



Littledean C of E Primary School Newsletter 14

10th January 2025

Dear Parents,

Christian Value – Term 3

Our Christian Value for life this term is

Courage



Staff News

This week we said goodbye to Miss Goodall, Teaching Assistant in Holly Berries Class. Miss Goodall has obtained a new position at The Hearts of the Forest School, we wish her well for the future.

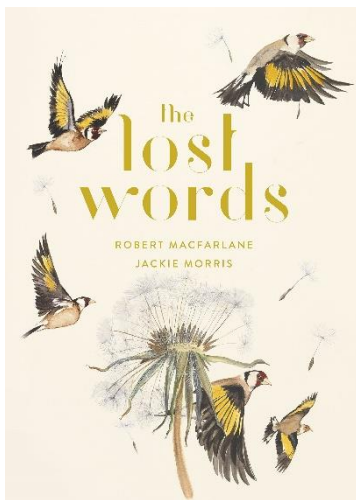
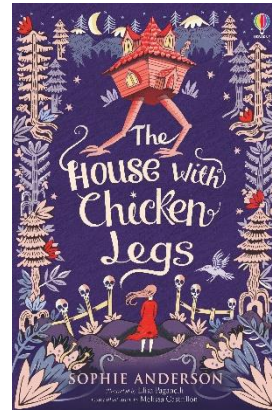
We welcome Mrs Ridgway, Teaching Assistant who will be working in Chestnut Class and Miss Reynolds Teaching Assistant who will be working in Holly Berries Class. Also Mrs Clarkson has joined the admin team and will work as Clerk to the Governors and Admin Assistant. Mrs Clarkson will be in the school office on a Monday and Friday morning, and Wednesday and Thursday afternoon.

THANK YOU!

Chestnut Class would like to say a **HUGE** thank you to the Friends committee and everyone who has supported their events. Before Christmas all of the children chose a book/author/type of book which they wanted in our class library. The Friends donated £200 to enable us to fill up our book corner with lots of lovely new books including the children's requested books. We are already enjoying reading them!

Chestnut Class

We have started reading the book 'The House with Chicken Legs' by our focus author Sophie Anderson.



Our English lessons this term are based on the book 'The Lost Words' by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris. We are currently working on writing a poem based on an animal we might find in the Forest of Dean which includes kennings.

In maths we are finishing off our focus on multiplication and division which we started before Christmas. We will then go on to look at different types of measure including length and perimeter and mass and capacity as well as fractions and then decimals. As well as this, we are still working on learning all of our times tables to 12x12.

As well as all of this, we are also learning about these topics:

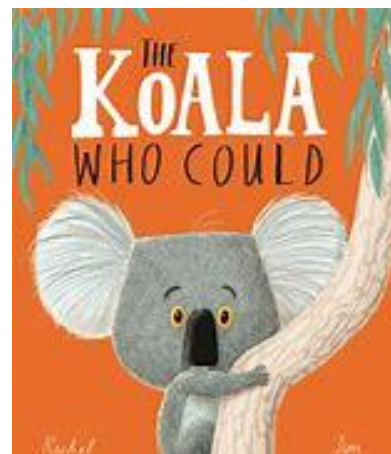
History	What did the Ancient Egyptians believe?
DT	Textiles: Egyptian Collars
PSHCE	Keeping Safe
Science	Rocks and Soil
Computing	Programming – Repetition in Games
French	Playground games – number and age
RE	What is the 'Trinity' and why is it important to Christians?

Holly Berries Class

Class Reader - The author we are looking at this term is Oliver Jeffers. We have started reading some of the books he has written, including Up and Down. We are very excited to explore more books written by him.



Literacy - This term we are looking at the story The Koala Who Could by Rachel Bright. We have started by making predictions for the story and once read made a story map to learn the story in more detail.



Edges, Faces and Vertices

Vertex

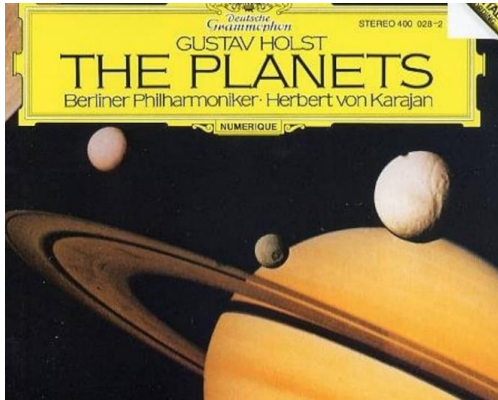


Edge

Face

Maths - Our first unit this term is looking at properties of 2D and 3D shapes. We are learning the different terminology related to the shapes. This week we have learnt about vertices and how to draw 2D shapes using a ruler

In History this term we will be learning how toys have changed. This week the children enjoyed sharing their own toys and exploring what materials they were made from. Over the next few weeks we will be looking at toys that their parents and grandparents may have played with and making comparisons between old and new toys.



In Computing we will be using different software to create music on the iPads. In our first lesson we listened to some pieces of music by the composer Gustav Holst. We discussed the similarities and differences and the feelings the music evoked.

School Census Day – Hot School Meals – Thursday 16th January 2025

Thursday 16th January 2025 is the national schools census day. School funding for the next financial year (April – March) is based on number of children registered at school on this day, also numbers who are on the SEND register, free school meals register and even those who eat a school meal on this day. So as to maximise the amount of funding we can receive we will hold a special meal on the Thursday and encourage everyone to try a hot school meal. Our menu is:

**Spaghetti Bolognese with garlic dough balls,
or Chinese Vegetable Curry
or Jacket Potato with Cheese**

The weekly menu slips will reflect these changes. Please ensure menu slips are handed in during registration on a Monday morning. A hot meal costs £2.71 daily, (Pre-school £2.72 daily) and should be paid for in advance through our online payment system www.parentpay.com. Those children who are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 are entitled to a free meal under the Universal infant free school meal scheme, as are those entitled to free school meals.

Maple Class

Maple Class are continuing with our class reader, *Goldfish Boy*, but hope to move onto *Friend or Foe* by the end of term. *Friend or Foe* links in well with our current history unit 'What was the impact of World War Two on the people of Britain?'



We have just started a new science topic: Materials: Properties and Changes. It's another unit with lots of experiments which the children really enjoy. This week we investigated the 'hardness' of materials



Term Dates

These are also available on our website

2024 / 2025 –

Term 3 Monday 6th January 2025 – Friday 14th February 2025

Term 4 Monday 24th February 2025 – Friday 11th April 2025

Term 5 Monday 28th April 2025 – Friday 23rd May 2025

Term 6 Monday 2nd June 2025 – Monday 21st July 2025

INSET Day 4 11th April 2025

INSET Day 5 21st July 2025

Holiday Requests

Please remember that the Governments guidance remains very clear that we cannot authorise holiday requests in term time unless there are exceptional circumstance. 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.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 14th January

Wednesday 15th January

Tuesday 21st January

Wednesday 29th January

Wednesday 29th January

Tuesday 4th February

Wednesday 5th February

w/c Monday 12th May

Governors Learning Walk - Maths

Young Voice Concert – Birmingham

Curriculum Governors Meeting

Governors Learning Walk – History

Full Governing Board Meeting

Full Governing Board Meeting

Governors Learning Walk - Reading

Year 6 SAT's