

Littledean Church of England Primary School

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Loving one another, building each other up

11th December 2020

Newsletter 14

Dear Parents,

As we near the end of the term we would like to thank our parents and carers for helping us to keep the school Covid-19 free, your assistance with the staggered start and finish times, wearing of face coverings and social distancing has been much appreciated. We are amazed with our children who have adapted to our 'bubble' system, changes to classroom layouts and changes in routines without any fuss. Their willingness to learn and their behaviour has been brilliant this term. Unfortunately we will have to continue with all these changes into the new year.

Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 10th December

Thank you for your kind donations for the Christmas Jumper day yesterday, we will let you know how much was raised in our next letter. If you haven't donated yet you can make a donation through our online payment system at www.parentpay.com

Christmas Cards

Thank you for sending in your Christmas cards, boxes will now be sealed and we will issue cards to the children next week. Please do not send cards into school next week as we will not be able to issue them until January. Thank you.

Teddy Bear Raffle

The School Council have organised a Teddy Bear raffle, proceeds will go to our Wellfound Charity. Tickets cost 50 pence each, please send money in and give to your class teacher. Last day to buy tickets is Wednesday 16th December, the draw will take place on Thursday 17th December. Good luck.

Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 16th December

Our Christmas Lunch will take place on Wednesday 16th December. Meals are free for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 under the Universal Infant Free School Meal initiative, or if your child is entitled to free school meals. It costs £2.32 for all other year groups and payment to be made through our online system www.parentpay.com. The Christmas lunch menu consists of:

Turkey Baguette, Sausage Roll, Crudities, Satsuma, Chocolate Brownie
A vegetarian option is also available.

Christmas Parties

Each class will holding their own class bubble Christmas Party. These will be instead of the PE session that week and party clothes is optional. Staff will provide nibbles and snacks on the party day. The parties will take place on the following days:

Monday 14 th December	Holly Leaves Class
Tuesday 15 th December	Chestnut Class
Wednesday 16 th December	Holly Berries Class
Thursday 17 th December	Maple Class
Thursday 17 th December - morning	Pre-School

Head Teacher: Mrs Hayley McGoldrick

Last day of Term - Friday 18th December

We have decided not to follow the Governments suggestion of taking Friday 18th December as an INSET day. It was announced too late to organise meaningful training for our staff and for our parents to make last minute childcare arrangements. Also we have a fun day planned.

We have organised for the children to watch a pre-recorded live pantomime performance of Cinderella in their class bubbles. Holly Leaves class will not be taking part in their usual Forest Schools session so they should wear school uniform.

School will finish at one hour earlier than normal but keeping to our staggered times:

Maple:	1.50
Chestnut:	2.00
Holly Berries:	2.10
Holly Leaves:	2.20
Pre-School:	1.45

Rock Steady Concert

Rock Steady have started to record some of our groups for their online concert. We understand that parents have been contacted and will receive a link so that they can see what their children get up to in the lessons, they have made so much progress this term. We do have a few spaces available in the group if we have any budding rock stars out there.

Next week we will also be making a Christingle and Rev Mike Barnsley will be hosting a virtual Christingle service. We will hold our annual Christmas Service although in our bubbles rather than at St Ethelberts Church. Also each class will be taking part in Christmas art and craft activities.

Free School Meals – Holiday Hamper

If your child is entitled to free school meals a food hamper will be provided for them over the Christmas Holiday. All food items are provided by a local Gloucestershire supplier. The hamper will contain: Biscuits, Tinned Fruit/pots/jelly, Tinned Tomatoes, Baked Beans, Bread, Locally Produced Cheese, Long Life Milk, Alberto Poiatti Pasta, Locally Produced Eggs, Nestle Box Cereals, MSC Certified Tuna, Tinned Soup, Jacket Potatoes, Fresh Fruit (Satsumas), Christmas Chocolate cake.

We understand that the hampers will be delivered to school on Wednesday 16th December and will contact parents to arrange collection on Thursday 17th December.

Gloucestershire Credit Union

We have been asked to share the following with you.

If you or your family are experiencing financial difficulties during the pandemic, Gloucestershire Credit Union may be able to help. They can provide short term loans at affordable rates so that you do not have to go to expensive payday lenders. Further information is available at www.gloscreditunion.org.uk/loans.

Covid Symptoms during the Christmas Holiday

So that we can keep our school community safe it is very important that you notify the school if your child or a parent / carer that has attended the school site during the last week of term shows Covid symptoms during the first few days of the Christmas holiday. We will then be able to advise our school community to isolate / test if necessary. Please email head@littledean.gloucs.sch.uk. Thank you.

We would like to wish all our families a safe Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming you back into school on Monday 4th January 2021.