



Littledean C of E Primary School Newsletter 12

29th November 2024

Dear Parents,

Attendance, Absence and Lateness

This week we have seen unusually high levels of lateness, we know and understand that is it dark, cold and an effort to get going in the mornings, but lateness is disruptive for all and can cause distress and anxiety for the children and classes.

We ask that you make a big effort to arrive in school on time, ready to walk through the doors at 8.40 a.m. A chat with friends in the playground is a great way to start the day.

A reminder that children should be attending school every day on time if they are well enough to do so. If they are absent for any reason we ask that you contact the office by telephone to advise us of the reason for absence. An answerphone is available if the office is unmanned. Please do not email as these may not be checked until later in the day.

School starts at **8.40 am**. Gates are locked at **8.45 am**, all children and parents arriving after this time must report to reception so that children can be signed into school.

Thank you

After School Clubs

A reminder that our Sports Clubs on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, also Young Voices on a Thursday have now stopped for the remainder of this term. We hope that the children have enjoyed attending them.

We will restart clubs towards the end of January when the evenings are starting to get a little lighter.

We ask that the children attending the Young Voices Concert in January continue to practice songs and actions at home. We will arrange practice sessions during the school day so that they are ready for the concert.

A visit from Bishop Robert

Bishop Robert and Rev Mike Barnsley visited the school yesterday, they were given a tour of the school by the Wellbeing Champions and held a questions and answer session for all the children.



Holly Leaves Class – Christmas Tree Festival

The children have been busy decorating our tree in the theme of Christmas Past and Christmas Present for the Christmas Tree Festival at St Stephens Church in Cinderford.

If you have time today or over the weekend please call in to see ours and all the other wonderfully decorated trees.



Christmas Tree Festival
St Stephen's Church
Belle Vue Rd, Cinderford, GL14 2AA

Friday 29 November, 10 am - 7 pm
Ladies' Shopping Evening, 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm

Saturday 30 November, 10 am - 5 pm
Community Christmas Concert, 7 pm

Sunday 1 December, 12 noon - 5 pm
Service amongst the trees, 11 am
Looking for the Light Service, 6 pm

DECORATIONS,
FOOD, CAKES,
DRINKS, MUSIC,
TWINKLY LIGHTS
&
LOTS OF FESTIVE
ATMOSPHERE

FREE ENTRY

Cinderford Churches
Fairtrade at St Stephen's

Holly Leaves – Nativity Play

Parents, families, friends and neighbours are invite to Holly Leaves nativity play on Wednesday 4th December at 9.15 a.m. at St Ethelberts Church Littledean.



They have been practicing, we hope you are able to join us.

Pre-School Stay and Play

An invitation for all children that are approaching 3 or are three or four years old that would like to join our Pre-School in School.

Littledean Pre-School would like to invite you to our stay and play morning!

Date : Tuesday 10th December 2024

Time : 10.00 – 11.00 am

This is a great opportunity for you and your child to meet the staff, the other children and view our fun 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

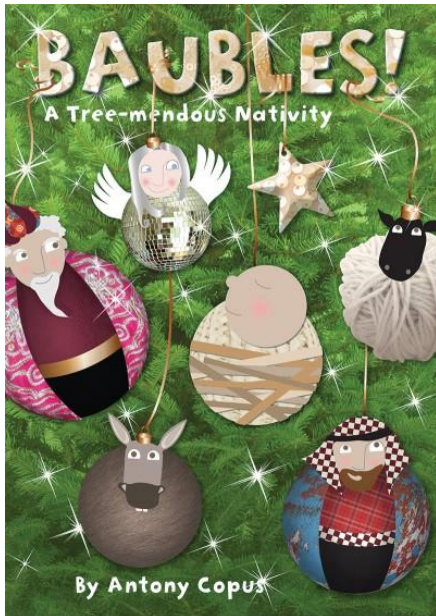
RSVP:

hollyleaves@littledean.gloucs.sch.uk

admin@littledean.gloucs.sch.uk



Holly Berries Christmas Performance



Holly Berries Class will perform their Christmas play - Bauble: A Treemendous Nativity on Tuesday 10th December at 2.00 and Wednesday 11th December at 5.30.

If you have not already booked your tickets please contact the school office

Thank you

Pantomime – Friday 13th December 2024

A reminder that the whole school will be attending the Roses Theatre in Tewkesbury on Friday 13th December to see the Pantomime Cinderella.

We ask for a donation of £12.50 to cover the cost of the theatre ticket and transport to and from Tewkesbury, please pay through our online payment system at www.parentpay.com.

If you require a barcode letter to pay at paypoint, nearest is in Littledean Stores, please ask at the school office

Should you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Packed lunches will be required on the day, these can be ordered through caterlink on the usual menu.



Christmas Lunch

We hold our Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 18th December and look forward to enjoying either a traditional or vegetarian meal with all the trimmings.

Please remember to visit www.parentpay.com to pay for your meal in advance of the day. Meals cost £2.71 for years 3 – 6, £2.72 for Pre-School and are free for Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.



Christmas Jumper Day – Wednesday 18th December



Just for fun, we ask children to wear their Christmas Jumper into school on Wednesday 18th December.

Don't forget that the Friends will continue to collect Christmas Jumpers that children have grown out of and sell for a small donation. – Further information to follow next week

Reminder we are NUT FREE School

A reminder that we are a nut free school due to two of our children being diagnosed with life threatening nut allergies.

Please do not send your child to school with items that contain nuts – for example:

- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Chocolate spread sandwiches
- Cereal bars
- Some granola bars
- Cakes that contain nuts
- Biscuits / Cookies that contain nuts



We ask that you check labels of food to ensure that it is 'nut free'

We do acknowledge that many foods are labelled as 'may have been produced in a factory handling nuts and cannot be guaranteed to be nut free'. Such items will be allowed in school as it would be unreasonable to expect these to be kept out of school.

We thank you in advance for your co-operation and support regarding this matter.

Advance Notice – Last Day of Term

The last day of term for the children is Thursday 19th December 2024. We ask that children bring in a packed lunch as hot meals will not be available. A packed lunch can be ordered from Caterlink on the usual weekly menu

- ✚ 12.45 Pre-School will close for the holiday
- ✚ 1.00 Christmas Service at St Ethelberts Church, all welcome to attend
- ✚ 2.00 Parents to collect children from School as school closes for the Christmas Holiday

Friends Christmas Fair

We would like to thank our wonderful Friends committee for organising the Christmas Fair this year. We look forward to a fantastic event and hope that they raise lots of money for the children and school.

Term Dates

These are also available on our website

2024 / 2025 –

Term 2	Monday 4 th November 2024 – Friday 20 th December 2024
Term 3	Monday 6 th January 2025 – Friday 14 th February 2025
Term 4	Monday 24 th February 2025 – Friday 11 th April 2025
Term 5	Monday 28 th April 2025 – Friday 23 rd May 2025
Term 6	Monday 2 nd June 2025 – Monday 21 st July 2025

INSET Day	3	20 th December 2024
INSET Day	4	11 th April 2025
INSET Day	5	21 st 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

Wednesday 4 th December	Holly Leaves Nativity at St Ethelberts Church 9.15 a.m
Wednesday 4 th December	Governors Learning Walk
Tuesday 10 th December	Holly Berries Christmas Performance – afternoon
Wednesday 11 th December	Holly Berries Christmas Performance - evening
Friday 13 th December	Whole School visit to Roses Theatre Tewkesbury
Wednesday 18 th December	Christmas Lunch / Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas Service at St Ethelbert's Church
Wednesday 15 th January	Young Voice Concert – Birmingham
w/c Monday 12 th May	Year 6 SAT's