

February 2024

NEWSLETTER



Littlehaven Infant and Northolmes Junior Schools

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Headteacher's Update

Dear Families,

It has been a fantastic start to 2024, and I am pleased to announce many exciting developments at both Littlehaven and Northolmes.

We are delighted to have welcomed Mrs Leicester to the Greenfields Federation, who joins us as our new PE Lead and as a Year 3/4 teacher. She is working across both schools to help raise the profile of sports and to further develop extra-curricular activities, after-school clubs, and inter-school competitions. Mrs Leicester and I both share a passion for sports and the important role that it plays in developing social skills, physical fitness and promoting wellbeing. We are keen to achieve a Federation School Games Mark Platinum Award. You will find further information about this below.

A gentle reminder that our Parent Consultation Meetings are being held in school across Tuesday 20th, Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd February. We hope to see you there and to share news of your child's progress and achievements this term.

Mrs Saunderson and I extend our wishes to you all for an exciting half-term, and we look forward to seeing you upon our return.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Cox
Mrs Saunderson

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SAFEGUARDING TEAM

If you are worried about something that your own, or another child has told you, or you think that they may be at risk of harm, please contact our Designated Safeguarding Team:

Mrs Saunderson (Lead)
Mrs Cox (Deputy)
Mrs Geoghegan (Deputy)

Year 6 Revision Sessions

We are incredibly proud of how hard the Year 6 children have been working. A programme of before and after school revision sessions is taking place daily, supplementing the learning for specific children. These sessions have been very well attended and our children have shown great dedication to their learning by joining us for these events. A huge thanks to all of the staff who are supporting these activities. We will be rotating most of the Year 6 children through this programme so please look out for future invitations.

School Games Mark

The School Games Mark is a government-led awards scheme launched in 2012 to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community. Participating in this process allows schools to evaluate their PE provision and assists them in developing an action plan for future progress.



The School Games, which is funded by Sport England and delivered by the Youth Sport Trust, involves funding School Games Organisers (SGOs) at a local level and Active Partnerships at a county level to create an annual calendar of competition. We look forward to keeping you updated with our progress as we aim for the Platinum Award. You will find further information about our recent sporting fixtures and activities below.

Year 2 Kurling Event

On Wednesday 17th January, Mrs Leicester and Mrs Smith took eight of our Year 2 children to Millais School for an afternoon of New Age Kurling. The activities were organised and run by the Sports Development team at Horsham District Council, and supported on the day by Millais Sports Leaders.

Well done to you all, you were a credit to Littlehaven School and the Greenfields Federation!



Year 5/6 Dodgeball

On Friday 26th January our Year 5 and 6 Dodgeball team travelled to The Bridge to participate in a Horsham schools competition. The children were very successful and finished an impressive 3rd out of 13 schools.

Thank you all for your outstanding play, what a great team!



West Sussex Schools Table Tennis

Two of our Northolmes pupils did exceptionally well in the recent U11s Championships, with Freddy S finishing 2nd and Zack C in 3rd place. Well done to you both, great work!

There is an after school club on Thursdays at Northolmes, as well as sessions for all on Monday and Friday evenings run by Horsham Spinners Table Tennis Club. Please contact the school office if you would like more information.

National Football Week

This week, children from Year 5 and 6 visited Littlehaven with Mrs Leicester and Mrs Miller to lead an assembly about how to 'play the right way'. Sadly due to the weather, the outdoor skills sessions had to be postponed but the children were inspirational in their assembly, and look forward to returning when the weather is better.

In March, as part of the FA's #Let Girls Play campaign, a group of Year 5 and 6 girls will visit Littlehaven to promote girls playing football.

Reading Challenge & Bookmarks

We have been making great progress with our new Reading Challenge across the schools. To promote a love of reading, our aim is for children to read or share a book at home at least five times each week, collecting Dojo points in school as a reward. All children that complete this will be rewarded with a special bookmark, and there will be three to collect – starting with Bronze, then Silver and finally Gold!

We take this opportunity to thank all parents and children who participated in the recent competition to design our new bookmarks, and we are thrilled to announce the winning entries:

Northolmes



Gold - Holly B (Edison)



Silver - Leo (Brunel)



Bronze – Ethan (Edison)

Littlehaven



Gold – Hazel (Goldfinch)



Silver – Harry (Robin)



Bronze – Nathan (Woodpecker)



Bronze – Jaxon (Peacock)

Mr Shrubbs's class (Woodpeckers) were aiming for a challenging 400 reads by the half term break, but they have smashed this with an incredible 455 reads! Please take an opportunity to read with your child every day and complete their reading log entry to help them to extend their vocabulary and their love of books.

"A book is a dream that you hold in your hands"

NSPCC Number Day

We were so pleased to support the NSPCC Number Day on 1st February, a day aimed at boosting the profile and enjoyment of maths. The children (and staff) were allowed to wear an item of clothing representing a number, and we thank parents and pupils for their wonderful creativity. Classes participated in a variety of activities and exercises focused on maths and problem solving. The NSPCC fund vital services for children, and need support more than ever – across both schools, we raised £168.05. Thank you so much for your support and generosity.



School Hours

A reminder please about the start times for each school as we are still getting a few children who are late each morning. The timings for both schools are as follows:

Littlehaven Infant School

Gates open: 8.35am
Registration: 8.40am
School ends: 3.10pm

Northolmes Junior School

Gates open: 8.40am
Registration: 8.50am
School ends: 3.20pm

School Uniform

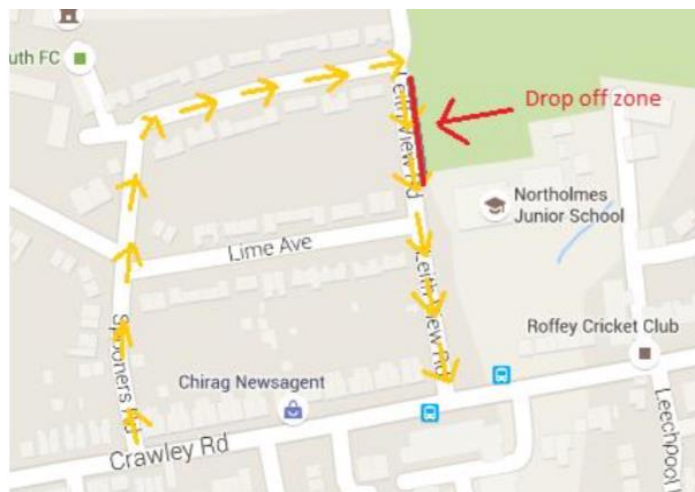
Please remember that only black shoes should be worn to school. Girls in particular, should not be sent to school in black ankle boots - they may be sold as school shoes but they are not part of our school uniform. Likewise, trainers should be saved for PE kits. For Northolmes parents, a reminder that school jumpers or cardigans should still be worn on PE days. Hoodies or other jumpers are not part of our uniform. Also, PE bottoms should be plain navy or black in colour. For Littlehaven parents, please ensure that your child has plimsolls or trainers in their PE bag.

Parking

Please make sure you think before you park so that you ensure that you are parking legally.

Please be mindful when you are parking that you are not blocking driveways, parking on the grass verges, stopping or parking on the yellow zig-zag lines or parking on junctions. In addition please do not park in the drop-off zone outside Northolmes (the verge side of the road parallel to the school field) as it makes it unsafe for children to get out of the cars and onto the pavements.

Thank you for your support in keeping everyone safe on their journey to school.



Attendance & Absence

Attendance at school is really important. We are only able to authorise absence for 'exceptional circumstances'. It is school policy to refer all unauthorised absences of more than 10 sessions for a Fixed Penalty Notice (fine). Please keep holidays and other events to the school holiday period. School needs to be informed of all planned absences from school (medical, family reasons or holidays) at least a week before they occur.

If your child has been sick or had diarrhoea, then they need to remain off school for at least 2 days (48 hours) after the last episode. For all other illnesses, your child should return to school once they are well enough to do so.

Bikes & Scooters

Bikes and scooters are not permitted to be ridden on either school playground and **this extends to younger siblings**. This is just to help prevent any accidents or injuries. At Northolmes, bikes and scooters should be dismounted and pushed while on the playground. At Littlehaven, please make sure your child does not ride their bike or scooter up and down the driveway within the car park area, and ensure they are parked in the stands before entering the playground.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

2024

Monday 12th – Friday 16th February

Tues 20th, Weds 21st, Thurs 22nd February

Wednesday 13th March

Wednesday 20th March

Thursday 21st March

Wednesday 27th March

Thursday 28th March

Monday 15th April

Monday 13th – Thursday 16th May

Thursday 16th May

Wednesday 22nd May

Monday 27th – Friday 31st May

Tuesday 18th June

Thursday 20th June

Friday 19th July

Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July

Half-Term Holiday

Parent Consultation meetings

Edison Class Assembly

Darwin Class Assembly

Robin Class Assembly

Faraday Class Assembly

Last Day of Spring Term – Easter Holidays commence

First Day of Summer Term

Key Stage 2 national curriculum tests (SATs)

Peacock Class Assembly

Curie Class Assembly

Half-Term Holiday

Littlehaven – School Photographs (classes)

Northolmes – School Photographs (Year 6 leavers & classes)

Last day of Summer Term

INSET days



Littlehaven Infant School 01403 260608
office@littlehaveninfant.school



Northolmes Junior School 01403 261822
office@northolmesjunior.school