



Longlands Primary School

Friday 27th March 2026

A Message from the Headteacher



Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

As we reach the end of a busy and rewarding term, I would like to take a moment to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Easter break.

This term has been filled with fantastic learning, creativity and growth across the school. From exciting classroom projects to trips and visitors, it has been a pleasure to see our pupils embracing every opportunity with enthusiasm and resilience. I am incredibly proud of all they have accomplished.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Our strong partnership between home and school makes such a difference to the children's success and wellbeing.

Please enjoy an update on our children's learning along with other important information.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the start of the summer term, refreshed and ready for the exciting opportunities ahead.

Kind regards,

Mr Baines

Mr Baines

EYFS

We have had a fantastic half term in Reception and are incredibly proud of all the children for their enthusiasm and hard work!

Our topic on dinosaurs has been a huge success and the children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring this exciting theme. We have shared a range of wonderful books including *Dinosaur Roar!*, *If I Had a Dinosaur* and *Tyrannosaurus Drip*, which have helped to spark lots of curiosity and discussion. The children have learned about different types of dinosaurs, including carnivores, herbivores and omnivores, and have begun to understand why dinosaurs may have become extinct. We have also explored how we know dinosaurs existed, looking at fossils and the work of palaeontologists.

In maths, the children have been developing their understanding of doubling and halving, as well as practising number bonds to 10. They have shown great confidence when working with numbers and explaining their thinking.

In phonics, we are delighted to share that the children have now completed Level 3 sounds. Next half term, we will focus on revisiting and consolidating this learning to ensure they feel secure and confident before moving on.

We were very lucky to have a visit from athlete Saffron Severn, an amazing gymnast, who inspired the children with his skills and determination. The children absolutely loved taking part and were very excited to try out new movements.



EYFS continued.....

Our Skills Builder project was another highlight of the half term. The children were inspired by the Pearly Queens who came to visit and worked hard to design and make their own t-shirts. They showed fantastic creativity and teamwork throughout the project.



We were also very impressed with the children for completing the bunny hop. They hopped, skipped or jumped around the playground for a full 10 minutes without stopping! If you haven't brought in your sponsorship money yet, then please do so after the holiday.



It has been a busy and enjoyable half term, and we are so proud of everything the children have achieved. We look forward to another exciting term ahead!

Mrs Allen, Ms Sheridan and Mr Murphy

KS1

In KS1 this half term, the children have been extremely busy learning about space. In English we read the book *Look Up* by Nathan Bryon and researched what a meteor shower is and wrote a fact file about them. We also designed a flyer to invite everyone to watch one and wrote what our ambitions are. Some of the children would like to be astronauts, teachers and doctors!

In history, we have been learning about the history of space travel and flight and found out information about the Wright brothers. We designed our own rockets and made some out of junk. It was quite tricky attaching the different parts but great fun.



In Science we have been learning about animals and what they need to survive. Did you know that a crocodile's offspring is called a hatchling? We looked at what different animals ate and matched up the foods that we thought each animal would eat.



KS1 continued.....

In maths year 1s and 2s have been learning about multiplication, division, length and mass.



For RE we have looked at the importance of Allah to Muslims and in PE we have been developing our hockey skills, learning how to hold a hockey stick, move with a ball, stop the ball, pass and shoot into a goal

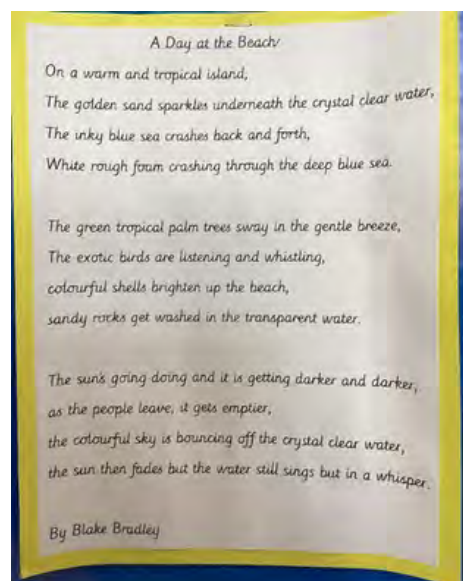
Everyone had fun dressing up for world book day. Can you guess which book this is from?



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

Lower Key Stage 2

As part of our learning on Gregory Cool, the children have explored descriptive and figurative language. The story is set on the beautiful and tropical island of Tobago. With this serene setting in mind, the children created fabulous poems about the ocean with adjectives, similes and metaphors. The children also learnt about some of the traditional dishes from the Caribbean, and wrote a detailed recipe for Bake and Buljol, which is a meal that Gregory eats in the story. In order to get a better understanding of the story, the children have explored the emotions, thoughts, feelings and actions of Gregory through role play, which helped them write a diary of various points of the story.



As the story links to our learning in Geography, the children have found out lots of facts about Tobago; making comparisons between it and the UK, including location, environment, climate, the landscape, its people and its culture, as well as animals and traditions.



Lower Key Stage 2 continued.....

The children also learned that many houses in Tobago are built on stilts as protection against flooding and vermin. In DT, they went on to make their own models, where they used recycled materials to create the houses.



In music, the children sang the song Three Little Birds complete with actions and instruments.

Miss Gayson, Miss Almond, Mrs Payton and Mrs Baines

Upper Key Stage 2

This term, Year 6 and Year 5 have been working hard in Maths, developing their understanding of decimals and percentages, and applying these skills to a range of problem-solving activities.

In Science, pupils have been exploring the fascinating topic of space, showing great curiosity and enthusiasm in their learning.

We have also been thoroughly enjoying our class book *Cosmic* by Frank Cottrell-Boyce, which has inspired the children to create imaginative ideas for their own theme parks.

As part of our Skills Builder work, pupils have been learning about the Pearly King and Queen tradition. They used this knowledge creatively to design their own items of clothing in preparation for our CT walk.

A highlight of the term was our visit to the Science Museum, where the children were exceptionally well behaved and fully engaged, making the most of this exciting learning opportunity.

Mr Allen, Mrs Harris and Miss Childs



OPAL



At Longlands, we are continuing to improve the play offer to all the children. As part of this, we have recently invested in additions at the field. We have added a music maker, pull up bars, three tee pees and a climbing frame. This has made a huge difference to the children's play enjoyment. A huge thank you to FOLs for their contribution to this!



Athlete Day

On Wednesday 25th March, we were lucky enough to be visited by Commonwealth Medallist Saffron Severn. Saffron is a Rhythmic gymnast and she has competed and won medals at World and Commonwealth events. The day began with each class completing a fitness circuit run by Saffron and the sportivator. The children thoroughly enjoyed the circuit and although it wasn't easy they all completed it! The circuit is part of the sponsored part of the event. Please bring in your sponsorship money as this goes towards new PE equipment for the school.



Scan the code to sponsor your child.

As a thank you, pupils will receive the following thank-you gifts for meeting these milestones:

Raise any money: an A5 sheet of motivational stickers

Raise £10 or more: a blue Great Athletes wristband

Raise £25 or more: a blue wristband, and a red wristband with Saffron Severn's signature

Raise £50 or more: all of the above, plus a signed Saffron Severn poster

Prizes for sponsorship money will go out after the Easter break.

The children also were able to learn about Saffron and her journey as an athlete. She told them that they need to be resilient, strong and brave. Hopefully we have inspired some budding athletes to go for their dreams.

A huge thank you to Francesca and Ayda for their support with the day in their role as PE leads.



World Book Day

Our World Book Day was a truly fantastic celebration of reading, filled with creativity, excitement, and enthusiasm from all our pupils. The children amazed us with their wonderful costumes, putting in a tremendous amount of effort to bring their favourite characters to life.

One of the highlights of the day was our “Masked Reader” event, where 12 teachers secretly read a page while disguised behind a crayon, and the entire school had the challenge of guessing who was behind each voice. The assembly was full of energy and laughter as the big reveals took place! Throughout the day, children enjoyed a variety of engaging activities designed to inspire a love of reading, including designing and decorating paper plates based on their favourite books and characters.

After school, our first book swap sale proved to be a great success, and it was wonderful to see so many children excitedly sharing and choosing new books to enjoy. It was a memorable day that truly celebrated the joy of reading.





Water Colour Painting Club

Here are a few pictures from our water colour club.



The children learned about shade and depth along with mixing colours. They sketched some leaves, painted them and created a 'jungle'-style collage with a variety of everyone's.

It was very pleasant and the children created some amazing pieces.

Miss Laughland and Ms Artis

MARCH '26

AN UPDATE FROM



HAPPY
Easter

A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS SUPPORTED US AND DONATED THIS TERM. WE ARE SO EXCITED FOR EVERYTHING WE HAVE PLANNED FOR NEXT TERM.



DON'T FORGET YOUR BUNNY HOP MONEY IS TO BE RETURNED BY WEDNESDAY 15TH APRIL

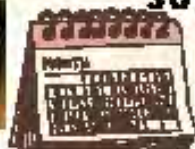
WE ARE THRILLED TO SHARE THAT WE HAVE DONATED £12000 THIS TERM TO SCHOOL FOR MORE OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT FOR THE SCHOOL FIELD. THIS WILL SUPPORT BUYING NEW TEEPEES, CLIMBING EQUIPMENT, GYM BARS, OUTDOOR MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND MUCH MORE! SOME OF THIS HAS ALREADY STARTED TO APPEAR IN OUR SCHOOL FIELD AND THE CHILDREN ARE LOVING THEIR NEW ADDITIONS! A HUGE THANK YOU TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU WHO SUPPORT OUR EVENTS - WE COULDN'T SUPPORT SCHOOL IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU!



**SAVE
the DATE**



**UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!
COLOUR RUN - MAY 8TH - AFTER SCHOOL
DISCO - MAY 22ND - AFTER SCHOOL
SUMMER FETE - JUNE 20TH - 12-3**



MARCH '26



Dates for the diary 2026

Monday 13th April—Summer 1 Term begins

Friday 17th April—UKS2 Imperial War Museum

Monday 20th April—LKS2 Viking Day

Wednesday 6th May—Year 5 & 6 Health education talk

Friday 8th May—FOLS Colour Run & BBQ

Monday 18th May—Thomas Class Assembly

Wednesday 20th May—UKSA meeting

Friday 22nd May—School Council visit to Houses of Parliament

Monday 25th—Friday 29th May—Half term

Monday 1st June—Summer 2 Term begins

Monday 8th June—Class photos

Monday 8th June—O'Keeffe Class Assembly

Friday 12th June—Monday 15th June—UKSA residential

Tuesday 23rd June—Sports Day

Wednesday 24th June—Back up sports day

Attendance

Monet	91%
Matisse	98%
Murakami	96%
O'Keeffe	94%
Warhol	96%

Thomas	98%
Kahlo	98%
Basquiat	98%
Malone	94%
Ashevak	97%
Wei Wei	94%