



## SPRING HALF TERM 2

# THE LITTLETONS SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## Headteacher's Message



Happy Easter! It really feels that spring is on its way, with the promise of warmer, sunnier days ahead.

Our Ofsted inspection, which we have been expecting for over a year now, was completed successfully. What is pleasing is that we feel the report captures the essence of the school accurately and the experience was a very positive one (which is not always the case). It highlighted the great sense of community within the school. The areas for development were fair and we are excited to work on them.

Education has some major challenges at the moment, with inadequate funding forcing school to make cuts, along with a nationwide recruitment and retention crisis with school staff. In spite of this, we keep focussed on making The Littletons a happy place to learn and to work, and prioritise the experience of all children in our care.

Have a lovely holiday.

## Diary Dates:

Monday 28th April – All children return to school

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May – BANK HOLIDAY (school is closed)

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May – World War 2 Day (VE Day)

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May –  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May – Year 5 Residential (PGL)

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May –  
Capybaras Bellboating (Fladbury)

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Teacher Training (no children in school)

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Children return to school

# Our School Vision

Just as God has created every individual with unique talents and skills, our school community provides a nurturing and inclusive environment, where everyone is encouraged to explore their individual creativity and to confidently use their talents in order to achieve their God given potential and to make the world a better place.

# Our Spirituality Definition

**Times when we feel part of something bigger than ourselves through connections with people, places or the natural world**

We have continued to work on a whole school understanding of Spirituality. We have done this by looking at ways to strengthen connections between children across the school, for example through 'house afternoons' where the older children can support the younger ones. This week we held a house art event, working together across year groups to create big pictures to represent each of our school houses (Vale, Malvern, Bredon and Cotswold). These connections allow us all to feel part of something bigger.

Spirituality, positive mental health and happiness are very closely linked. This was evident in the theme for the International Day of Happiness 2025: **"...lasting happiness comes from caring for each other, feeling connected and being part of something bigger."**

This sound very much like our Spirituality definition, and even has one of our school values in!

# Thank you for keeping the zig-zags clear

A massive thank you to everyone for keeping the yellow zig-zag lines clear. It has been really evident over the last couple of weeks that everyone is now stopping away from the zig-zags. It has made a noticeable difference, with cars able to move off more quickly, which keeps the road clear and makes it safer for children to cross.

We really appreciate your support with this.



## Attendance improves further

Our **whole school attendance for the year is now up to 96.1%**, which is amazing to see. Our attendance has improved further because the **whole school attendance for this half term was 96.8%**, which is brilliant. Thank you for your support with this.

Well done to **Axolotls** for being the class with the highest attendance for the last half term at **97.4%**.

A high level of school attendance has been linked to so many positive outcomes, from exam results, lifetime earnings and levels of personal happiness.

School is one of the most memorable and formative times of your life, but an average person will spend less than 1% of their entire life at primary school, so every day counts!

# Ofsted

Thank you to everyone who responded to the Ofsted parent view, which is an important part of the inspection process. We had 33 responses, which is high for a school of our size, and the most pleasing outcome was that 100% of parents said they would recommend our school to another parent. That was lovely to hear and reinforces our strong home/school links.

We are still waiting for the final draft of the report, which should have been with us before the Easter holidays, but we may have to wait until after Easter now. As soon as we have it, we will send a copy to all parents.

## INSET Days 2025/26

We are still finalising one of the teacher training days for next academic year. There is an extra Trust-wide training day at the beginning of September for all DoWMAT schools. The confirmed training days for 2025/26 are:

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025 (DoWMAT training day)
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026
- +1 additional to be confirmed shortly after Easter

In the 2025/26 academic year, the first day of school for the children will be Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025 and the last day will be Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026.

# Bikeability

The Year 4 and 5 children had Bikeability training this week. The Year 4s had a day practising on the playground and the Year 5s went on small-group guided rides in the surrounding area practising on real roads.



# Pedestrian Training

All of the children in school had pedestrian training, either through talks in the classroom, guided walks or assessed walks. The children gained important life skills to ensure their safety.



Bikeability and pedestrian training prepare the children for moving up to middle school as a lot of our children will cycle, walk or scoot to school by themselves. We aim to prepare them to do this safely, through specialised training from expert instructors.

# House Day

Each of our school houses got together for an art afternoon, creating a big picture to represent their house. The children had lots of fun, produced some lovely artwork and connected with other children across the school.



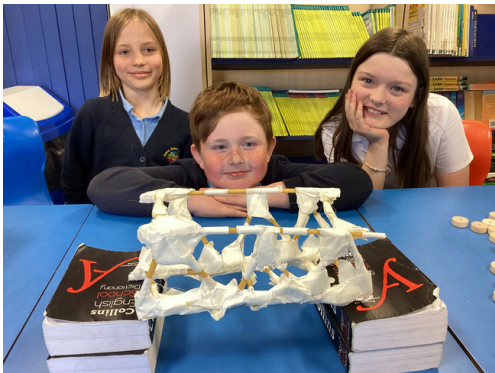
# Swimming Gala

Well done to our swimming team. They took part in the swimming gala on Thursday and finished second overall. We are very proud of you all.



# Design and Technology

Here are some of the DT projects from this half term. The children have made spaghetti bridges, prototype cars, Anglo-Saxon walls and Ferris wheels.



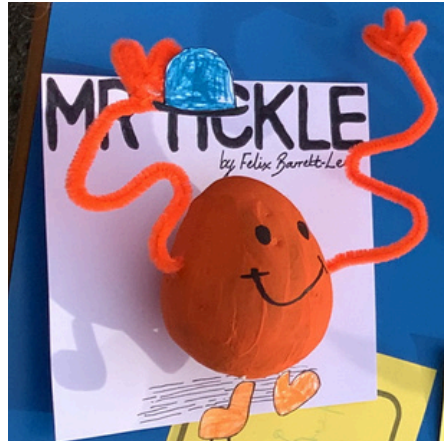
# Early Years

Here are some of the exciting things that have been happening in our Nursery and Reception classes this half term.



# World Book Day

We had lots of wonderful potato book characters in for World Book Day. They were incredibly creative and we hope you had fun making them!



## Choir

Our choir put on an amazing performance for the school this morning. For a small choir, they are an incredibly talented group. Well done to all of you, and especially to Mrs Brotherton who leads the choir and put together the show.

