



HIGH LITTLETON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Friday, 16th January 2026



Happy New Year

Welcome back: As this is the first newsletter of the new year, I would like to welcome you all back to High Littleton Primary School following what I hope was a peaceful Christmas period for you all. I am sure that you would like to join me in welcoming two new families to our school. Clara has started in Hedgehog Class, whilst Harry and Sophie have also joined us in Fox and Owl classes respectively.

Governor Open Day: This week we opened our doors to our hard-working governors, who saw for themselves how hard both staff and children work on a daily basis. Governors were invited into classrooms, to observe Collective Worship as well as being able to watch the children playing at break times and lunchtimes - feedback was very positive.

Attendance: As of today, our whole school attendance stands at 97%. Our target for the end of this academic year is 98% and we continue to work towards that figure with your support. We as a school are fortunate that you as parents place a great deal of emphasis on regular attendance as this allows your child to make good progress with their learning. Thank you also for ensuring that your children arrive in good time to start the day. We have seen a reduction in children arriving late and this also has a positive impact on their learning.

Year 6 Residential meeting: Last week, Year 6 parents were invited to attend a meeting regarding the upcoming residential visit, their trip to London as well as information about their SATs tests. If you were not able to attend or have yet to complete the medical forms, please contact Mr Gunning.

Parents' Evenings: Looking ahead, our next Parents' Evenings will be held on Monday, 16th March and Thursday, 19th March. More information will come out nearer the time on how to complete your booking.

Educational Visits: Upcoming trips and educational visits include Foxes and Robins visiting We the Curious, Deer Class visiting Lifeskills, Badgers visiting the Roman Baths whilst Hedgehogs and Robins will be performing at the annual Dance Umbrella (more details to follow).



"Love each other as I have loved you." John 15:12

Young Voices

On Wednesday, twenty children and a whole host of adults embarked on the annual journey to Birmingham for the Young Voices concert. The children had an amazing time and were impeccably behaved throughout the day. They were joined by another 5,000 children from across the country in an evening of song and dance. My grateful thanks to Miss Langley, Mrs Stenner, Mrs Smith and Miss Stevens for taking the time to give the children a most memorable experience and for ensuring their safe return to school.



Chair of Governors

Following a successful tenure as our school's Chair of Governors, I would like to inform you that Mr Alec Bennett has stepped down from his role. As a former parent at the school, Alec has played a pivotal role in supporting and challenging us which has allowed the school to flourish during his time at High Littleton. At times, the role has been quite challenging, supporting the school's senior leaders in managing staffing, budgets, supporting in the delivery of the curriculum, implementing Trust policy as well as being an integral part of our most recent Ofsted inspection. On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Alec for his unwavering support.

With Alec's departure, the role of Chair of Governors has now been taken up by Mr Dave Howson, who currently has two children at our school. Dave has worked alongside other schools in this role and therefore is well-equipped to continue Alec's good work.

If you are interested in the work of our governing body or you would like to become a governor, please let us know.



Online Safety Meeting

How we protect our children online is constantly changing. To help you stay ahead of the latest digital trends and risks, we are hosting an Online Safety Information Evening led by experts from Avon and Somerset Police.

Event Details

- **Date:** Tuesday, 20th January 2026
- **Time:** 6-7pm
- **Location:** Church Hall at School

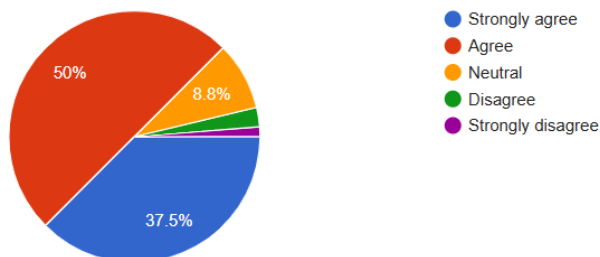
This is a valuable opportunity to ask questions directly to the police and gain the tools needed to keep your child safe in the digital world. If you would like to attend the session please come along. May we kindly ask that only ONE parent attends the session.



Christian Distinctiveness Survey - Results

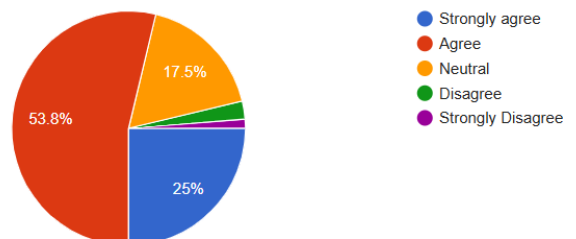
The school's Christian vision enables my child(ren) to flourish.

80 responses



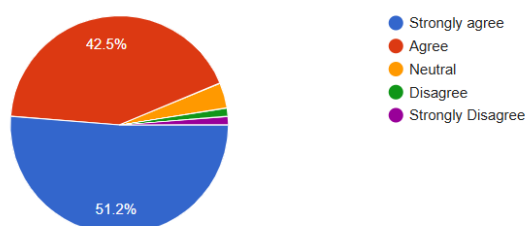
Collective Worship in the school enables my child(ren) to flourish spiritually.

80 responses



The school's Christian vision creates a culture where my child(ren) are treated well.

80 responses



Thought of the Week

Thought of the Week

'Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.' (Matthew 6:34)



The quote on the left is from Corrie Ten Boom. She was a Dutch watchmaker and later a Christian writer and public speaker. She worked with her father Casper, her sister Betsie and other family members to help many Jewish people escape from the Nazis during World War II, by hiding them in her home.

Unfortunately, they were caught, and Corrie was arrested and sent to the Ravensbrück concentration camp. Her most famous book, 'The Hiding Place', is a biography that recounts the story of her family's efforts and how she found and shared hope in God while she was imprisoned at the concentration camp.

After the war, Corrie returned to the Netherlands to set up a rehabilitation centre in Bloemendaal. She then returned to Germany in

1946 and met with and forgave two Germans who had been employed at Ravensbrück, one of whom had been particularly cruel to Betsie, her sister. Corrie lost her father while they were held in prison and her sister while in the concentration camp.

It's quite surprising that after everything she went through, she was able to talk about not worrying. For someone who had to endure existing in a concentration camp, which included watching her father and sister die and spending time in solitary confinement, it's amazing that she could even think about enjoying 'today' and not worrying about the next.

It's easy to find something to worry about, maybe even more so at the current time. But as Jesus says in Matthew's gospel, don't worry about tomorrow, focus on today. That doesn't mean we need to start worrying about the here and now, but like Corrie Ten Boom says, focusing on tomorrow and the next day, just stops you enjoying the moment. It empties you of today's strength.

So before you start worrying about next month's bills, or next week's appointments or even tomorrow's meals, take some time to enjoy today and to live in the moment. Don't let future worries stop you from finding today's joys.



OPAL Resources

It's that time of year again when we are asking for donations of loose parts to further enrich the children's outdoor learning experience. High Littleton is a platinum awarded OPAL school. The aim of OPAL is to enrich the children's outdoor playtime by encouraging free and imaginative play, reinforcing social skills and allowing a safe environment for the children to assess their own risks.

As before, we're asking for items off the list below. Whilst we will thoroughly check all items to ensure their safety, it would be appreciated if you could check that the items are safe enough to play with i.e. pockets, bags should all be cleared out, cables cut-off.

Natural Loose Parts	Fabricated Loose Parts
Bulbs/seeds/plants	Astro Turf Off cuts
Logs	Bed linen
Pea Gravel	Boards, Old Cabinet Doors, Panels
Pine cones	Bread, milk, bottle and grocery crates
Play Bark/ Woodchip	Brief cases
Tree stumps that can be used as seats	Buggies, push chairs
Sea Pebbles	Cable drums
Shells	Decking that can be made into planters
Varied aggregates, slate, flint, clay	Event shelter/old tents
Wood offcuts	Fabrics – Preferably parachute type materials and as colourful as possible.
	Hoses and pipe
	Netting - fishing, cargo, football
	Old clothes, jackets, overalls, hats, bags
	Suitcases/Briefcases of all sizes
	Treasure that can be buried - crystals, rocks, coins, fools gold, mini dinosaurs etc



Nut-Free School

Please can I remind you that we are **NUT FREE SCHOOL**.

Please can you also ensure you do not provide SESAME items. We are asking all parents to bear this in mind when sending lunches and snacks to school.

Thank you for your co-operation.



**DO YOU NEED
CHILDCARE BEFORE OR
AFTER SCHOOL?**

**YOU CAN BOOK ODD
DAYS, A WEEK OR A
FULL TERM!**

**SCAN THE QR CODE
BELOW TO GO TO OUR
BOOKING SITE**



**OR CONTACT US BY TEXT/EMAIL
07789997375**

j.mctiernan@progressive-sports.co.uk

Golden Rules

We are gentle



We are kind and helpful



We listen



We are honest



We work hard



We look after property



Attendance

Please see below attendance for each class since the beginning of the academic year:

Owl	96.9%
Hedgehog	97%
Fox	98%
Badger	96.5%
Otter	96.7%
Robins	97.9%
Deer	97.2%
Total	97%



Please check out the website - Click on the [link](#).

Follow us on Instagram [high_littleton](#) for the latest news and information about the school.



Dates for your Diaries 2025-2026

Please click on the link below to take you to the 'Diary Dates' page and scroll down to see Club dates!

['Diary Dates/Clubs'](#)

High Littleton Primary School is committed to working towards race equality, promoting positive approaches to difference and opposing all forms of racial prejudice and discrimination. Language or behaviour, which is racist or potentially damaging to any ethnic or racial group, is not tolerated and will always be challenged. We recognise that British society is made up of people from many different racial, cultural, linguistic and religious backgrounds and that all pupils must be fully prepared to live in such a diverse society.