



Littleham

CE Primary School



Firm foundations for the future

Thank you and bon voyage!

It is with sadness that we're saying goodbye to Mrs Kath Buckell who has been one of our hardworking admin team for the last four terms.

Mrs Buckell has recently bought a campervan and plans to explore the UK during term time. We wish her well and thank her for her hard work and commitment to the school and families.

Welcome abroad

We're delighted to welcome two new members of staff joining our growing team. Mrs Natasha Cross joins us as a teaching assistant in KS1. She brings a wealth of experience of early years having worked in various settings and as an Ofsted registered child-minder.

We also delighted to welcome Mrs Claire Parkin who joins us as our new clerical assistant from January. Her previous roles have included working as a pastoral assistant to the Head of Year at ECC.

Attendance Updates

Well done to Year 6 who are our best attending class so far this year with a figure of 97.8%. It was wonderful to see so many children receiving certificates at the end of term. However, overall, we are slightly below our target at 96.5%.

Please continue to support the school in this area by ensuring you make medical appointments outside the school day and not taking holidays during term time.

Thank you PTFA

A big thank you to our PTFA who organised a superb Christmas Fayre last week raising valuable funds for the school. As a thank you to the children, the PTFA have organised a Christmas party for the children to say well done for all their hard work this term.



Shine Star, Shine

What a wonderful way to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas with our Nativity play *Shine Star, Shine*. Well done to the children and staff in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 who were amazing. Don't take our word for it though, here's what some of the audience thought:

Terrific, imaginative and unique – most enjoyable!

Absolutely awesome – well done!

Congratulations on a lovely nativity – it was my first for my grandchild. Great job everyone!

Beautiful singing, lovely dancing and excellent narration!

We loved it! What is really fantastic about the 'Littleham Nativity' year on year is that the personality of the children really shone through in the performance.

Well done – you really did shine!

I haven't seen a nativity like that since my son was in it – he's 39 now!

There were a lot of stars shining in this performance – absolutely brilliant!

The children seemed to enjoy doing it, as much as the adults enjoyed watching it!

Reminders from the office

Admin team - Mrs Parkin (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday and Dr Robinson (Wednesday). We would prefer you to call into the office at the beginning of the day with any queries. If you need to go to the office at the end of the day please call in before collecting your child as the school office closes at 3.30pm.

Absence - If your child is unwell or will be late, please email the school (admin@littleham.devon.sch.uk) or telephone the school (01395 266535) before 8.50am. If you know in advance that your child has a reason for absence (e.g. for a medical appointment) please ask the admin staff for an Absence Request Form at least a week in advance.

Dinner Money - School meals are £2.10 a day. Please bring dinner money to the school office in a clearly labelled envelope with your child's name on it. It is helpful if dinners are paid weekly on a Monday for all meals required that week.

Trip Money/Permission Slips - Please check your child's book bag daily for letters. Permission slips and any payment must be returned as soon as possible in an envelope clearly labelled with your child's name and trip name. Please ensure cheques are made payable to Devon County Council.

Medicine - If your child has a prescribed medicine that you need the school to administer during school hours, please bring to the school office and complete a medicine form.

Contact Information - We will send out data collection sheets in the autumn term for you to check the contact details we hold are up to date. These must be signed to confirm the details are correct and returned to the school office as soon as possible. If your telephone number or address changes during the year, please write the new details onto a piece of paper and pass to the office.

Thank you for your support in this area.

After school clubs

We are delighted once again to offer a variety of after school clubs in 2018. The minimal fees are to ensure the clubs keep functioning throughout the year. Places are limited but we will do our best to Accommodate all that wish to attend.

- MONDAY Quick sticks hockey Years 3/4/5/6
- TUESDAY Fun Multi-Sports Years 1/2/3
- Choir Years 3/4/5/6
- WEDNESDAY Fizz Pop Science
- THURSDAY Tag Rugby Years 3/4/5/6
- FRIDAY Table tennis Years 5/6

Please note, at the end of each sports club children should be collected from the hall doors overlooking the play ground. Pupils attending the Fizz Pop Science should be collected from the outside Year3 classroom via the playground. Choir will take place in Year 4 and children should be collected from the play ground.

An early response is appreciated. Please visit the school office for more details.

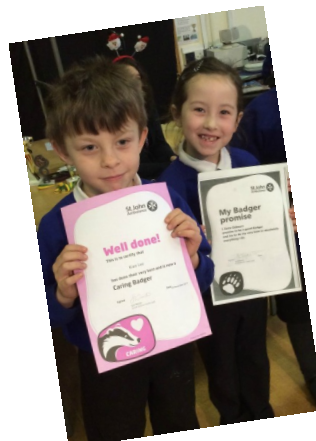
Carols by Candlelight

Our *Carols by Candlelight* service in church proved to be a magical start to our Christmas celebrations. High praise indeed to Kai and Ben for singing solos to open the service.



Caring for others

Well done to the children who recently received a certificate from St Johns Ambulance for caring for others. What superstars you are!



End of Term Awards

It was a wonderful way to end the term by saying a big well done to the children who had either made excellent progress in learning, displayed our school values in action or had excellent attendance. Well done to each and everyone of you!



Well done everyone - what stars you are!

Supporting Learning in 2018

We recognise that there are many parents who like to plan in learning around topics in school and thought we'd give you a sneaky peek of some of the learning in classes next term...

In Year 5 and 6, the children will be learning about British explorers including the slave trade. They will be exploring changing materials including dissolving, evaporating and condensing in science, and evolution link to Darwin in R.E.

In Year 4, the class will be learning about the Romans Empire and its impact on Britain. They will explore legacy and inventions as we travel back time.

In Year 3 the children will be learning about food from around the world. They will focus on the similarities and differences between food production from different places in the world.

In Year 2 the topic is Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. They will be learning about the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling and how we can do that at home and in school. This links to RE, caring for all God's creatures and the planet. They are hoping to have workshops, a visit to a recycling plant, 'up-cycle' unused items, and create art with junk.

In Year 1, the overarching theme is 'winter wonderland'. They will be learning about the Arctic and Antarctic and what lives there and why, as well as creating snowy fantasy worlds.

Inspiring a love of learning

Well done to Years 5 and 6 who have been inspiring younger children in school with their learning about the Saxon and Viking struggle for Britain. As part of their learning, they were able to choose an area of Viking life to learn about either independently or with a friend. Examples of learning included Viking clothing, modelled on dolls, Viking boats, weapons, food and houses. Their learning culminated in an afternoon when other classes came down to share the learning, play with some of the models and talk with their older school friends about what they had learned. What role models you are!

National Takeover Day

As part of our on-going focus on British Values, in particular understanding the importance of democracy, the children in Year 6 had a wonderful opportunity to experience the decisions making process in a unique, hands-on way this week.

As part of a National Takeover Day, the children experienced what it was like to run public services such as Environmental Health, the Council Chambers, Community Development and Waste and Recycling at Sidmouth Council Offices.

The children started in the council chambers debating whether 500 new houses should be allowed to be built in the town. Poor Mrs Cambridge, aka Councillor Ivor Butchers, took a battering from many Councillors as she promoted the building of the new houses. Councillor Stan Still aka Zac Godden even suggested the butchers shop be knocked down! Councillor Mark High (Joshua Traveres) calmed the heated debate down with a suggestion of 250 houses and the development of green spaces and parks.

We had great fun as Environmental Health officers going into a kitchen to perform an inspection. All condemned the kitchen and closed it down after the discovery of blocked drains, broken plates, rats and mice, raw and cooked meat left out and out of date food.

Thank you to Sidmouth Council for giving Year 6 such a fun and engaging day.

Reading Mentors

The progress in reading has been fantastic this term as many of our talented readers share a book with our younger readers. It's been wonderful this term to have our Reading Mentors spend time regularly with younger children foster a love of reading. Why not get cosy over the holidays and enjoy a good book.



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.

Community Links

Working in partnership with outside agencies and in particular the school nursing team is immensely helpful and informative for our staff, children and families. Our most recent session provided information on how best to support young children with toileting. They reviewed the 10 rules for toileting especially the importance of drinking water to support any problems.

It's been great to have *Family Learning* in school this term and there is no better way to end this half term's family learning than with a treat. Fantastic home made biscuits beautifully decorated, proving that true healthy eating is all about balance and moderation. Thanks to Lorraine Allington, from Learn Devon, who has worked with a group of enthusiastic parent this term. More planned next term too!

Excuse the pun, but we couldn't be more proud of our winner in Year 3 as he took first prize for designing a poster to encourage all in our community to always pick up after their dogs and to keep our walk to school dog poop free and clean! Thank you to our Deidre on behalf of Exmouth town Council and The Range for donating the prize.

Our Reception class had a visit from Sue Brown (Tesco Community worker). During the session they are learned about ginger and decorated their own delicious Christmas themed ginger biscuits. Thank you Sue!

Visit the school website or follow the school on Facebook on Littleham C of E Primary School for find out more about these items.



Well done and thank you to our kitchen staff, led by Vanessa Land our Kitchen Manager, who prepared a superb Christmas dinner for all the children in school. We're extremely proud of the school dinners at Littleham; as a *Food for Life* school we ensure that meals are fresh, nutritionally balanced and today was no exception. What a celebration it was, with the odd cracker joke too!

Getting Creative

It's often been said that there's a lot of fun to be had with the packaging rather than what's inside. Year 4 have been busy creating Noah's ark with all kinds of extras! Why not challenge the family over the holiday to get creative, take a picture and tell us all about your crafty creations in the New Year.



Bella and Barney

Bella and Barney, our new puppets, put in their first appearance during collective worship as we all reflect on our commitment to being a *telling* school and putting a *stop* to bullying. At school, it's simple: If behaviour happens **Several Times On Purpose**, it needs to **STOP**.

Our strategy is simple: **TELL** someone! Well done to our Year 6 puppeteers too!

Anti-Bullying Week 2017
Several Times On Purpose



Tell someone!





Values in Action

It has been wonderful to see so many children displaying our *values in action* throughout the term. This term's focus on the values of Trust and Thankfulness have been so valuable, allowing the whole school community to recognise and be thankful for things in our lives. As part of our focus on Trust, we have considered what it means to be trustworthy and valued the support of others.



Having started with a blank Values Tree, it has been wonderful to see the names added week by week, as all members of the school community nominated people to go on the Values Tree. A real example of what makes our school special!



Next term starts with a focus on the value of Perseverance and knowing when we need to have perseverance to achieve a personal goal, and moves onto the value of Justice where we will consider the importance of being fair to others.

Dates for your diary

When	What	Who
2nd Jan	Staff Training Non-pupil day	
3rd Jan	Children back to school	All
9th Jan	Family Learning	
10th Jan	Y3/4 Swimming starts	Year 3/4
15th Jan	Deadline for primary school applications	
6th Feb	KS2 Cinderella Rockefella Panto	
Wed 7th	KS2 Cinderella Rockefella Panto	
12th Feb	Half Term	All
19th Feb	Children back to school	All
29th March	Last day of Spring Term	All
16th April	Staff Training Non-pupil day	
17th April	Children back to school	All

