



Littleham

CE Primary School



Firm foundations for the future

Thank you!

This term, we are sad to be saying farewell to two key members of staff. Mrs Briggs has gained promotion and will take up the post of headteacher at St Sidwells after Easter. We're all delighted for her, but aware that she will be greatly missed.



Mrs Thorn has chosen to pursue other avenues and will take some time away from class teaching.



We would like to thank them both for their hard work and commitment they have shown for improving the outcomes for children at school. They will both be greatly missed.

In particular, Mrs Briggs has had a massive impact in raising attainment at the end of EYFS and KS1 and has been instrumental in our school development over the last 6 years.

Mrs Amy Phillips will be joining us as Nursery class teacher in the summer term and Mrs Helen Seymour and Mrs Poslett will be leading in Year 1.

Quality Curriculum on offer

At school, we are committed to providing a breadth and quality of curriculum, including first hand experiences through visits and visitors. Follow the school on Facebook at Littleham C of E Primary or visit the school website for regular updates.

Improved Attendance

Well done — overall our attendance has continued to improve and we are currently at 96.3%! Thank you for all your hard work in ensuring your child comes to school regularly - it makes such a difference to their learning and friendships.

Please remember, the children are allowed on site from 8.40am. Before this time, the children are not supervised on site by a member of staff.

School Improvement Officer Visit

As a Federation, we are supported by School Improvement Office, Linda Ross, who visits the school on a termly basis to review our progress towards our school improvement priorities.

I am pleased that she confirmed the school's own good judgements during her recent visit. She commented about the "High quality relationships, with happy pupils engaged in learning tasks with appropriate support and challenge."

Parent Feedback

Thank you to those parents who completed a questionnaire and shared your views on how well the school is do in many important areas. If you haven't completed a questionnaire, they are available from the school office. If you add your name we can address any issues you raise on an individual basis.

Warm welcome

We like to offer a warm welcome to Louise McLean (Parent Governor) and Kate Robertson (LEA Governor) who are joining the Governing Body. Also, Leigh-Ann Kendall joins us as our new clerk to governors. Welcome aboard to each of you!

Let's Talk More Everywhere!

'Let's Talk More Everywhere' is a project happening all over Devon in places where families with young children go. Did you know that 50% of 3 year old children start at an Early Years Setting not able to talk or understand as well as expected? By using the Let's Talk More Everywhere strategies you will be helping your child to learn to understand and talk. Look out for a new strategy every month displayed in the Nursery entrance.

This month's strategy is: Use objects, pictures and gestures to help your child understand.

Let's Talk More Everywhere in March - April

Use objects, pictures and gestures to help your child understand.

When you are talking with your child point things out and hold things up to show them. Showing objects or pictures that go with what you say really helps children learn what words mean. Gestures work well too.

Why?

Using an extra visual clue (such as an object or picture) will help your child make the connection between the word and the object more quickly. It will help them follow your instructions more easily, and help them remember new words. Soon they will start to say the words themselves. This works well with older children learning new words too.

For example:

- Hold up a nappy and saying "nappy time"
- Point to a cat and saying "look, cat"
- Show and talk about pictures in a book
- "Park your scooter in the shed" – point to the shed

Thank you PTFA

It was wonderful to see so many parents at our recent Mother Day Cup of tea event. We hope you enjoyed looking through some of your children books too. Thank you to our PTFA for organising and raising valuable school funds as part of the event.

PTFA Easter Bingo also went down a storm. A lovely, fun evening after school to raise funds for school improvements. Thank you to all!



Eyes down for Easter bingo fun!

Super Reception Writers!

Reception have created their own versions of the story 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see?'. We have had rainbow dinosaurs, purple unicorns, blue cats to name a few. You can have a closer look at their writing in the gallery section on our school website.

Writing Galleries

This term we have added a number of pieces of writing from across the school in our Galleries section. Please visit this website to view examples of writing including poems, stories and biographies. Well worth a look!



Super writers from Reception class!

The garage

- Dust-coverer,
- Skellig-owner,
- Cobweb-maker,
- Furniture-storer,
- Roof-leaker,
- Wall-collapser,
- Insect-possessor,
- Danger-producer,

Shelia poem

- Chicken seller,
- Almond drinker,
- Wings seller,
- Big meatlover,
- Rock-headed,
- High-flyer,
- Dark complexion,
- Artistic-dealer,
- Woolly-headed,
- Yellow-headed,
- Secret-keeper,
- Aggravated.

Fido

- Land scanner,
- Tree climber,
- Clock washer,
- A bird lover,
- An excellent writer,
- A drawing genius,
- Fast runner together,
- Fin Mike

Written by Gemma

Some examples of learning throughout this term (2-5 years)



KEEPING UNDER FIVES SAFE ONLINE



Children love using technology and are learning to navigate websites, online games and consoles, and touch screen technology like tablets and smartphones from a younger and younger age.

81%

Latest Ofcom research has shown that 81% of 5-15 year olds have access to a tablet at home and almost 40% of 3-4 year olds and two thirds of 5-7 year olds go online. We know that children need support in these environments, to get the best out of using the internet, and there are real advantages in making sure that children are supported in their internet use right from the start.



These eight frequently asked questions will provide you with useful information and tips that you can put in to place at home, to help keep your youngest children safe online.

1



Where do I start?

The best way to keep your family safe online, and to understand your children's internet use, is to use the internet together. Active engagement and conversations with your children are key. Be positive and embrace the technologies that young children enjoy and look for family activities or games. Take time to explore the games and services that your children are using, or want to use, and look out for any safety features that may be available. This will give you a better understanding of the different ways that children are engaging with technology and help you to feel more confident.

Should I set any rules?

In the same way that you set rules for most areas of your children's lives, establish your expectations regarding online activities. Creating a family agreement (www.childnet.com/have-a-conversation) is a useful step, which might include time spent online, sites that can be visited, and behaviour expected; remember, what's right and wrong offline is also right and wrong online. It's a great idea to agree these rules from the outset, so that you and your children are aware of their boundaries.



3



How can I supervise my child?

Placing your computer or laptop in a busy part of the house e.g. the living room or kitchen can be helpful. This can make it easier for you to be involved in their technology use. But remember, the internet can be accessed from a number of portable devices, for example smartphones, games consoles and tablets. Portable devices may allow you to ensure your children are using them where you can see them and your children can still be supervised. To find out more about the internet capabilities of smartphones, gaming consoles and other devices, check out our Parents' Guide to Technology (www.saferinternet.org.uk/parent-tech).

How much time is too much time?

Children can be enthusiastic users of technology. The challenge can be to harness this enthusiasm and ensure a balance, so that the use of technology does not negatively impact on other important areas of young children's lives. There are some strategies that can be used to help manage the time online issue, such as agreeing time limits or using time limiting tools, designating weekly times to use the internet together, or removing portable devices from your child's bedroom at night to avoid tiredness.



5



Are there tools to help?

There are free parental controls and filters available, to help you set safer boundaries for your children, but you will usually be required to set them up. Your internet service provider (such as BT or TalkTalk) will provide free filters to help block age inappropriate content for children, and on the UK Safer Internet Centre website you can watch video tutorials (www.saferinternet.org.uk/parental-controls) that show you how to find and set these up. All Mobile phone operators (such as O2 or Vodafone) also provide such parental controls for free. The websites of device manufacturers (such as games consoles) should also outline the controls to which you have access.

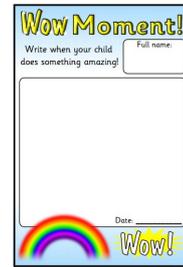
Filtering options can be found within websites and services themselves, for example on YouTube or 'safe search' settings can be applied to search engines such as Google or Bing. There are even some services adapted for children (such as the YouTube Kids and BBC iPlayer Kids apps). Parental controls can be password protected, so it's advisable to choose a strong password and not share it. Parental controls and filters are a good starting point but it is important to recognise that they are not 100% effective. They are a great help, but not a solution, and work best in combination with parental supervision and engagement, to help your children understand how to stay safe online. As children grow and develop, so do their online needs, therefore you may want to periodically review your parental controls to accommodate this.

Early Years Updates



Wow Slips

We love to find out about your children's learning at home, so please fill in wow slips to tell us what they can do so we can celebrate it within our class. For example, sharing with their brother or sister, getting a swimming certificate, getting dressed for school by themselves...Set yourself the challenge and aim for 1 wow slip per week.



Tapestry

Well done if you regularly go on to your child's Tapestry account.

- Remember to put in photos of things your child has made at home or activities they have done; so we can talk to them all about it.
- You can also 'like' and reply to observations staff have made.

If you are still having difficulty accessing your account, please see an Early Years member of staff who will happily help.



Thank you Littleham PTFA!

Our PTFA have kindly paid for a large mark making and welcome notice board in our outside Reception area. The children love drawing and writing all over it.



Book Bags:

We would like all Nursery and Reception children to have a book bag in school. Please make sure your child brings their book bag to school everyday, so we can add things to it. You are always welcome to change your child's story books at the end of sessions.

Online Resources

Reception - 'Teach Your Monster to Read' A fun way to help children to practice the 'Letters and Sounds' phonics program taught in school.

Reception - 'Bug Club'

Gain access to more books online and answer quizzes about what you read.

Reception and Nursery - 'Busy Things' - An online educational website with hundreds of fun games to support your child's learning.

www.busthings.co.uk

Username: home5632

Password: hood8098



What Makes Littleham C of E Primary School a Special Place to be?

Fairtrade Conference

Year 5 recently took part in a Fairtrade conference at the Beacon school. They started with a quiz trying to answer questions such as, 'Which of these are Fairtrade products? Oranges, toothbrushes, cotton wool, gold or footballs. Interestingly, we discovered that they all are except toothbrushes! We discovered you can even buy Fairtrade footballs and Stoke City support this as a club. Another interesting fact was that in the U.K we consume about 6-7kg of chocolate per person per year!

They learnt why Fairtrade is so important. Daniel said, "it's better for the farmer," Isaac Baidoo, a cocoa farmer from Ghana explained how the cocoa is grown. It takes about 3 years for a young tree to produce the cocoa pods and 3 weeks from being picked to being shipped to the UK. He explained the benefit of being in a Fairtrade Cooperative. It means clean water for their community, schools for rural areas, housing for teachers, toilets, free school books and importantly, mobile health clinics.

Zac enjoyed the conference, "I met new friends and I loved the chocolate tasting," and

Amy said, "It was fun. I liked eating chocolate, learning new words and making the bookmarks."

Doing Lent Generously

It has been wonderful to see so many acts of Generosity this term at school. As you may know, each day the children have selected a Challenge Card and throughout the day have put this into action. For example, we've had 'Share you best joke', 'Be kind to someone' and 'invite someone to join in with your game'.

We hope that you too may have experience acts of generosity at home too so far during Lent.



Friendship

Next term's value is Friendship and once again the children will have an acrostic poem to help them understand the value.

Friendship is...

Finding things to do together
Relying on each other
Impossible on your own
Enjoying being together
Never selfish
Depending on someone else
Sharing hopes and dreams
Happiness and laughter
Including others
Precious



We are sure that this focus on the value of Friendship will continue to deepen and strengthen what is already a key feature of our school.

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1.9



Calling all gardeners!

We are always looking for volunteers to help in our garden as we approach the busy time of year where seeds are being sown and all is waking up! If you can help as a one off or on a regular basis please let the office know. We really do need more adult help, the children love this area of the school.

Dates for your diary

When	What	Who
18th April	First Day of Summer Term	
18th-21st April	Bikeability	Yr5
20th April	ECC Reading	Yr6
26th April	Swimming	Yr 3 &4
27th April	PTFA meeting	9am - 10.15am
1st May	Bank Holiday - no school	
3rd May	Swimming	Yr 3&4
8th May	Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Yr 6
10th May	Swimming	Yr 3&4
17th May	Swimming	Yr 3&4

Well done to this term's Starpickers



Well done to all the children who received end of term certificates for either progress in learning, handwriting, values in action or attendance.



Follow us on Facebook at **Littleham C of E Primary** for diary dates and interesting posts. Please see our guidelines for use for more information.

