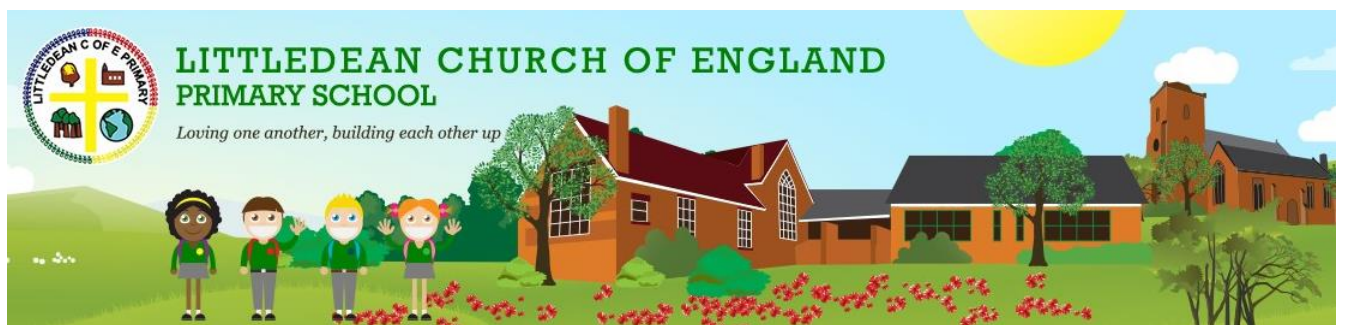


# Littledean C of E Primary School

## New to Reception Booklet 2024-2025



# Contact Information

Littledean C of E Primary School

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**Staff:**

**Headteacher**

Mrs McGoldrick

**Admin Team**

School Business Manager: Mrs Worgan

**Maple**

Teacher: Miss May

**Chestnut**

Teacher: Mrs Walters

**Holly Berries**

Teacher: Mrs Richards

**Holly Leaves**

Teacher: Miss Pearson Mrs Cox

Email address:

[Hollyleaves@littledean.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:Hollyleaves@littledean.gloucs.sch.uk)



# Welcome to Littledean C of E Primary School

This booklet aims to provide an introduction to Littledean C of E Primary School and includes initial information which we hope you will find useful. Should you have any further questions, staff will be happy to discuss these with you.

We are a rural, village primary school situated in the beautiful Forest of Dean, one mile outside of the small town of Cinderford and approximately 14 miles from Gloucester. At Littledean Church of England Primary School we place children at the centre of all we do and our school motto is '*Loving one another, building each other up.*'

## Entry and Exit Procedures:

Holly Leaves children enter school through the back playground. They will come through the wooden gate into Holly Leaves Garden. We encourage independence and would like children to enter school independently unless other arrangements are discussed. Children will be released through the same doors. Parents/Carers must be in the back playground before we release the children.

## Parking:

We have permission from Two Rivers House to be able to use Oak Way Car Park when dropping and collecting children, please be considerate to our neighbours when parking.

The school playground is not to be used for parking unless authorised by a member of the admin team.



# All About Holly Leaves

Holly Leaves is home to the children in lower key stage one. Adults in the classroom include Mrs Cox as class teacher on Monday and Tuesday, Miss Pearson as class teacher on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Miss Worgan is the class teaching assistant and Miss Goodall a 1:1 teaching assistant. In Holly Leaves, we believe children should be provided with a range of experiences to learn from. We always take into account children's interest and teach with flexibility in order to make it interesting and engaging.

**Our Environment:** Next to our classroom we have a nature pond area which children access throughout the year to explore the different wildlife. We have a lovely outdoor area which includes blackboards, whiteboards, a sand pit and more! Each week we do a Forest Schools session. This is a great experience which children always enjoy (getting extremely muddy in the process!). It is led by Miss Worgan who is a Level 3 Forest School Leader. Children will be provided with opportunities to take managed risks, such as tree climbing. They will also learn original skills using tools to drill and hammer.

**Our Learning:** We strive to provide the children with practical/hands on learning in Maths and Literacy. In Maths, we complete tabletop activities. This is where the children have access to different activities, working in groups to explore a range of different practical activities. Activities are as practical as possible so children can explore their learning in the way that suits them. In Literacy we currently teach a book a week related to our termly topic. We complete a range of activities around the book including sequencing, poetry, role play and much more! We also include purposeful activities around the story book to learn more from the text. For example, when looking at the story The Little Red Hen, we learn how to make bread and write instructions.



# Transition sessions

We have arranged some sessions for children to attend school before their start in September 2024. These sessions are designed to give them an opportunity to explore the school and get to know the adults that will be supporting them. These sessions are for the children only.

## **Session 1 Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 1:40 - 3:00**

This will be a Forest School Session. Please ensure that your child is wearing old clothes with long sleeves and long trousers. If you have a waterproof coat and trousers please bring them. Wellies will also be required.

## **Session 2 - Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 1:40 - 3:00**

Children will stay in the classroom for this session. Normal everyday clothes will be required.

## **Session 3 - Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July 10 - 11:30**

Children will stay in the classroom for this session. Normal everyday clothes will be required.

## **Dates for Term 1:**

School starts on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024 for all children. The arrangements for the reception children are as followed:

### **Week beginning 4.9.24**

Wednesday - Friday - 8:40 - 11:45

### **Week beginning 11.9.24**

Monday - Wednesday 8:40 - 11:45

Thursday-Friday 8:40 - 1:40 (including lunch time)

### **Week beginning 18.9.24**

Full time (unless otherwise discussed with individual families)



# General Information



**Clothing:** Please ensure that **all** clothing worn or brought into school is named. Once a week (day to be confirmed) Holly Leaves will do Forest School. They will need to come into school in old clothes that have long sleeves and trousers. Children must have arms and legs covered at all times during Forest School sessions so that they can keep safe in the environment throughout the year. They will also require wellies which can stay in school. School do have some waterproof trousers available but these are limited. If you are able to purchase some for your child, please bring these in a separate bag with their name on. Children will come into school in PE kits for the days that they are doing PE. During warmer days, children will need hats and suncream that can only be applied by themselves. We have found that roll on suncream is easier for children to apply independently. You will be notified what day they will do PE in a separate letter.

**Pegs:** Every child will be provided with a peg in the cloakroom where they can hang their coat, school bag and any Forest school kit.

**Toys:** We ask that the children **not** bring toys into school as if it gets lost or broken it can cause lots of upset. However, if there is a specific reason that you feel this is required, a member of staff will be happy to discuss this.

**Forest School:** We have a forest school session once a week (day to be confirmed). Children receive hot chocolate and biscuits around our log circle for their snack time. Any donations of hot chocolate powder and biscuits throughout the year would be greatly appreciated!

**Reading at home:** Children will be given a reading record when they start school. They will bring home books to share with you and we ask that you fill in their reading record whenever you do this. We would ask that you share a book with your child at least three times each week, once focusing on blending practice, once for comprehension and the last read to focus on fluency.

# Food, Drink and Health

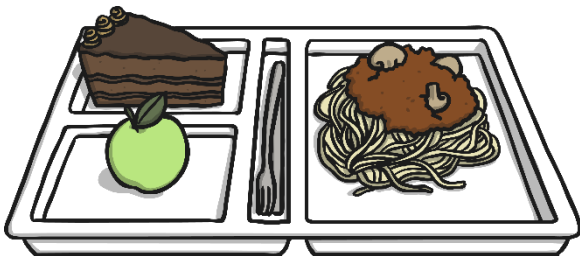
**Food and Drink:** Children receive free hot dinners in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. However, you can provide a packed lunch if you prefer. Through the Cool Milk Scheme, children under 5 receive free school milk. If you would like to pay for milk after this time, this is possible and something you can discuss with staff. Children receive free fruit which they have access to daily. If your child only likes a certain type of fruit, you can provide this to ensure the child is having something to eat. Children will need to bring in a water bottle which has their name on. These will be sent home on a Friday to be cleaned and will need to be brought back in on a Monday

**Health:** Staff need to be aware of your child's medical background, in particular, any allergies (e.g. bee stings, dairy, food items) any dietary requirements (vegan/halal) and any other medical conditions (e.g. asthma or eczema). If they require medication, please discuss this with staff as forms will need to be completed.

Children can suddenly become ill and therefore it is important that we know we can contact you or another adult (relative/friend) at all times. Please ensure that the school is kept up to date with your contact details. If your child is unable to attend due to illness, please telephone us before 9:00am to let us know. In cases of vomiting or diarrhoea, your child should remain at home until 48 hours have elapsed since the last episode. In all cases of contagious diseases, the school should be informed immediately and medical clearance must be obtained before your child returns to school.

Headlice are an unfortunate recurring problem in school life. If discovered, please notify staff and treat as soon as you notice it.

If your child has to be treated for any medical needs at school, they will come home with a medical note.





# EYFS Curriculum

Early Years Curriculum: Activities in Holly Leaves are carefully planned and organised in order to provide a range of learning experiences. Individual records are kept by staff to record the activities your child participates in and undertakes, as well as their progress in specific skills.

Planning for each week is carried out using a topic-based approach, following the children's interests and responding to specific events.

There are 7 Areas of Learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) that activities are planned around:

- Communication and Language
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



Throughout the year staff will record your child's learning in a range of books. This will form a unique record of your child's learning and development throughout the year. It will contain samples of work, photographs and staff observations. These folders enable staff to track your child's progress and attainment, as well as plan future activities.



We hope that this pack is useful - should you have any questions please feel free to speak to a member of staff. We aim to ensure that your child's experience in Littledean C of E Primary School is a happy and rewarding one. We look forward to working with both you and your child.



Reviewed May 2024

Next Review May 2025