip Pull - 50p
Reflector Poppy – 50p
Snap Band - £1
Traditional Poppy – 50p
Poppy Sticker – 50p



If you would like to donate please send the money into school with your child and ask them to hand it to the class teacher during registration. Thank you

Littledean School Social Media

Our new facebook page is now live. Search for 'Littledean C of E Primary School and Preschool' or follow this link to see what the children have been up to in class:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61577814292038>

Consultation to Join a Trust

You should have received an email regarding the governing board of Littledean Church of England School formally seeking views on plans to join the Diocese Gloucester Academies Trust (DGAT), an Academy Trust.

The proposed change means that the school will formally join a larger family of schools and will be under the direct legal governance of DGAT. The change means that Littledean Church of England School will no longer be responsible for its own governance.

Your views are important to us and we ask that you either return the paper copy that was issued to children, or complete the online form <https://forms.office.com/e/e5TZ7d289t>

Please note that the consultation ends at 12.00 p.m. on Friday 28th November 2025.

You are also invited to the stakeholders meeting on Tuesday 11th November at 5.30 p.m. in the School Hall.

Harvest Celebration – Supporting The Forest Food Bank

As part of our Harvest celebrations this year, we are collecting donations for The Forest Food Bank. If you are able to make a contribution, please send your donations in during the first two weeks of Term 2.

The Forest Food Bank is especially grateful for donations of non-perishable items, such as:

- Tinned foods (meat, fish, fruit, vegetables, beans, soup)
- Pasta, rice, noodles, and instant meals
- Cereal and porridge oats
- Long-life milk and juice
- Tea, coffee, and hot chocolate
- Biscuits and snack bars
- Toiletries (soap, toothpaste, deodorant, sanitary products)



Every item helps support local families in need — thank you for your generosity and community spirit this Harvest season!

Rags 2 Riches 4 Schools - Clothing Collection 11th November 2025

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)

Please bring bags to school on the morning of Tuesday 11th November and leave undercover by the rear entrance door

Holly Berries and Holly Leaves



Holly Leaves and Holly Berries had a fun filled morning at Forest schools this week, continuing with our learning about hibernation we found safe places to build houses for different animals to have their long sleep. The children also practised their tools skills by whittling some sticks and hammering them into a pumpkin to make a hedgehog.



Holly Leaves have been learning about the celebration Diwali this week, we learnt that Hindu's clean their houses and buy new clothes to get rid of the bad and put lights outside to welcome the good.

Holly Leaves have been busy in Maths this week. We have been learning to count a small set of objects with accuracy. The counting puppet has been helping us. Perhaps you could try counting small sets of objects collected from your house.



Year 1 and 2 have finished their Science topic about the Seasons and are now experts! They can talk about how each season is different and what changes they would see in nature. If they want to find out more they can look at this game on the BBC.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zk8hdnb>



The children have enjoyed our PE sessions where they have been learning to send and receive a ball by throwing, catching and kicking. They have enjoyed developing their skills. This week we did a warm with Joe Wicks which really got everyone's blood pumping!

Please note that after the half term break Forest School sessions will take place on a Tuesday. Please send your child in with the correct clothes as it will be getting colder and we will go out whatever the weather! The first session will be Tuesday 4th November. Any donations of hot chocolate will be gratefully received to help keep us warm.

Maple Class

Maple Class have had a fantastic first term! Last week, they attended the Cheltenham Literature Festival, where they thoroughly enjoyed learning how to draw comic book characters and develop their own characters and plots.



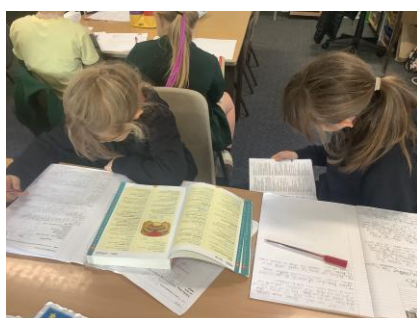
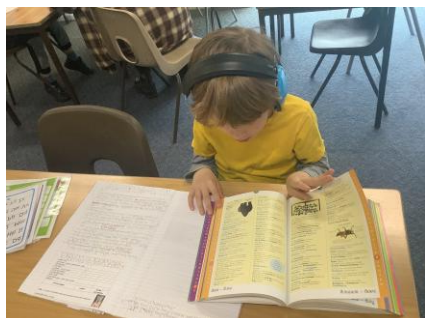
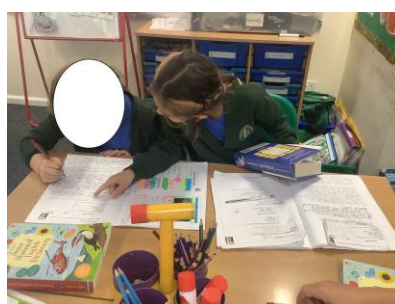
Back in the classroom, pupils have been working hard on their quick recall of times tables and corresponding division facts using TT Rock Stars—their enthusiasm and progress have been brilliant

This week, we welcomed the NSPCC in school for a *Speak Out Stay Safe* session. Pupils learnt about staying safe and knowing where to turn if they ever need support.



Chestnut Class

Chestnut Class have written their own newspaper article based on their English text 'Lights on Cotton Rock'. We began by text marking an example to identify the features and then gradually wrote the newspaper article section by section including all of the features we had spotted. This week we edited our newspaper articles. We used dictionaries to check spellings, created a class checklist of possible mistakes to check and also used peer editing. Once the editing was complete, we wrote up the newspaper article so they are presented in the correct format. The children are deservedly proud of their first extended piece of writing of the year!



The children have also started their next science topic 'Electricity and Circuits'. We learnt about the components needed in an electrical circuit and then created an electrical circuit to model the flow of electricity. The cups represented the wires, the tray of cubes represented the battery, the cubes represented the electricity and the basket represented the bulb. We passed the "electricity" around the circuit to light up the bulb. We also investigated what would happen if there was a break in the circuit or the battery ran out of electrical charge. Next week we will be making electrical circuits using components.



Parent Governor Vacancy

We would like to remind families that there is still **one Parent Governor vacancy** to be filled. Parent Governors play a vital role in helping shape the strategic direction of the school, ensuring that the voice of our parent community is heard at the highest level of decision-making. It's an opportunity to make a meaningful difference in your child's education and the wider school environment.

If you are interested in becoming a Parent Governor or would like to find out more about what the role involves, please contact the school office. We'd love to hear from you!

Happy Holidays!

We'd like to wish all our children and families a very happy and relaxing half-term break! A quick reminder that school will reopen on **Tuesday 4th November**. Enjoy the holiday, and we look forward to seeing everyone back refreshed and ready for the new term.



Diary Dates

Tuesday 4 th November	Flu Immunisations Reception- Y6
Tuesday 11 th November	Rags2Riches Clothes Collection
Tuesday 11 th November	Consultation Stakeholders meeting
Friday 21 st November	Friends' Non Uniform – Jingle Jars
Wednesday 26 th November	Full Governors Meeting
Friday 28 th November	Friends' "Santa's Christmas Boots" Event
Monday 15 th December	Whole School Pantomime Visit
Thursday 29 th January 2026	Maple Class' Skillzone
Thursday 23 rd April 2026	Maple Class Activity Day
w/c 11 th May 2026	Year 6 SATS week

Term Dates

These are also available on our website

2025 / 2026 – Please see website for full details

Term 1	Monday 1 st September 2025 – Friday 24 th October 2025
Term 2	Monday 3 rd November 2025 – Friday 19 th December 2025
Term 3	Monday 5 th January 2026 – Friday 13 th February 2026
Term 4	Monday 23 th February 2026 – Friday 27 th March 2026
Term 5	Monday 13 th April 2026 – Friday 22 nd May 2026
Term 6	Monday 1 st June 2026 – Monday 20 th July 2026

INSET Day	1	Monday 1 st September 2025
INSET Day	2	Monday 3 rd November 2025