

Littledean Church of England Primary School

Church Street, Littledean, Gloucestershire, GL14 3NL

Telephone: 01594 822171

Fax: 01594 825436

Email: admin@littledean.gloucs.sch.uk

Website: www.littledeanprimary.co.uk

Twitter: @littledeansch



Loving one another, building each other up

5th November 2020

Newsletter 9

Dear Parents,

We welcome you back to school for Term 2, already we have been thrown a curveball as England enters a 2nd national lockdown with schools remaining open as normal.

We would like to thank you for wearing face coverings on the school site and helping us to keep the school community as safe as possible. We also ask that you take the approach of 'drop and go' or 'collect and go' when bringing and collecting children from school. If this is not possible please ensure that you socially distance in the rear playground, steps and slopes to and from school and in Oak Way carpark. Please help us to keep our children, staff and school community as safe as possible.

We will continue with our staggered start and finish times, please help us by keeping to the class timetable or agreed sibling times.

Class	Start Time	Finish Time
Pre-School	8.45	2.45
Holly Leaves	9.00	3.20
Holly Berries	8.50	3.10
Chestnut	8.40	3.00
Maple	8.30	2.50

Unfortunately due to medical conditions Mrs Tattersall and Mrs Bonser have been advised to shield so will be unable to work in school throughout this lockdown. So as to reduce the impact on the children and teaching staff other teaching assistants have agreed to work additional hours, should you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Illness and Attendance at School

While we would like every child to attend school every day we know that it is sometimes not possible. Children are often unwell with general coughs, colds, sore throats, etc and the best place for them is at home when they are unwell.

This year we also have Covid-19 to deal with. The symptoms of Covid-19 are:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child or a member of your household suffer from these symptoms then we must follow the governments guidance. Currently this is to isolate for 14 days and to arrange a Covid-19 test. Further guidance can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>. Testing can be booked at www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test or call 119.

If your child is unwell before the start of the school day, please do not bring them into school. Please telephone the school office and let a member of staff know exactly what symptoms your child is exhibiting, even if you do not suspect Covid-19. If your child becomes ill during the school day, we ask that you come and pick them up as soon as possible. Please remember to use the rear entrance of the school at all times. Thank you.

Head Teacher: Mrs Hayley McGoldrick

Christian Value for Life

Our Christian Value for Life this term is Trust

Cauliflower Christmas Cards and Gifts

It's not too late to order online, artwork must be returned to school by Friday 6th November.

Operation Christmas Child

Once again we will be supporting Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal. Closing date for shoe boxes is **Friday 6th November 2020**.

Children in Need

This year we will be celebrating Children in Need on **Thursday 12th November 2020**. We ask that children wear their normal school uniform (PE kit for Maple Class) along with 'odd socks' or 'crazy tights' for a donation (we suggest £1.00) towards Children in Need.

Poppy Appeal

We are also supporting the Poppy Appeal.

Suggested donations are:

Zip Pull	50p	Reflector	50p
Silicon Wristband	£1.00	Snap Band	£1.50

Rags to Riches – Clothing Collection

Our next collection for good quality clothing/shoes and accessories has been booked for Friday 20th November. More details to follow, please do not bring bags into school yet.

Parent Governor

We welcome Andrew Greenhalgh-Cook onto the Governing Board as parent governor.

Clothing

As the weather is changing and becoming colder and wetter we ask that all children bring a waterproof coat into school each day. Please continue to send children to school in their PE kit on PE days, they may wear tracksuit bottoms too as the weather gets colder. Thank you.

Free Fruit

We would like to thank Morrisons for providing us with a few packs of free fruit each week, the children in Maple and Chestnut classes have been enjoying these.

Headlice and Nits

Unfortunately we have a few cases of headlice and nits in school, please check your child's hair on a regular basis and treat them and family members where necessary.

Rock Steady

Many of our children have had great fun learning an instrument from guitars, drums, keyboards also vocals, with our music teachers from Rock Steady, some of you will have also enjoyed the concerts they have put on and seen the great progress the children make from term to term. Rock Steady now has a few spaces available for new children to join. Further information is available on their flyer which is on the school website.

Contact Details

As the vast majority of our communications will now be through email or postings on the website or twitter it is 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.

Can we help?

Jobs and family situations may change during and following this lockdown, if you find you are struggling please get in touch with us as we may be able to help. Mrs Webb has many contacts who can assist with applying for benefits, food parcels, dealing with debts etc. All discussion will remain confidential, Mrs Webb can be contacted on swebb@littledean.gloucs.sch.uk or telephone the school office.

Head Teacher: Mrs Hayley McGoldrick

Free School Meals

Why should you apply?

For every child that is entitled to free school meals the school receives extra funding to enhance provision and improve progress and outcomes for children. So please apply even if you do not wish to take up your free school meal.

What are the qualifying criteria for Free School Meals?

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

If you feel that you may be entitled to free school meals you can check your eligibility and apply for meals by visiting: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/> All applications will be treated in confidence.

Starting School as a reception child in September 2021

If you have a child that is due to start school in September 2021 an application pack should be sent to you during November. If you do not receive an application pack please contact the school admissions team on 01452 425407 or email school.admissions@gloucestershire.gov.uk. The deadline for completing your choices is 15th January 2021.

Emergency Closure Procedures

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
- 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 twitter feed - @littledeansch
- If possible a member of staff will be on site to advise of the closure.

Term Dates

Term 2	Monday 2 nd November 2020 – Friday 18 th December 2020
Term 3	Monday 4 th January 2021 – Friday 12 th February 2021
Term 4	Tuesday 23 rd February 2021 – Wednesday 31 st March 2021
Term 5	Monday 19 th April 2021 – Friday 28 th May 2021
Term 6	Tuesday 8 th June 2021 – Wednesday 21 st July 2021

Bank Holiday Monday 3rd May 2021

Inset day 3	Monday 22 nd February 2021	Staff only to attend
Inset day 4	Thursday 1 st April 2021	Staff only to attend
Inset day 5	Monday 7 th June 2021	Staff only to attend

Head Teacher: Mrs Hayley McGoldrick