



Littledean C of E Primary School Newsletter 2

11th September 2026

Dear Parents,

School Lunches



Please remember to complete the School Dinner Menu each week. These are handed out every Friday and will need to be completed and handed in on Monday morning with the meal choices for that week. Menu's can also be found on our school website.

If a menu has not been completed and your child doesn't have a packed lunch then we will choose option 1 for them for that day



If you do not receive Free School Meals and your child is in Year 3 or above then please ensure that you have paid for a hot dinner before ordering one. Payments are to be made on ParentPay in advance of ordering. If you are having any issues with payments, please contact the school office.

House Treats – Final Decision!

Following the exciting announcement of our three new houses – Beechenhurst, Clearwell and Puzzlewood – this week the whole school took part in a special 'Talk Time' to decide on the treats for our winning house at Christmas, Easter and the end of the academic year.

There was plenty of lively discussion, lots of brilliant suggestions and, of course, some important decisions to make! We are delighted to announce that this year's winning house treats will be:

A movie afternoon – with the option to come along in your PJs!

An afternoon of STEM activities – full of challenges, experiments and problem-solving.

A Forest School session – an afternoon of outdoor fun and adventure.

Now all that remains is to see which house will earn the most points and enjoy each of these fantastic rewards. Let the house competition begin!



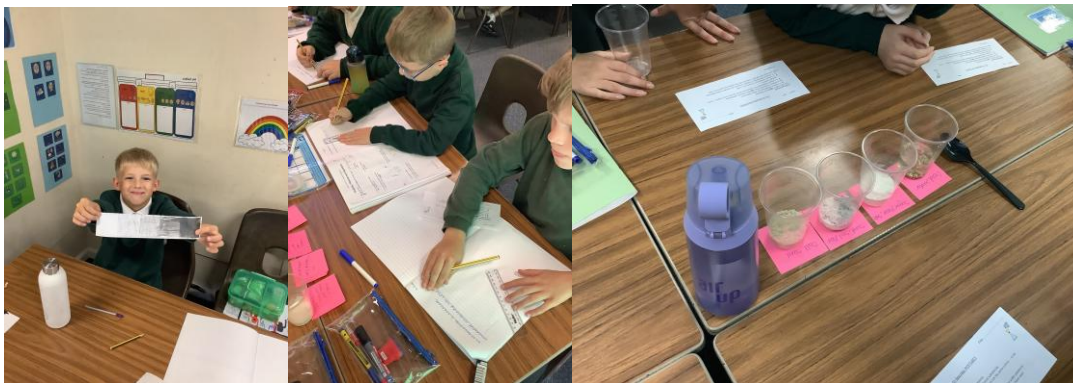
Maple Class

Maple Class have made a fantastic start to the new school year. Years 4, 5 and 6 are settling in well to the new class structure and have shown great enthusiasm in their learning.

Year 4 pupils have been enjoying their mornings in Chestnut room alongside Year 3, where they are taught by Mrs McGoldrick and Mrs Warry. Together, they have been working hard on English, maths, Spanish and science. Meanwhile, Years 5 and 6 remain in Maple room with Miss May, where they have quickly adapted to routines and expectations.

This term, we have begun several exciting topics across the curriculum. In Science, pupils are exploring Materials: Mixtures and Separation. On Wednesday morning, they carried out their first experiment of the year, creating different types of mixtures to develop a clear understanding of what a “mixture” is in scientific terms.

In Art, the focus is on drawing, with an emphasis on tone, texture and proportion. During Wednesday afternoon’s lesson, pupils learned about tone. Using sketching pencils, they created tone value scales and then applied their knowledge to draw a shaded sphere, producing some excellent results.

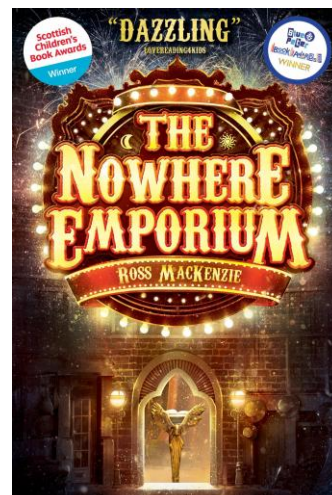


In RE, pupils are learning about Judaism, with a focus on how Jewish people celebrate festivals. Over the coming weeks, they will explore Shabbat, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, gaining insight into their significance and traditions.

Computing lessons this term are centred on programming through music. Pupils will be using Scratch to create soundtracks for films, combining creativity with coding skills.

Our class reader for this term is *The Nowhere Emporium* by Ross MacKenzie. This magical story follows Daniel Holmes, a boy who discovers a mysterious shop filled with extraordinary objects, each with its own story and power. As Daniel becomes an apprentice to the Emporium’s owner, he is drawn into a world of wonder, secrets and danger.

We are very proud of the positive start Maple Class has made and look forward to a busy and exciting term ahead.



Three Reads a Week Makes a Difference!

We are asking all families to support their child by listening to them read at least three times each week. Just a few minutes of regular reading at home can make a real difference.

Reading aloud to an adult helps children to become more fluent and confident readers, develop a wider vocabulary, improve their understanding of what they read and practise reading with expression and meaning. Most importantly, regular reading helps children develop the skills and confidence they need to enjoy books and become successful, independent readers.

Please aim for at least three reads each week and remember to record them in your child's reading record. Every read really does count – thank you for your continued support



RECEPTION PARENTS & CARERS – YOU'RE INVITED

Come along to our Phonics Information Session - Wednesday 23rd September at 3.45pm

We warmly invite all Reception parents and carers to join us for a phonics information session.

Find out how we teach your child to read using phonics and learn some simple, practical ways you can support their reading at home.

It's a great opportunity to see how phonics works in school and how you can help build your child's confidence and enjoyment of reading.

We hope to see you there!

Year 3 and 4

Year 3/4 have been working hard in maths this week, using Base 10 equipment to explore how two- and three-digit numbers can be partitioned in different ways. The children have been developing their understanding of place value and learning how numbers can be broken apart and recombined flexibly. Fantastic mathematical thinking, Year 3/4!





Welcome to The Friends of Littledean Newsletter

I personally have been a part of the school community for ten months now, since the children and I moved here from Cheltenham. The Friends of Littledean accepted me in immediately and I have been honoured to volunteer with the team this last year in many fundraising projects.

We are extremely blessed to have our new committee voted in at the end of the summer. We do need more volunteers for Tuck shop and occasional events. If you would like to know more, please do speak to any of the team or do attend our next committee meeting Friday 25th September 2pm in the school staff room.

All parent/carers and Grandparents are very welcome.

Anthea 😊

Your new Friends Committee from September:

Chair: Anthea Searle

Co-secretaries: Alice Sammons & Jess Ginger

Treasurer: Anna Dilworth

PTA Member: Jo Beard



Diary Dates

Wednesday 23 rd September	Phonics information session for Reception Parents
Tuesday 6 th October	Rags2Riches clothing collection
Tuesday 6 TH October	School Photographer
Friday 9 th October	Wellbeing champions visit to Viney Hill
Wednesday 30 th September	iSing Pop Concert at St Ethelberts
Tuesday 3 rd November	Flu Immunisations
Monday 14 th December	Whole School Pantomime Trip
Wednesday 16 th December	Christmas Jumper Day

Term Dates

These are also available on our website

2026 / 2027 – Please see website for full details

Term 1	Tuesday 1 st September 2026 – Friday 23 rd October 2026
Term 2	Monday 2 nd November 2026 – Friday 18 th December 2026
Term 3	Monday 4 th January 2027 – Friday 12 th February 2027
Term 4	Monday 22 nd February 2027 – Thursday 25 th March 2027
Term 5	Monday 12 th April 2027 – Friday 28 th May 2027
Term 6	Monday 7 th June 2027 – Wednesday 21 st July 2027

INSET Day	1	Tuesday 1 st September 2026
INSET Day	2	Friday 23 rd October 2026
INSET Day	3	Monday 4 th January 2027
INSET Day	4	Monday 22 nd February 2027
INSET Day	5	Monday 7 th June 2027