



# Longlands Primary School

Friday 4th April 2025

## A Message from the Headteacher:

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the Spring term, it is hard to believe that we have now completed two thirds of the 2024/25 academic year.

This half term was full of exciting opportunities for our pupils including: Skills Builder week, a science workshop for all pupils, Choir and Rocksteady performances, World Book Day, football matches and much more.

We are always proud of our children who take part in competitions, activities or visits where they represent Longlands school and show the wider community how amazing our pupils are. I would like to highlight three recent instances where our pupils did just that:

- A small group of children from Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 attended a writing workshop with other schools and showed how collaborative we are as a school and how well we can work in a team, even with children from other schools that we don't know. Our children's behaviour and attitude to learning were also exemplary throughout the workshop.
- The Rocksteady and choir performances that marked the end of our Spring term were brilliant. The children were brave and performed beautifully. A big thank you to Mrs Harris for organising the concert.

Just to let you know that our bands and choir are available for weddings and events for a reasonable fee. If you would like to book them for your event, please contact the school office. I am of course joking, the fee is not reasonable and you will need to pay top price for our talented pupils to perform.

- Longlands Football Team are coached by our very own Pep Guardiola, Mr Allen and this season the team competed in two competitions where they reached the semi-final in one cup and the final in the other. Although they were unlucky to not win in these games, they played very well and wore the Longlands badge with pride. We are proud of our children whether they win or lose as long as they are fair, respectful and try their best. Thank you and well done to the boys and girls that represented Longlands in all the football games, you did us proud!

I would like to say a huge thank you to our FOLS who continue to raise money for the school and our pupils through different events. The money raised is used to enhance and enrich our children's experience through buying iPads, workshops, playground equipment and other educational resources. Our School Governors also commented on the incredible fundraising work that FOLS do at our recent Governing Body meeting and they wanted to extend a thank you to all involved!

Thank you also to all our parents and carers who attended our Spring Term Parents Evenings. It is always great to share your child's work, progress and achievement with you. We are very proud of our Longlands pupils and their achievements!

On behalf of all of us at Longlands Primary School, I would like to wish you all an enjoyable Spring break. We look forward to welcoming the children back for the start of an always busy Summer term on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

Take care,

Mr Baines

# EYFS

This half term, children in Monet and Matisse classes have thoroughly enjoyed their topic on dinosaurs. They found out that some dinosaurs were carnivores and only ate meat, some dinosaurs were herbivores and only ate plants and some were omnivores and ate both. We talked about why the dinosaurs may have become extinct. The children pretended to be paleontologists and carefully brushed away the sand around some dinosaur 'bones' in order to excavate them. We learnt a new song called Iguanodon and the children made musical instruments so they could play the beat to the song as they sung along. As a result of this some children have been inspired to write their own songs which they have shared with the class. When we looked at the book 'Tyrannosaurus Drip' the children were encouraged to write speech bubbles and build bridges like the one in the story but using different materials.

During Science week we carried out lots of fun experiments. One of which we did with Wei Wei class. We had to make predictions about which liquids would freeze in the allocated time and which wouldn't. We then put them in the freezer for a few hours and checked the results. The washing up liquid went all gooey, as did the golden syrup and we found out that it was because these liquids have more viscosity. We also had a special scientist come and do an assembly with us which we really enjoyed!

In maths we have been learning about odd and even numbers and doubles and halves. This is something that the children need to continually practice in order for this learning to become embedded.

In phonics, we have finished level 3 and so many of us are becoming more confident in reading and writing. All the teachers are incredibly proud of the children for their efforts and the progress they have made. We really enjoyed celebrating World Book Day too!

We completed the bunny hop so well, not one child stopped for the whole 10 minutes. Please bring in your sponsorship money after the holidays with your form. All the money goes towards paying for the new equipment we have in the playgrounds and the class that makes the most money will win £50 to spend on resources for the class.

Next half term we will be learning about Spring and Minibeasts.

**Mrs Allen, Ms Sheridan and Mr Murphy**



## Key Stage 1

KS1 have had another incredibly busy term full of learning, excitement, growing and fun! Our book for the term was '10 Things I can do to Help my World' by Melanie Walsh. This book was full of ways to help the world. It gave the children opportunities to explore how they can save the world themselves and how some ideas are very simple, such as turning the taps off while brushing their teeth. The children had to explore why it is important to help the world.

During English lessons, the children created persuasive posters using language such as "you should", "it is certain" and "I am sure that". They also created lift the flap information posters, telling people how they can save the world and why it is important. The children also worked hard to create a zig-zag book. One of the ways to save the world was to feed the birds in winter, so the children worked in small groups to create an apple bird feeder, which they hung up around the playground. The children then used what they had done to write a set of instructions. To finish the term, the children wrote a story about a whale getting stuck or eating rubbish. They then used this story as a base for a diary entry written from the perspective of the whale.

In Maths, the children have been looking at measurement. The children have focused on length and height, looking at centimetres and metres. They created pictures using strips of coloured paper, that they had measured to different lengths. The children enjoyed bringing their learning to life and didn't even realise they were using maths!

The children's science topic was plants, linking to their Power of Reading book about looking after the world. The children learnt about evergreen and deciduous trees, wild and garden plants and the plant life cycle. The children planted beans to see the stages of germination, roots, stem and leaves growing. They have been moved into the planters in the playground, for the broad beans to continue growing, ready to harvest in the summer. The children also planted potatoes. As part of growing plants, the children had to investigate what plants need to grow. They planted cress seeds and put some on the window sill with light and water, and some in the cupboard, just with water. They were surprised to see that the cress in the cupboard still grew, but it was tall and yellow with minimal leaves. They realised that the cress was growing towards the light, but that seeds can germinate without light.



As part of the RE celebrations throughout the year, O'Keeffe Class and Warhol Class learnt about Eid and had an Eid party. The children made pop-up Eid cards, danced to Islamic music and tasted a range of traditional foods. A big part of celebrating Eid is to give to others, so the children brought in money to give to a local charity, Mencap.



## .....continued Key Stage 1

In DT the children were looking at healthy eating and creating a healthy plate. We learnt all about the different food groups, such as carbohydrates, protein, dairy, fruit and vegetables and fats, and how to make the food groups into a balanced plate. Using this knowledge, the children were then challenged to create a healthy wrap. They started by tasting possible ingredients, such as grapes, cheese and ham and choosing a top three. They then used their top three to create a wrap, which they were able to eat. They finished it off by evaluating their wrap, deciding on what went well and what they would change next time.



The KS1 teachers are incredibly proud of all of the children and the progress they have made. They have worked so hard this term! We hope you all have a wonderful Easter break full of reading, adventures and fun!

**Miss Brook, Miss Artis, Miss Taylor, Mrs Laughland and Mr Morand**

## Lower Key Stage 2

We have had a very busy term in Years 3 and 4.

In English, our learning has been centred around our core book, *The Tin Forest* by Helen Ward. In the book, the main character of the old man lives in a desolate and grey world surrounded by rubbish. He dreams of a jungle that he could live in. The old man decides to create his own jungle using the rubbish that surrounds his house. This becomes the Tin Forest. Inspired by this text, the children have written informative leaflets, diary entries, persuasive letters, descriptions and their own version of the story.



In Geography, the children have been learning about the different types of pollution and how the impact of this on the local area. The children created maps of the playground and the field and conducted a litter survey. From this survey the children found that there was more litter over at the field. The reason for this, the children concluded, was because of the public area that surrounds the field. The children came up with some solutions which were to have a rota of volunteer litter pickers, create posters to encourage children to pick up litter and to have more bins available.

In PE, the children have been learning to play Netball. They have learnt the way to pass the ball successfully with bounce pass, chest pass and aim pass. They have also learnt the different positions and where they can go on the netball court.

In DT, the children have created their own Tin Forest. They were inspired by the Tin Forest that the old man created in the book. The children used foil and silver paper to create trees, flowers, birds, butterflies and other animals.



## .....continued Lower Key Stage 2

This term we also had World Book Day. The children were able to swap with their reading buddy class, Kahlo worked with O'Keeffe, Thomas class worked with Ashevak and Basquiat worked with Murakami. The children read to each other and discussed the character that they were dressed as.

The children also enjoyed Science Week this term. The children took part in a magnetic coin investigation. They found that coins that were made before 1992 were not magnetic as they were made from different materials whereas the coins of today are made from steel and are therefore magnetic. The children were also treated to a science workshop with a real scientist, who showed off some exciting experiments.



**Miss Gayson, Miss Almond, Mrs Payton and Mrs Baines**

## Upper Key Stage 2

This term, Years 5 and 6 have been fully immersed in their learning, covering a wide range of exciting topics and developing key skills along the way.

In English, we have been reading *Cory's Rock*, a thought-provoking story set in Orkney. Through this text, we have explored themes of loss, resilience, and the beauty of the natural world. Our studies have taken us beyond the book, as we have delved into the geography and history of Orkney, learning about its breathtaking landscapes, Neolithic sites, and unique cultural heritage. To bring our learning to life, pupils have worked hard to create incredible 3D models of Orkney, carefully including key geographical features such as cliffs, beaches, and ancient settlements. The attention to detail in their work has been fantastic, and it has been wonderful to see their creativity and knowledge shine through in these projects.

In maths, both year groups have been building their confidence with number work. Year 6 have been tackling fractions, decimals, and percentages, deepening their understanding of how these concepts connect and applying them to real-world problems. Meanwhile, Year 5 have been focusing on decimals and percentages, using practical applications to reinforce their learning. Their problem-solving skills have been put to the test, and it has been brilliant to see their perseverance and enthusiasm as they take on increasingly challenging tasks.

A real highlight of the term has been our *Skills Builder* activities, where students have been developing essential life skills through a hands-on, team-based project. Working collaboratively, they have taken on the challenge of setting up their very own cafés. This has involved designing menus, planning floor layouts, considering allergies and dietary needs, and even producing advertising campaigns to promote their businesses. These activities have encouraged creativity, teamwork, communication, and problem-solving—skills that will benefit them far beyond the classroom. It has been fantastic to see their confidence grow as they work together to bring their ideas to life.

We are incredibly proud of all the hard work, enthusiasm, and dedication our Year 5 and 6 pupils have shown this term. Their curiosity, creativity, and resilience continue to impress us, and we look forward to seeing what they achieve next! Keep up the great work, everyone!



**Mrs Harris, Miss Childs and Mr Allen**

## Skills Builder Week

During the last week of term KS2 children have been working on a Skills Builder project 'Community cafe' where they had to research the type of jobs needed to run a cafe and then work as a team to develop their own ideas for a cafe, including researching public opinion on popular foods, planning a menu, pricing items, creating foods, marketing and selling their produce. They designed their own aprons and an aesthetic cafe environment and then sold their food to friends in their key stage. They were very creative and thoroughly enjoyed the challenges.

KS1 have been learning about what a charity is and have been working on designing a new mascot for the charity Mencap. We had a visit from Vikki, who works for Mencap, and learned about the various fundraising they do and the work carried out by the charity. The children chose a teddy and worked in groups to choose a design for an item of clothing, which they then made using lots of different materials. They then had to decide on a fundraising event they could do and created posters to advertise their event. They worked hard at being part of a team and developed great listening and problem solving skills.

All of the children were incredibly enthusiastic and had a great week.

## Change 4 Life Multiskills Festival

On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 8 children from year 3 took part in a multiskills sports festival at Hurstmere. The children took part in lots of activities including: golf, target shooting, curling and speed run. The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the activities and as a team they won the honesty award for their show of sportsmanship throughout the games. A big thank you to the parents who came along to support.



## **Football team**

*What a fantastic season it has been for the Year 5 and 6 Longlands football team! The players have shown incredible skill, determination, and teamwork throughout their matches, and their hard work has truly paid off.*

*One of the highlights of the season was reaching the semi-final of a tough competition. The team played magnificently, giving their all on the pitch and showcasing some brilliant football. Although they were unlucky not to progress to the final, they can hold their heads high knowing they gave everything in a hard-fought match.*

*Their success didn't stop there! The team also made it all the way to the final of another prestigious cup competition. In a match of the highest standard, they battled courageously, creating chances and showing great resilience. The game was incredibly close, but despite their best efforts, they were narrowly defeated 1-0.*

*Mr. Allen and everyone at Longlands are immensely proud of the team's achievements. They have played with passion, sportsmanship, and dedication all season, representing the school with pride. A huge well done to all the players—you should be incredibly proud of yourselves!*

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## **Respect**

*We have noticed that recently pupils are using the words 'gay' or 'lesbian' in an incorrect way and in some cases this can come across as negative or derogatory and is inappropriate.*

*I have held assemblies with KS2 to address this, as instances seem to have increased over the last few weeks. Part of the reason for this is children accessing inappropriate TikToks and Youtube videos on social media. One video that has been discussed by the children is a person that asks 'Spanish or English?' and then follows this up with, 'The first person to move is gay'.*

*At Longlands, respect is incredibly important and a key value that we expect from all of our community. We teach and encourage our children to be respectful and inclusive in all areas of their life. We value each other and want everyone to feel valued at Longlands Primary School.*

*You can help by ensuring that this is addressed at home along with any other unkind language that is used to insult or discriminate.*

*By addressing this at both home and school, we are teaching our children that it is not ok to use characteristics such as sexuality, gender, race, culture, religion or any other characteristics in a negative way.*

*Thank you for your support in ensuring that our children grow to be well rounded and respectful individuals.*

## Thank you.....

Thank you to Affleck Accounting who have donated £500 to our playground appeal.



**AFFLECK**  
ACCOUNTANCY

## Attendance

Monet	93%
Matisse	96%
Murakami	95%
O'Keeffe	94%
Warhol	98%

Thomas	95%
Kahlo	95%
Basquiat	96%
Malone	94%
Ashevak	94%
Wei Wei	97%

## ***Dates for the diary 2025***

*Tuesday 22nd April –Inset Day*

*Friday 25th April—FOLS Bingo night*

*Tuesday 29th April—KS1 Pirate Day*

*Tuesday 29th April—LKS2 Kent Life Trip*

*Tuesday 29th April—UKS2 RNLI talk*

*Wednesday 30th April — Malone Thames Explorer Trip*

*Monday 12th May—O’Keeffe class assembly*

*Friday 16th May—Weiwei Thames Explorer Trip*

*Monday 19th May—Thomas class assembly*

*Wednesday 21st May — Ashevak Thames Explorer Trip*

*Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May—Half term*

*Friday 6th June—UKS2 Tower of London Trip*

*Monday 9th June– Monet class assembly*

*Friday 13th June and Monday 16th June –Year 6 UKSA*

*Monday 16th June—Murakami class assembly*

*Thursday 19th June—Class photos*

*Saturday 21st June—FOLS summer fete*

*Monday 7th July—Matisse class assembly*



***Have an enjoyable Easter break, from all at Longlands Primary School***

In The National College, our #WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety and to help them avoid being misled or harmed online. For more information, visit [www.thenationalcollege.com](http://www.thenationalcollege.com). For further guidance, visit [www.ncc.gov.uk](http://www.ncc.gov.uk). For further guidance, visit [www.ncc.gov.uk](http://www.ncc.gov.uk) and [www.ncc.gov.uk](http://www.ncc.gov.uk). For further guidance, visit [www.ncc.gov.uk](http://www.ncc.gov.uk).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about STREAMERS

Live streaming has become a big part of the entertainment people consume, and what began as a niche of gamers sharing their screens has grown into a huge industry packed with personalities – and potential risks for your children. With over 2.6 million people watching Twitch, the most popular streaming service, at any one time, it's important to remain aware of the risks associated with streamers.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some gaming streamers will stick to family-friendly titles but others will play more violent games that tend to become popular. Even gaming streamers could, in theory, discuss just about anything and so it's important to set an example of setting up controls.



### NEGATIVE INFLUENCES

As things have improved, streamers are often sold by companies to promote products, and this can be a good thing. However, it's important to be aware of the products you're buying and to be aware of the products you're buying and to be aware of the products you're buying.



### FINANCIAL HARM

Streamers will often have donation buttons on their streams to raise to support them. What can start as a fun way to support a streamer can quickly spiral as streamers engage with paying viewers more often, potentially leading to financial harm.



### UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

Children often choose how glamorous they see the world to be, and they often choose how glamorous they see the world to be, and they often choose how glamorous they see the world to be. However, it's important to be aware of the products you're buying and to be aware of the products you're buying.



### MISINFORMATION

Streamers can, in many ways, let us up – and they can get things wrong or not offer an opinion when it's not their thought about it. Some can simply say what they want to get a lot of views or to make them to their side of a topic.



### ADDICTION AND SCREEN TIME

If your child is watching a lot of content, it can be just as addictive as their social lives playing too many video games.



## Advice for Parents & Educators

### EXPLAIN HOW STREAMING WORKS

As a general rule, playing a game or watching a stream is not as hard as it sounds, and it makes a lot of work and no small degree of good fortune. Streamers are often engaged and, unlike you, they don't have a real life. It's important to be aware of the products you're buying and to be aware of the products you're buying.



### CHECK OUT STREAMING PLATFORMS

While we do have a lot of streaming services for you, we do have a lot of streaming services for you, we do have a lot of streaming services for you. However, it's important to be aware of the products you're buying and to be aware of the products you're buying.



### DO NOT LOG PAYMENT INFORMATION

It's important to be aware of the products you're buying and to be aware of the products you're buying. However, it's important to be aware of the products you're buying and to be aware of the products you're buying.



### SET SCREEN TIME LIMITS

It's important to be aware of the products you're buying and to be aware of the products you're buying. However, it's important to be aware of the products you're buying and to be aware of the products you're buying.



### Meet Our Expert

It's important to be aware of the products you're buying and to be aware of the products you're buying. However, it's important to be aware of the products you're buying and to be aware of the products you're buying.



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