



Longlands Primary School

Friday 19th December 2025

A Message from the Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the term, I just want to say a huge thank you to our children, families and staff for another fantastic term at school.

It's been a busy term full of learning, fun and lots of festive excitement over the last couple of weeks. The children have worked so hard and continue to impress us every day with their enthusiasm, kindness and positive attitudes.

Christmas is a lovely time to slow down, spend time together and enjoy the little moments. I hope the holiday gives everyone a chance to rest, recharge and make some special memories with family and friends.

Thank you, as always, for your support — it really does make a difference. We're looking forward to welcoming everyone back in the New Year on Monday 5th January 2026, ready for the next part of our learning journey. Please make sure that your child is in correct uniform for the start of our Spring Term.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Best wishes

Mr Baines

Mr Baines

Head Teacher

EYFS

Monet and Matisse classes have been incredibly busy this half term and have thoroughly enjoyed exploring their topic on *Night and Day*. The children engaged enthusiastically with a wide range of high-quality texts linked to this theme, with particular favourites being 'Owl Babies', 'Night Monkey Day Monkey' and 'How to Catch a Star'. These stories sparked thoughtful discussions, imaginative play and rich learning opportunities across the curriculum.



Throughout the term, the children have taken part in a variety of creative art activities linked to our topic. They created detailed owl pictures and collages using different materials, carefully designed, made and evaluated their own stars, and produced fantastic drawings of foxes and monkeys inspired by the books we shared. These activities encouraged creativity, fine motor development and the ability to talk about their work and the choices they made.



In mathematics, the children have been learning all about 2D and 3D shapes. They have enjoyed exploring shapes through hands-on activities and practical resources, and many children are now confidently beginning to describe the properties of shapes, such as the number of sides, faces and corners. It has been lovely to see their mathematical vocabulary developing alongside their confidence.

EYFS continued.....

The progress the children have made in their reading and writing has been particularly exciting to see. They have worked hard to apply their phonics knowledge, and their growing independence and enthusiasm for mark-making and writing is a real joy. We are very pleased that the children are now ready to begin learning Level 3 sounds in January and are looking forward to continuing this journey with them.



We are incredibly proud of the effort, resilience and positive attitudes the children have shown throughout the term. They have embraced new challenges, supported one another and continued to develop as confident learners. Our Christmas Concert was a truly special occasion, and the children performed beautifully — they were all absolute superstars and should be very proud of themselves.

We would like to thank families for their continued support this term. We hope you all enjoy a restful and happy holiday and look forward to welcoming the children back, refreshed and ready for another exciting term of learning in the new year.

Mrs Allen, Ms Sheridan and Mr Murphy

KS1

This term has been a very busy one for KS1. We have been reading 'Traction Man' as our Power of Reading book this half term. The children have enjoyed the comic book style of the story and listening to all of the different adventures that Traction Man went on. The children had to write diary entries, thank you cards and descriptive character writing. They also created their own comic book strip with a new Traction Man adventure.

In Art, the children have spent the term creating their own Traction Man box, complete with a Traction Man inside. They had to think of a description for the side of the box, design and decorate it to make it stand out in a shop and evaluate their box. The children have continued their learning about materials in Science. The children have learnt about insulating and waterproof materials, as well as how materials can be described and sorted.



The children have also worked incredibly hard on their nativity 'Lights, Camel, Action'. They learnt their lines, sang the songs and created dance moves. We are sure you will all agree that they did an amazing job performing the nativity, with clear voices and enthusiasm. We are all so proud of them! We would also like to say thank you to you, the parents and carers, for the help with the costumes and learning their lines. We hope you all enjoyed the performances!

Finally, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! The children have worked so hard during the Autumn term and have made wonderful progress. We hope you all have a lovely break, fulling of fun, reading and games and we look forward to seeing the children refreshed and ready for learning in January!

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

Lower Key Stage 2

We started off this term with an exciting trip to Kent Life to learn about the Mayans. The children took part in three different workshops. They met the conquistador and he told about the Mayan people, they also learnt about the Gods and Religion and created their own Mayan temples. The children also learnt about the different foods that the Mayan people ate.



Our book this term was called *The Great Kapok Tree*. The book is set in the rainforest so the children created a fact leaflet all about the rainforest. They learnt that the rainforests are the lungs of the world and humans need it to survive. The children also listened to the sounds of the rainforest and created onomatopoeic poems. One of the main themes of the book, is the impact of deforestation. We were shocked to find out about some of the devastation caused by the clearing of the rainforests. The children wrote letters to Sir David Attenborough to persuade him to create one of his amazing documents to tell people about the impact of the loss of the world's rainforests.



In DT, the children got to work to create amazing rainforest boxes. They worked so hard to create these wonderful boxes and so we knew that we had to share these in a showcase. The children really enjoyed showing everyone the amazing work that they have created this term. Thank you to everyone who came along!



Miss Gayson, Miss Almond, Mrs Payton and Mrs Baines

Upper Key Stage 2

Autumn 2 has been a busy and exciting term in Year 5 and 6. In History, we have been learning about the Anglo-Saxons, exploring key dates, places and events that shaped early Britain. We participated in a drama workshop, bringing history to life by acting out key moments from the Anglo-Saxon period.

In English, we have been studying *Macbeth*, exploring themes such as ambition, loyalty and power. Inspired by the text, pupils produced a wide range of writing, including letters, diary entries, poems, playscripts and a newspaper report. In Science, pupils learned about electricity through practical investigation. They designed and built burglar alarms to protect the Crown Jewels, creating circuits that used lights, motors or buzzers which were activated when a switch was triggered.



In Art, our focus was on portraiture. Pupils practised sketching realistic facial features and then applied these skills creatively by showcasing themes from *Macbeth*. Many artworks explored the idea of 'half good, half evil'.



In RE, we explored places of worship, learning how different religions use special buildings and spaces for prayer, reflection and community. In Maths, we have been working hard with fractions, including equivalent fractions, simplifying fractions and applying this knowledge to problem-solving.



In PE, we developed our skills in gymnastics and dance, working on balance, control, coordination and created sequences with increasing confidence and creativity.

We are very proud of the enthusiasm shown by the children this term and look forward to continuing our learning in the new year.

Mr Allen, Mrs Harris and Miss Childs

Wrap around care

The children had a lot of fun in wrap around care this month. Each day the children arrived in the morning to discover Buddy the Elf had been up to mischief overnight!

On Thursday 12th December Mrs Foster and Ms Needham hosted a Christmas party in after school care for the children, the studio had been decorated and they had a buffet tea with music playing and disco lights!

Thank you all for booking your required sessions in advance on the IRIS app.

Mrs Foster, Ms Needham and Mrs Hill wish you all a Merry Christmas and look forward to welcoming the children back to wrap around care in January!

Dates for the diary 2026



Tuesday 6th January—EYFS & Year 6 health check

Wednesday 7th January—ROCK UK launch meeting

Thursday 8th January—Year 4 swimming commences

Monday 19th January—Malone class assembly

Tuesday 27th January—KS1 Horniman museum

Friday 6th February—NSPCC numbers day

Tuesday 10th February—KS1 Horniman museum

Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February—HALF TERM

Attendance

Monet	94%
Matisse	98%
Murakami	90%
O'Keeffe	88%
Warhol	90%

Thomas	96%
Kahlo	94%
Basquiat	95%
Malone	92%
Ashevak	97%
Wei Wei	95%

Have a relaxing Christmas holiday, from all at Longlands Primary

DEC '25

UPDATE FROM



A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM FOLS!
A HUGE THANK YOU TO
EVERYONE WHO
SUPPORTED OUR EVENTS
THIS YEAR, BY COMING,
VOLUNTEERING AND
DONATING! SO FAR THIS
SCHOOL YEAR WE HAVE
RASIED OVER £5000!!!

AFTER THE VERY SUCCESSFUL
CHRISTMAS FETE DUE TO YOUR
AMAZING DONATIONS, WE WERE ABLE
TO FULFIL THE ENTIRE WISH LIST FOR
EACH CLASS AND SPEND OVER £1000
IN NEW ITEMS FOR EVERY SINGLE
CLASS - THANK YOU SO MUCH!

WE HAVE ALSO PURCHASED NEW GYM
BARS WHICH WILL BE USED IN THE
SCHOOL FIELD NEXT YEAR - WHICH THE
CHILDREN WILL REALLY ENJOY!

OUR TALENT SHOW WILL BE STARTING
NEXT YEAR - PLEASE DO ENCOURAGE
YOUR CHILDREN TO GET INVOLVED, IF YOU
WANT TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST EMAIL

US ON:

LONGLANDSPA@HOTMAIL.COM

WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS AND CANT WAIT FOR MORE EVENTS
IN 2026 - WATCH THIS SPACE!