



# Lytchett Matravers Primary School and Preschool

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**Headteacher: Matt Vernon**

**Deputy Headteacher: Laura Dominey**

**Assistant Headteacher: Amy Foster**



Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

Last week was once again 'SATs' (Standard Assessment Tests) week for our Year 6s, during which they undertook tests in English and Maths. Firstly, and most importantly, it was evident that every child was supported to approach these tests with confidence and without worry. This was achieved through both the care and attention shown to the children as well as how they had been prepared to take the assessments over the course of the year.

My thanks go to the whole staff team for enabling the children to feel settled and confident during the week. The morning breakfast was a really fun place to be, full of smiles, dancing and laughter, as well as possibly the UK's longest conga line for any Year 6 group! Every adult placed the children's welfare at the front of their actions and I am so proud of every pupil for trying their absolute best on every activity that they were set - we cannot ask for any more.

Our sincere thanks also go to Mr Ferrett for providing such wonderful ice creams to us to reward everyone once the tests were all over. The perfect treat at the end of so much hard work!

These assessments also demonstrated the children's character, something we constantly consider through the school's learning muscles. Every child showed how they trusted themselves and never gave up, their high expectations and how they yearn to learn, for example.

We want to make sure that every child knows the importance of our learning muscles and are therefore going to be implementing an incentive during the Autumn Term to reward children when they demonstrate them. To do so, we need a sticker designed for each one. Therefore, we are setting a half term competition to design a sticker for each learning muscle that we have.

Children can choose to design a sticker for each one or for individual muscles. They can use any art materials that they wish and should place their designs on the template that has gone home with the children today. The winning entries will be made into stickers for all of the school to use.

Happy designing – we think creatively and use our imagination!

With warmest wishes as always,

Mr Vernon, Headteacher

Learning Muscle Competition May 2026

Design a sticker – if your entry is chosen then your picture will be printed into stickers! The circles are about the same size as the stickers!




## Walking Home Year 4

Following agreement with the school governors, from September 2026 we will not be allowing Year 4 children to walk home on their own. This means that every child in this year group will be required to be collected from school at school pick up time. This decision has been made due to safety and safeguarding considerations, in light of the age and maturity of the children.

Years 5 and 6 will continue to be allowed to walk home at the end of the school day where we hold written permission to do so.

## Little Troopers

Mrs Wells and Mrs Kerley have taken over Little Troopers club with great success. This group is made up of children where their parents are within the armed forces and is designed to bring support and companionship with others in similar contexts as well as to have lots of fun!



## EPEC

Dorset Council are looking for volunteers to lead a course by parents, for parents. If you think that you might be able to help to facilitate this, we've attached a poster to the newsletter.

## Additional Support Courses for Parents

Three new courses offered by FACE, separate from the school membership.

Full access to all three courses for £6.99/month

Complete at your own pace, cancel anytime.



### **Building Emotional Resilience**

Work through six stages of directed exercises to help your child (and yourself) improve emotional resilience.



### **Facing Defiance**

A specific strategy aimed at supporting parents of children aged 5 to 12 with ADHD, ODD or just very challenging behaviour.



### **You & Your Teen**

A skills building course for one parent and one teen (12 years old and above) to learn how they can both improve their communication with each other.

[www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk)  
**Online Courses for Parents** page  
[info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk](mailto:info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk)



## FACE Parenting Courses

FACE Family Advice offer online courses for parents in a range of areas to support effective parenting.

## Total Sports - Kits

Please be aware that children who attend Total Sports at lunchtimes are allowed to wear their P.E. kit to school on these days or can change into their P.E. kits at lunch time before attending the club. However, children participating are not allowed to wear their own football kits as this could be seen as a reward for attending the club at the disadvantage of others, including those with non-uniform tokens for their 100 stars.

## **British Theatre School Local Opportunity**

The British Theatre School are running a holiday camp at Castle Court School in August this year. Further information, as well as a discount code, is attached to the newsletter.

## **Parking**

We understand that it can be challenging to locate parking at drop off and pick up time but do ask that you are respectful of all members of the community when doing so. It is not fair for local residents to have their driveways blocked or to not be able to access their properties due to school collection.

## **Request from Dorset Council**

As part of Dorset Council's Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, they are asking parents and carers about their childcare needs. This work helps them to better understand the current and future demand for childcare across the local area, enabling them to support families more effectively.

The parents survey has a prize draw of 5 x £50 Amazon vouchers for those who enter!

**Survey link:** [Childcare Survey for Dorset Parents and Carers - Dorset Council - Citizen Space](#)

## **High 5 Gymnastics**

Ashleigh from High 5 Gymnastics will be running summer holiday gymnastics sessions across July and August at St Ives Primary School. The sessions are open to children aged 6–11 and all abilities are welcome. Sessions will include a mixture of gymnastics skills, games, obstacle courses, teamwork activities and fun challenges in a safe and supportive environment.

Please see the attached flyer for further information and booking details. If you have any questions, please contact Ashleigh directly at [highfiveactivities@gmail.com](mailto:highfiveactivities@gmail.com).

## **Triathlon**

Congratulations to our Year 3 pupils who not only completed the Knight Frank Schools Triathlon on 10<sup>th</sup> May, at Bryanston School (as team 'Lytchett Lightning!') but also raised an incredible £402 for Restless Development whilst doing so. They each in turn swam 50m, cycled 1000m, and ran 750m, all finishing together for the last 100m to the finish line. Well done boys!



## Football Team

Congratulations also to the Lytchett Rangers Under 9's Team who won their recent tournament. A special mention to the goalkeeper for receiving the player of the tournament award, not least for his incredible saves in the final penalty shootout!



## Handball

More sporting success was achieved by the Lytchett Matravers Year 3/4 Handball team who won their tournament (out of 7 primary schools) and were undefeated at the weekend!

## On your bike!

Mrs McGrail joined the international 'Distinguished Gentleman's Ride' last weekend, fundraising and raising awareness for prostate cancer and men's mental health. The moustache on the bike was a great touch!



## Attendance

This half term, Skylark ended with the highest attendance, even achieving a green bar on the attendance bar chart. In total, 313 children achieved attendance of over 96% - that's 75% of all the children in the school!

