



NEWSLETTER

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www.litchardprimary.com



Good Bye to Mrs Smith and Mrs Stephens

Its been an emotional end of term. The school is wishing Mrs Smith and Mrs Stephens all the very best for their retirement.

Mrs Stephens has been working at the school since 1997 when she began working at the junior school as a teaching assistant. Mrs Stephen's, who is a qualified teacher, soon started to teach pupils who needed support with their reading and also teaching Year 6 booster classes. She also took charge of Language Support at the school and lead Welsh as a 2nd Language. Mrs Stephens has also lead and established a range of residential trips which the pupils have enjoyed for many years. As you can see, Mrs Stephen's has contributed a great deal over the years and will be sadly missed.

Mrs Smith has been at Litchard for 38 years. She has taught many of the parents and also some grandparents who are now at the school! Over the past 10 years Mrs Smith has been the deputy head teacher of Litchard juniors and more recently Litchard primary school. Her contribution to the success of the school and her commitment has been unquestionable. She is also highly respected in other schools in the county and represented the school over her career. Mrs Smith has promoted Welsh culture, Art, Music and the creative arts for many years, which is a recognised strength. We hope this work will continue and she will support the school when she can in the future.

The school has been lucky to have Mrs Stephens and Mrs Smith who have been passionate about doing their best for the pupils in Litchard for so many years.

Pob lwc a mwynhewch!

Next term - Closure Day

The school will be closed for training on Tuesday 1st September. School starts on Wednesday 2nd September at 8.55am. Dates of school terms and other planned closure days are on the front page of our web site.

Keeping Our Children Safe

The school and its governors have been working with local authority officers to improve safety for our children. Below are some changes that are taking place at the beginning of next term.

New Fences

New fences are being erected on our school field to prevent open access to people on our site.

Next Term – New exit procedures for Infant pupils

At the end of the school day we are kindly asking parents to stay in the Infant yard and not to go beyond the fence where the coloured sheds are located. These gates will be locked and the staff will bring pupils out for you to collect.

Next Term – New exit procedures for Junior pupils

Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will be taken to the Junior school door (blue door – Junior old entrance) and Year 3 pupils will be taken to the door under the canopy. Because there will be many pupils exiting through the doors children will finish lessons at 3.15pm but exit times could be delayed to 3.20pm/3.25pm. Thank you for your co-operation.

School Main Gates

These gates will be closed for vehicles throughout the day. Coded padlocks will be on the gates. Only authorised traffic will be allowed onto the premises. This brings the school into line with all other primary schools in the area.

Year 6 Concert and Awards

Another extravaganza to finish of the term. Our Year 6 leaving concerts are always a treat. Our year 6 pupils approached the performance with gusto and enthusiasm in front of a large audience of almost 150 people.

Our concert also broke with tradition with the Year 6 pupils being presented with the Year 6 awards.

The year 6 awards are chosen democratically by all staff at the school over a number of meetings – Nia Humble –

vocal, Lauren Webster for instrumental award, Sporting Achievement – Luke Florence and Hollie Edwards, ICT Award – Daniel Thomas.

Stephen Williams, Paul Collier and Abbie Bater Wards

These were presented on Thursday afternoon by the Chair of Governors, Vicky and Max Jeffreys.

The Paul Collier Award - Jack Biggs and Lucy Florence

Stephen Williams – Ollie Donaghue and Katie Trezise

Abbie Bater Award – Darcey Thomas

Paula Statham Festival – Netball

Thank you to everyone for helping to make our festival a success this year. The weather was perfect and the fruit stall sold out very quickly. Winners of the cup were Newton Primary and Pil took the plate. Litchard won all their matches in the group stages and beat Pencoed in the quarter final but lost to Newton in the semi-final. 'Spirit of the festival' was won by Hollie Edwards.

Paula Statham Festival -Football

A huge thanks to everyone. Litchard had 4 teams in the tournament and well done to all of them. However, it was brilliant to see Team 4 get through to the semi-finals! This year Newton primary won with Nantyfyllon coming runners up. Can I praise our players for their excellent behaviour during the day. We know that we have some very competitive players, but they took part and won and lost their games in the spirit of the tournament. "Spirit of the festival" was won by Ryan Owen and Michael Woodbridge.

Athletics

On a very wet Friday, our pupils represented the school at Newbridge fields. A great team effort. All enjoyed and some came home with medals, Milly Saunders, Caitlin Sanders, Lauren Webster.

Summer Library Assembly

The local librarian came to speak to our children about participating in the Summer reading scheme. Last year Litchard had the most pupils attending during the holidays. I hope we can do it again this year. For more information go to BCBC web site for the dates and activities. The pupils who attended last year had fun and their reading definitely improved!

Year 6 Tag Rugby

Last Monday, June 29th year 6 went to Rest Bay to

take part in a tag rugby tournament. The entire year group went and we had 5 teams each with 7 players. We had a great time as it was not really competitive. The idea was for schools to get together and have fun playing sport on the beach. It was really hot so we had an ice cream and even paddled in the sea. Some of us loved playing tag while others preferred digging holes in the sand and playing in the rock pools! It was a great day.

By Kai Atkins

Year 6 Move Up day and transition

Last Thursday some of us went to Brynteg to find out our new classes for September. We were a bit nervous especially when we sat in the hall waiting for our name to be called. The teachers were lovely and some of them made us laugh. It was good to see some children from other schools that we met this year through netball or rugby matches. We had a science lesson where we used bunsen burners to burn magnesium. This was a very bright light and we couldn't look directly at it. We really enjoyed having lunch because there is so much choice. Most of us went to Pasta King. The time went so fast because we were enjoying ourselves so much. I don't think we will be very nervous in September.

By James Alexander

Seeds and Weeds Club

We are now coming to the end of term and can see the wonderful plants in the Junior entrance due to the care of pupils in the Seeds and Weeds Club. This work goes unseen during colder months, but the "fruits of your labour" can be seen now. Thank you Seeds and Weeds Club.

Campcraft – Camp out

We have been lucky with our weather for Summer Term events. A sunny warm evening was welcome! This is the second year for Year 6 to camp out as part of their "Campcraft" topic. Seven staff stayed watched and supervised the tents overnight in a rota. Games, football and sausage/rissole and chips were supplied by Cavallis at a reduced rate. The tents looked great and there was huge fun putting them up. Children were proud to show off their "little homes". This was a brilliant experience to finish off their time at Litchard Primary. May I take this opportunity to thank you, their parents for supporting the night by bringing and collecting pupils on time Friday morning and more importantly making sure they came back to school after having a wash and breakfast. Can I also thank our dedicated staff who have given up their own time

to make it all happen.

Our night out Camping

Last night the year 6's camped out on the school field, this was part of our topic summer camp.

We started off the night by setting up our tents, some of the children had pop up tents, which were very easy to put up but other tents were a lot harder to put up. We then all played for a bit while some of the teachers went to get us some chips for our tea.

After our tea, we did an obstacle race while we were blindfolded, you had to pick a partner and they would guide you through the course, after everyone had a go, the teachers had a go, it was really funny watching them! We then had an hour to play before it was time to go to bed.

When we got into our tents, there was a lot of giggling and talking. We woke up around 6 o'clock, we put all our stuff back in our bags and took our tents down, so we were all ready for when our parents came and picked us up.

Everyone had a fantastic time and we had a lot of fun!!

By Lucy Florence

Thank you to Cavalli's

As previously mentioned, thank you to Cavalli's Fish and Chip Shop for supporting events at the school. Cavalli's provided Year 6 pupils with their Sausage Chip Supper at a reduced cost and have supported our Fish and Chip Supper Nights in the same way. Thank you for supporting Litchard Primary!

Bridgend Schools Swimming Gala

The Litchard Swimming squad took part in a gruelling competition in Ynysawdre Swimming Pool. Our qualifiers were Grace Thompson (4W), Hollie Edwards (6R) and Archie Waagenes (6R). Grace took part in the Year 3/4 breast stroke and won the race amongst a very tough field! Incredibly, she wasn't done as she took 3rd place in the Year 5/6 race!

Hollie competed in the front crawl and fly and finished 4th in both races again amongst an array of talent. Archie finished a very respectable 6th in an extremely high quality competition.

All three represented our school with pride and excellent sportsmanship. They did themselves extremely proud. Well done!

A big thanks to Mrs Hughes for attending and parents

who supported the event.

Year 4 Techniquest

Year 4 visited Techniquest for a fun-filled maths adventure day. The 'Tower of Terror' brought alive the relevance of maths in everyday life. It was great fun with lots of interactive activities to get involved in. "My favourite part was the show" explained Carly Davies. Later on in the day, as the weather was so warm, a walk around Cardiff Bay and an ice-cream was in order. The children and staff had a wonderful day!

Year 2 Botanical gardens

Year 1 started their day on a muddy trail, hunting for the habitats of different animals, such as snakes, frogs, squirrels and hedgehogs.

Year 2 had great fun. They went pond dipping and took their pond life back to the Science Laboratory to study the creatures closely under a microscope, using keys to identify different creatures.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the day and their behaviour was a credit to the school.

End of Term Awards.

This took place on Wednesday. The two top point scorers from each class were awarded a Litchard refillable water bottle. These prizes have been changed to promote Healthy food and drink at the school.

The winners were

Infants: Macie Hallet, Lucas Jones, Lily Wilcox, Owain Simms, Regan Isaac, Izzabelle Jones, Abi Mills, Liam Hopkins, Katie Davies, Matthew Hussell, Taylor Baldwin, Lucy Blackwell, Jayden Burnett

Junior: Adam Exton, Isabel Sanders, Ophelia Bowler, Alex Cox, Lois Davies, Ella Matthews, Ioan Pett, Ieuan Barnard, Amelia Penny, Kasey Harris, Harvey Charman, Jack Haxton, David Llewellyn, Gemma Simms, Matthew Cunningham, Charlotte Leigh, Samantha Haines, Joshua Newton.

Attendance Awards

Here are the pupils who have 100% for the whole year – they were awarded certificates and a medal in our Award Ceremony.

Callum Barnes, Lois Davies, Hollie Edwards, Adam Exton, Samantha Haines, Shawn Haines, Harley Harrison, Dylan Hembrow, Zac Lewis, Bethan Maclauchlin, Jamie Morris, Jon Morris, Lily Owen,

Mya Perham, Ioan Pett, Evan Richards, Jack Shaw, Evan Simons, Chelsea Stevens, Archie Turrell, Kylan Williams,

We had 123 children with 100% attendance for the Summer Term. They also were given a certificate and a pencil for their good attendance. Well done!

Healthy Eating and Fitness Success

As you may be aware we are working towards our healthy schools award here at Litchard Primary. The children and staff are making huge efforts to support this by only eating fresh fruit and drinking water at snack times. The iced lemon and lime water went down a treat on sports day, a big thank you to the Year 6 girls who helped at the water station. We recently held a football and netball festival at the school which included a number of other schools, children, parents and staff. We sold fresh fruit such as watermelons, honeydew melons and pineapples which was a massive success, in fact we had to get more supplies by lunch time! One child commented and said 'this is much better when you are exercising as it stops you getting thirsty'. A big thank you to FOLPS who have purchased a popcorn machine for the children and made our recent disco a roaring success with cinema style bags of popcorn and bottles of water, the children thoroughly enjoyed (so did the staff ☺). We are tweeting healthy facts on our twitter page so follow us to help support this great initiative.

Music Evening

A really enjoyable evening. The children showed off their musical talent. The school would like to thanks the head of the County Music, Mark Haughty and his team who presented items from the school orchestra, violins, Samba Band and Brass. I would also like to thank our wonderful pianists and the school choir for performing so confidently. Although many of our performers who play solo instruments are privately tutored the school always wants to promote performance. Children have lots opportunity to do this throughout the year in school but to perform in front of an audience takes it to another level.

International Links – USA/Louisiana Visitors

Our long standing international links with Louisiana took place again last week. Our friends came and took an afternoon of workshops in our Junior department to talk about the USA and also share their views on Christianity. It's always fun when they come and the children look forward to their visit. A big thank you to the Mission Church who have shared their links with our Louisiana friends. We look forward to seeing them next year.

FOLPS Healthy Disco

Again amazing weather, but this was inside! Our Disco has popcorn, water and fruit this time as part of the school's drive to promote healthy eating. Many adults have been worried about this, but children said they loved it! Thank you FOLPS for getting a special popcorn machine, it looks like we are going to get a lot of use from it! A huge thanks to FOLPS and Litchard staff for organising and supporting this event.

FOLPS 60s and 70s Night

Last Friday FOLPS held a fantastic evening. There was a good turn out by parents who enjoyed a quiz, bingo and live music from the Highlanders who entertained us throughout the evening with music from the 60s and 70s. The evening raised £250

FOLPS will be organising a September Fete. More information will follow next term.

Next Year Nursery

Whilst the weather has been kind to us all the children and staff in the Nursery have been cooling down and enjoying a 'Splash Week' using the paddling pools, water slide and various water pistols and toys. All the children are now ready to move up to their new classes and lots of transition has been taking place with pre-school settings ready to welcome the new children in September. Our intake numbers are high this year therefore only allowing future spaces for children who live within the school's catchment area. All children starting in September have been given a start date and will be staggered over a period of two weeks.

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to be sent to electronically
please would you send your
email address to

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