



Loving one another, building each other up

Littledean C of E Primary School Newsletter 13

8th December 2023

Dear Parents,

Lateness

We know it is cold, dark and wet at the moment and appreciate that it is more difficult to get going but there are too many children arriving in school after our start time of 8.40 a.m.

Over the last 4 days - Monday 4th December to Thursday 7th December - 19 children on 27 occasions arrived after the gates closed at 8.45. In total, they missed 309 minutes (just over 5 hours) of learning. 19 children is nearly a quarter of the school that have been late this week!

These levels of lateness can cause distress and anxiety for the children and disrupts teachers and pupils who are already in the classroom.

We ask that you all 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. Thank you.

Tuesday 12th December – Pre-School – Songs around the Christmas Tree

We invite parents to join us on Tuesday 12th December at 2.30 p.m. for Songs around the Christmas Tree with our Pre-School Children.



Changes to Forest Schools Sessions and PE Sessions

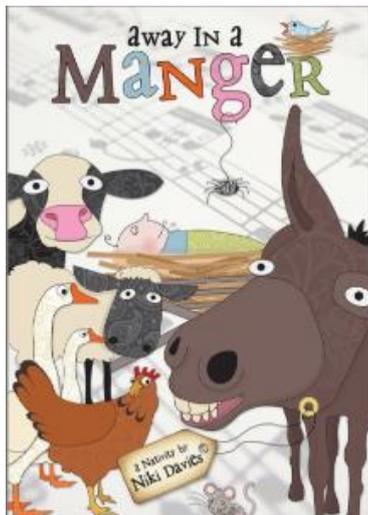
This week on **Tuesday 12th December** Years 1 and 2 will have their Forest Schools Session.

On **Wednesday 13th December** the PE session will be cancelled for Holly Leaves and Holly Berries Classes, please wear normal uniform to school.

On **Thursday 14th December** Reception and Pre-School will have their Forest Schools Session.

Next week, **Tuesday 19th December and Thursday 21st December** Forest Schools Session will be cancelled for everyone due to other activities planned in the school.

Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th December – Infant Christmas Play



Holly Leaves and Holly Berries Class will perform their nativity play 'Away in a Manger' at 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday 13th December and 6.00 p.m. on Thursday 14th December.

We have a small amount of tickets left if you haven't got your yet.

Friday 15th December – Rock Steady Concern

Our Rock Steady Bands will perform to parents from 9.30 a.m. on Friday 15th December. We hope you are able to join us. It has been a real pleasure listening to them improve over the last few weeks.



Friday 15th December 2023 – Pre-School, Reception and Year 1



Our Pre-School, reception and Year 1 children are getting ready for their visit to Santa's Grotto at Flanesford Priory on the morning of Friday 15th December.

If you haven't already please complete the permission slip and visit www.parentpay.com to contribute towards the cost of the visit. The children will return to school for normal lunchtime arrangements

A big thank you to the Friends committee for subsidizing this visit.

Monday 18th December – Pre-School Induction Day

We invite the children and parents who are due to join our pre-school in January into the school on Monday 18th December from 10.00 – 11.00 for an induction session.

If you know of any children who are turning three in the next few months please remind them that we run a pre-school for children who are aged three or four. Anyone who is interested in joining us, please contact us on 01594 822171 or email admin@littledean.gloucs.sch.uk



Tuesday 19th December 2023 Years 2 - 6 – Pantomime Visit

Children in years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are visiting the Savoy Theatre in Monmouth to watch the Pantomime Mother Goose. We will leave school at 12.15 so an early lunch will be taken so we ask children to bring a packed lunch. Caterlink can provide a packed lunch, these must be pre-ordered before Monday 11th December. If you haven't already please complete the permission slip and visit www.parentpay.com to contribute towards the cost of the visit



A big thank you to the Friends committee for subsidizing this visit.

Please note that Chestnut Class will not have a PE session on Tuesday 19th December, we ask them to wear their normal school uniform. Thank you.

Tuesday 19th December Pre-School, Reception and Year 1

Children in Pre-School Reception and Year 1 will take part in an activity afternoon whilst the older children are at the pantomime. We ask that they also bring or order a packed lunch on Tuesday 19th December



Christmas Jumper Day – Wednesday 20th December

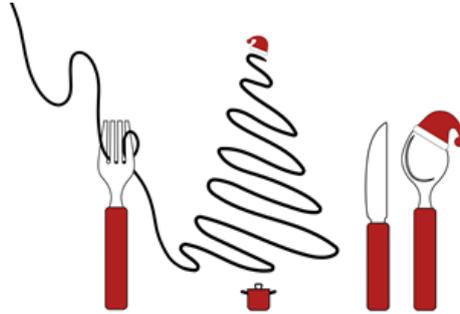


Just for fun, we ask children to wear their Christmas Jumper into school on Wednesday 20th December

Wednesday 20th December - Christmas Lunch

We hold our Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 20th 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 £2.54 for years 3 – 6, £2.55 for Pre-School and are free for Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.



Thursday 21st December - Last day of Term

Christmas Service at St Ethelberts

Once again we look forward to returning to St Ethelberts Church for our annual Christmas Service at 9.30 a.m. Parents, families, friends and neighbours are invited to join us too.



The children will return to school for some fun classroom activities followed by a normal lunchtime.

The School and Pre-School will close at 2.00 p.m. for the Christmas holiday. please arrange to collect your children from the normal doors.

We look forward to welcoming you back into school on Monday 8th January 2024. Please remember our start time is 8.40 a.m.

Wishing you all a safe, happy and relaxing holiday.

X (Formerly Twitter) account

Miss May has been very busy keeping our X (twitter) feed up to date and sharing our achievements with our twitter community. We can be found at @littledeansch. The feed is also available on the school website

www.littledeanprimary.co.uk



Christmas Services

Sunday 10 December

Christmas Messy Church – 3.00 pm, St Stephen’s

Sunday 17 December

Christingle – 4.00 pm, St Stephen’s

Carols by Candlelight – 6.00 pm, St Stephen’s

CHRISTMAS EVE (Sunday 24 December)

Christingle – 4.00 pm, St John’s

Christmas Eve Communion – 10.00 pm, St John’s

Christmas Eve Communion – 11.30 pm, St Stephen’s

Watchnight Service – 11.30 pm, Littledean URC

CHRISTMAS DAY (Monday 25 December)

Christmas Communion – 9.30 am, St Ethelbert’s

All Age Christmas Communion – 11.00 am, St Stephen’s

Holiday Requests

We all look forward to a holiday away from home but, before you book, please remember that the Governments guidance remains very clear that we cannot authorise holiday requests in term time. Any requests submitted will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. You may also be fined for taking your child out of school during term time.



Term Dates 2023 / 2024

These are also available on our website

https://www.littledeanprimary.co.uk/website/term_dates/198634

Term 2	Monday 6 th November 2023 – Friday 22 nd December 2023
Term 3	Monday 8 th January 2024 – Friday 9 th February 2024
Term 4	Monday 19 th February 2024 – Friday 22 nd March 2024
Term 5	Monday 8 th April 2024 – Friday 24 th May 2024
Term 6	Monday 3 rd June 2024 – Monday 22 nd July 2024

INSET Days	3	22 nd December 2023
	4	8 th April 2024
	5	22 nd July 2024

Diary Dates

Tuesday 12 th December	Pre-School – songs around the Christmas Tree
Wednesday 13 th December	Infant Christmas Performance – afternoon
Thursday 14 th December	Infant Christmas Performance – evening
Friday 15 th December	Santa’s Grotto visit – Pre-School, Reception and Year 1
Friday 15 th December	Rock Steady Concert 9.30
Tuesday 19 th December	Pantomime at Savoy Monmouth for Years 2,3,4,5,6
Wednesday 20 th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
Thursday 21 st December	Christmas Service at St Ethelberts Church School Closes at 2.00
Monday 15 th January	Reception/Year 6 Height and Weight Measurements
Tuesday 16 th January	Slimbridge Visit Y1, Y2, Y3, Carbonfootprints – details to follow
Tuesday 18 th January	School Census, special hot lunch menu
Tuesday 23 rd January	Governors Leadership Committee
Wednesday 24 th January	Rags to Riches Clothing Collection
Wednesday 28 th February	Governors Curriculum Committee
Friday 1 st March	National Allocation day for Secondary School places
Tuesday 4 th June	Maple Class Adventure Day – Wilderness Centre