



Loving one another, building each other up

Littledean C of E Primary School Newsletter 16

16th January 2026

Dear Parents,

A Few Reminders..

Reporting an absence

All absences need to be reported by phone. Please do not email absences because emails may not be checked until later in the day. There is now a 24-hour voicemail service and an option to report an absence on the main menu when calling. The office telephone number is 01594 822171



Ordering Hot Dinners

Weekly dinner slips are given to children on a Friday to be completed and returned to school during registration on a Monday. Please ensure you are completing and returning the slips so that we can plan the children's dinners for the week with Caterlink. If a child doesn't bring in a packed lunch and a dinner slip hasn't been completed then a meal will be picked for them.



Sportily Dance Club

The weekly dance club with Sportily has been postponed now until next term. There will be no more sessions until further notice. More information on when they are restarting and how to sign up will be sent out closer to the time.



Cricket Taster Day

On Thursday 22nd January Gloucester Cricket will be in school for a Cricket Taster Day. All children will need to come into school wearing their PE kit. Please remember to bring extra layers.



Rags to Riches Clothing Collection – Thursday 5th February 2026

Do you have clothes in your wardrobe that you no longer wear, maybe last year's fashions, or that buy that was too good to leave but it's not really you after all?

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)

Your donations become affordable clothing in other countries so please do not send poor quality, dirty or wet items, and no duvets, pillows, curtains, books, CDs or bric-a-brac.

STOP and THINK - is it something you'd wear out and about yourself or pass to a friend? If not, no-one else will want to wear it either, so unfortunately, it's not reusable and can't go in the bag.

Even if it's only one t-shirt please bring it in, as it will all help our school.
If you can involve family, friends and neighbours please do.



Please bring your donations to school on the morning of Thursday 5th February 2026 before 9.00 a.m. and leave in the covered area outside the rear entrance door.

Thank you.

Holiday Requests

Please remember that the Government's guidance remains very clear that we cannot authorise holiday requests in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. A Request for Leave of Absence form can be found on the school website at the following link or from the school office:

https://www.littledeanprimary.co.uk/website/attendance_at_school/169684

You may be issued with a penalty notice for taking your child out of school during term time. Please note that a penalty is issued to each parent for each child taken out of school. A Penalty Notice is a fine of £80 if paid within the first 21 days which increases to £160 if paid between 21 and 28 days. Thereafter, if the penalty remains unpaid this may lead to prosecution through the Magistrates' Court.



Contact Details – Can we get hold of you in an Emergency?

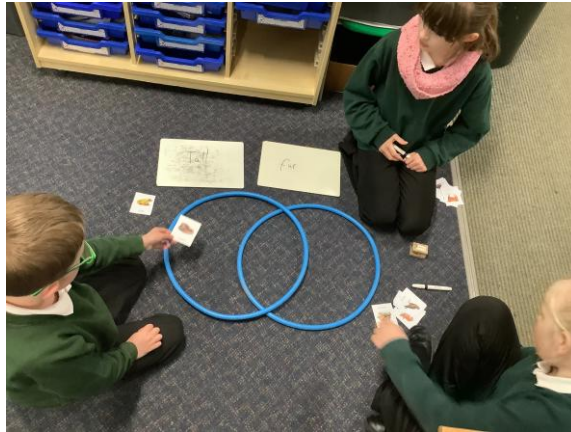


As most of our communications are now through email or postings on the school website is it even more important that we have up to date contact details for you. If you or your emergency contacts have changed telephone numbers, email addresses or have moved house please let us know as soon as possible.

If you are not sure please check with the school office or send an email to admin@littledean.gloucs.sch.uk with your new details. Thank you.

Chestnut Class

Chestnut Class have had a busy week of science activities to start our new unit 'Classification and Changing Habitats'. We began the week recapping the terms vertebrate and invertebrate before sorting them using a Venn diagram and a Carroll diagram. We then moved on to sorting plants and leaves. We created a classification key for 8 leaves with a partner. We then hid the answers and tested each other's classification key to check that they worked. Next week we will move on to making classification keys for birds.



Maple Class

Maple Class have been enjoying learning Spanish since the beginning of the academic year. So far, they can greet one another, ask how someone is, say what their name is, and tell others how old they are.

Today, we began our exciting new topic on Pets and Colours. The children have been learning how to ask "¿Tienes una mascota?" (Do you have a pet?) and are looking forward to expanding their Spanish vocabulary even further.



Holly Leaves

In Preschool we have been counting up to and back from 6, using our maths resources to help us. The children successfully ordered the numbers in size identifying which number was the smallest and which was the biggest. As an extension activity, Holly Leaves enjoyed sorting the animals and cubes into colour groups using tweezers to help build on their fine motor skills



Emergency Closure Procedures

Hopefully we won't need to do this anytime soon but just in case we need to close the school, here is a reminder of our procedures. **Please ensure that we have up to date contact details for you.** If we need to close the school we will:

- Send you a text message / email through Eschools
- Announce the closure on Radio Gloucestershire – 104.7 fm
- Post the closure on <https://closures.gloucestershire.gov.uk/> (please note new address)
- Post the closure on our school website www.littledeanprimary.co.uk
- Post the closure on our facebook page
- If possible a member of staff will be on site to advise of the closure.

Smash Hit Music

From 5th February 2026 the Smash Hit Music sessions will change to Thursday afternoons each week instead of Friday Mornings. If you are interested in your child taking part in sessions please see below link for more information or to sign up:

<https://www.smashhit.co.uk/signup>



Littledean C of E Primary School Pre-School
would like to invite you to our Valentines
themed stay and play morning!



Date : Thursday 12 February 2026

Time : 10.00 – 11.00 am

This is a great opportunity for your child to meet the staff, the other children and be introduced to their new play and learning environment.

It also gives you the time to fill in any paperwork and chat with staff about your child's needs and interests



Term Dates

These are also available on our website

2025 / 2026 – Please see website for full details

Term 3 Monday 5th January 2026 – Friday 13th February 2026

Term 4 Monday 23th February 2026 – Friday 27th March 2026

Term 5 Monday 13th April 2026 – Friday 22nd May 2026

Term 6 Monday 1st June 2026 – Monday 20th July 2026

2026/2027

Term 1 Tuesday 1st September 2026 – Friday 23rd October 2026

Term 2 Monday 2nd November – Friday 18th December 2026

INSET Day 3 Friday 13th February 2026

INSET Day 4 Monday 1st June 2026

INSET Day 5 Monday 20th July 2026

Diary Dates

Thursday 22nd January 2026

Thursday 29th January 2026

Wednesday 4th February 2026

Thursday 12th February

Thursday 23rd April 2026

w/c 11th May 2026

Cricket Taster day

Maple Class' Skillzone

Full Governors meeting

Preschool Stay and Play

Maple Class Activity Day

Year 6 SATS week