



Littledean C of E Primary School Newsletter 21

7th March 2025

Dear Parents,

Parent Governor Election

We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor. Parent Governors are elected by and from the parents of children currently attending our school. The Governing Board play a vital role in ensuring that every child receives the best possible education whilst at our school. If you are interested or would like further information please contact Mrs McGoldrick or the school office . Our closing date for nominations is 12.00 noon Friday 14th March 2025.

Tesco Grant

Littledean School have successfully been shortlisted for a Tesco grant award of up to £1,500 to help us to buy additional resources to support teaching across the curriculum! Please support us by voting for us in store with your blue token and encouraging friends and family to do the same.

Voting details:

When: 1st April – 30th June

Where: Tesco in Cinderford, Coleford and Lydney

TESCO
**Stronger
Starts.**



Smash Hits Music

On Monday we had a visit from Oscar Wenman-Hyde from Smash Hits Music, together we wrote words to a song and some of the children were chosen to play the instruments.



Smash Hits offers song writing led music lessons in schools, in small groups children will not only learn how to play an instrument but they will be taught how to write their own song in a fun, educational and collaborative environment.

For further information and to sign your child up to Smash Hits Music please visit:
<https://www.smashhit.co.uk/>

School Meals

We have been advised that the cost of school meals will increase from **1st April 2025**.

For children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 a school meal will cost **£2.85**

For children in Pre-School a school meal will cost **£2.89**

Children in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free government funded universal infant free school meal (UIFSM).

If you are on a low income or in receipt of certain benefits you may be able to claim for free schools meals. This not only allows your child a free meal each day but also provides the school with additional funding to use on resources and support throughout the school.

To see if you are able to apply please visit:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schoolsnet/your-pupils/free-school-meals/>

All applications are treated in confidence.

Holly Leaves Class

Holly Leaves has been busy this week! We started the week learning about Shrove Tuesday and enjoyed some yummy pancakes.

We explored how sound vibrations travel through string by making our own paper cup telephones.

Our topic this Term is our Amazing world and we have been looking at life cycles. We are very lucky to have lots of frogs in our pond who have laid an incredible amount of frog spawn that we are excited to watch grow into Tadpoles and then frogs over the next couple of months.

Holly Leaves then finished off the week all cosy in our PJ's sharing our favourite books during World Book Day.

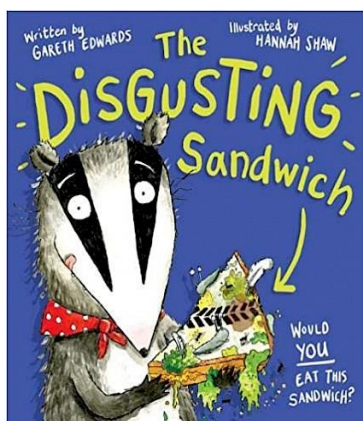


Holly Berries Class

We started our new RE topic on Shrove Tuesday by finding out why we have Pancake Day. We learnt about Lent and talked about things we thought we would find hard to give up. The children had some great ideas including ipads, chocolate, television and even fruit. We chose our own toppings for our pancakes and they tasted delicious.



We have been using tally charts in Science to gather data to answer our question “Do woodlice like wet or dry places?” We set up our investigation by placing some woodlice on a plate that had a wet and a dry place. We then used a stopwatch and checked how many woodlice we could see in each place on the plate every minute for a total of 5 minutes. We recorded the amounts in our tally chart. Our results showed that the woodlice preferred the wet part of the plate as that was where most woodlice were.



In Literacy Holly Berries have been looking at the story of The Disgusting Sandwich by Gareth Edwards. Children have had a great time thinking about how they would create their own disgusting sandwich. They have particularly enjoyed exploring this at forest school to test their ideas! We have been learning about instruction writing and will begin our own recipes next week.

Maple and Chestnut Class – World Book Day

Maple and Chestnut Classes had a busy World Book Day! Shared reading with siblings and parents started the day. We then created a competition entry for a new book token. We enjoyed an iced bun at break time before joining the BBC Live Lesson where we looked at different genres of books and joined in the live 60-second read. To end the day, we joined with the rest of the school for the book share where we chose a book to be read to us by an adult in the school.



World Book Day

Some of Maple Class competition entries



Last but not least we thank our parents for supporting us on World Book Day.



Rags 2 Riches Clothing Collection

LITTLEDEAN CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Raise funds by collecting reusable clothes

RAGS
2
RICHES
Schools Clubs Groups

WE ACCEPT CLEAN, GOOD QUALITY, DRY, REUSABLE CLOTHING

- ✓ Adults, Childrens & Babies Clothing
- ✓ Jewellery and Accessories
- ✓ Paired Shoes and Footwear
- ✓ Belts and Handbags

A full list of reusable items is listed on our website www.rags2riches4schools.co.uk

WE DO NOT ACCEPT

POOR QUALITY ITEMS SUCH AS DIRTY, WET, RIPPED OR SOILED CLOTHES.
PILLOWS, DUVETS, CURTAINS, BOOKS CDs OR ANY UNIFORM

If you are unsure what to put in the bags
STOP AND THINK
WOULD YOU WEAR IT?

Please use the clothing bag provided.
You can also use any additional bag if required.

Collection Date:
Thursday 27th March 2025

Please remember - NO UNIFORM

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Please bring items to school on the morning of the collection – thank you

Friends – Dates for your Diary

The Friends Committee have been planning some activities for this year:

- Good Friday 18th April - Easter egg hunt and Easter raffle
- Friday 20th June- Summer fair 3:10-6.00 pm.
- Friday 28th November- Christmas fair 3:10-6.00 pm.

As always we will require help to run these events, if you are able to help please contact Amy Evans or Sophie Greenhalgh Cook. Thank you. Further information to follow.

Term Dates

These are also available on our website

2024 / 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

2025 / 2026 – INSET days to be confirmed

Term 1 Monday 1st September 2025 – Friday 24th October 2025

Term 2 Monday 3rd November 2025 – Friday 19th December 2025

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

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](https://www.littledeanprimary.co.uk/website/attendance%20at%20school/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 11 th March	Governors Strategic Safeguarding Training
Monday 17 th March	Puddle Ducks Water Safety Talk
Tuesday 18 th March	Maple and Chestnut Parental Consultations
Thursday 20 th March	Governors Learning Walk – Science
Friday 21 st March	Comic Relief Non Uniform Day
Tuesday 25 th March	Full Governing Board Meeting
Wednesday 26 th March	Holly Leaves and Berries Parental Consultations
Thursday 27 th March	Rags to Riches Clothing Collection
Thursday 3 rd April	Pre-School Induction morning
Wednesday 9 th April	Leadership Governors Meeting
Friday 18 th April	Friends Easter Egg Hunt and Raffle
Wednesday 30 th March	Governors Learning Walk - Writing
Friday 2 nd May	80 th Anniversary VE Day