



# Longlands Primary School

Friday 26th January 2024



## ***A Message from the Headteacher:***

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

*With 2024 now well underway, school is once again buzzing with activity and lots of exciting learning opportunities for the children. On our recent INSET day, Mrs Allen and I met with all class teachers to discuss the children's progress and look at ways in which we can further support every child at Longlands. These meetings are always a wonderful time to celebrate both the pupils learning and attainment. I never cease to be amazed at how well our staff know the children, with so much work put into careful assessment and tracking of their progress. The Play Team were also very busy on that day, organising a range of new resources to enhance lunch and breaktimes as part of our ongoing OPAL project. It has been wonderful to observe everyone enjoying using this equipment, particularly the colorful parachute which is used for large group circle games. This is a short half term but a busy one none the less, and I hope you enjoy reading the reports from each phase about their work this term so far.*

**Miss Owen**

## EYFS

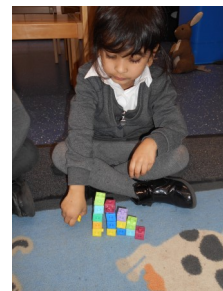
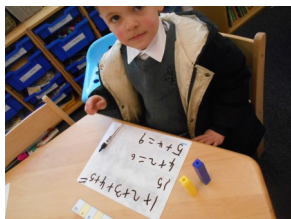
*In Monet and Matisse class the children have loved learning all about space and we are amazed at all of the facts they can remember. They really enjoyed designing, making and evaluating their rockets using a variety of different materials and were then inspired to make them using different construction materials too.*

*When learning how to write speech bubbles in the character of Beegu the children thought really carefully about how Beegu was feeling and what she might say if she could speak English (or any other human language). We recently introduced the children to the words, nouns and adjectives and have explained to the children that adjectives describe things. They did a very good job at describing Beegu and used words like: lost, lonely, scared, friendly, yellow and kind to describe her.*

*In maths, the children have been learning how to add 1 more to a number, how to partition 5 objects into 2 parts and say how many in each part and how to record equations. We are very impressed with them for persevering when they have found things tricky. We are half way through level 3 in phonics and now most children can write words and simple sentences which is fantastic for this time of the year.*

*Some children have been doing excellent balancing both outside and also during PE lessons and have enjoyed taking part in yoga and dance lessons.*

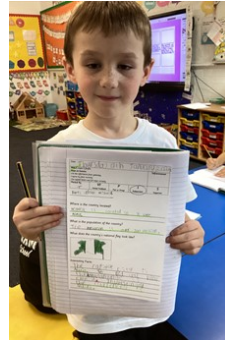
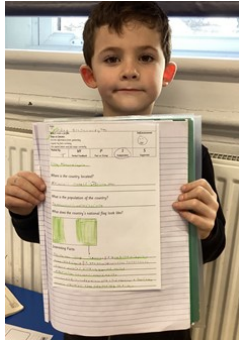
*We look forward to reading the book 'Aliens Love Underpants' next week and using it as a stimulus for our learning.*



## Key Stage 1

This term, our power of reading book is called *Anna Hibiscus*. The children have been learning about Anna and her family and the journey she takes to go on holiday with her family. Anna lives in Africa.

In English, the children have written fact files about Nigeria. The children know lots of interesting facts about Nigeria!



In Geography, we have been learning about the continents and the oceans of the world. We have been learning about physical and human features and this week the children went on a local walk to find these features in our area.



In PE, the children have been working on their gymnastics skills. They have performed forward and backward rolls. They have also been working on different gymnastic shapes such as: star, pike, straddle, and tuck.

**Miss Gayson, Miss Taylor, Ms. Laughland, Mr. Morand and the KS1 team**

## Lower Key Stage 2

What an amazing term so far!

Our core book is *The Great Kapok Tree*.

In English, we have explored rainforests, talking about the different layers of the forest, and the animals and plants that are likely to be found there. The children have thought carefully about descriptive language, and using their knowledge of rainforests, they created wonderful information leaflets about the rainforest. They have also explored the language used by poet Grace Nicols in her poem *For Forest*, which focuses on the problem of deforestation and they went on to create their own descriptive poetry.

Our History this term has been focused around the Ancient Maya, a civilization of people from over two thousand years ago. The children have been very excited as they have learnt about their lives, how they lived and their customs and rituals. As part of our learning, we had a Maya workshop this week, where the children had a wonderful time learning more about what they looked like, how they hunted, how they worshipped their gods and more about their customs and rituals.

We have linked our PE (dance) with the Maya by learning different dance moves and putting them together into a sequence, and also learning a very catchy song in Music, which tells the story of the Maya.

In Maths, Year 3 have learnt about length and perimeter and multiplication, and Year 4 have been building on their knowledge of continuous data as well as multiplication and division.

Rainforest in a box



Maya workshop



**LKS2 Team**

## Upper Key Stage 2

This half term is flying by! We have already finished our work around 'Just So Stories' by Rudyard Kipling. The children have even written their own Just So story about how an animal of their choice came to have a certain characteristic such as, 'How the Hedgehog got its Spikes.'

We are going to start work on our second Power of Reading book, 'Seasons of Splendour' by Madhur Jaffrey. We are excited to see what wonderful work the children produce.

Alongside the 'Just So stories', we have been learning about the human and physical Geography of India, whilst comparing this to the UK. The children have conducted their own research and refined their atlas skills.

In Science, we have been learning all about different forces and have planned our own investigation around this that we will be conducting. Year 6 have been learning all about ratio and proportion. Meanwhile, Year 5 have been working with fractions, multiplication and division.

Our Art and DT work has also been inspired by our work around the class texts, with a focus on India. We have researched and created a mood board for Indian patterns. From this, we have designed our own pattern to print onto fabric. We look forward to more amazing learning taking place over the remainder of this half term.



**Mr Allen, Miss Childs and Mr Thurston**

## ***Young Voices at The O2***

*Longland's KS2 choir spent the last few months learning the songs for the Young Voices concert, songs which are a mixture of rock songs, nostalgic 80/90's tunes and film tunes from Trolls and Matilda, a really eclectic mix of music.*

*Finally the day arrived, we knew it would be a long day but we also knew it would be worth it! The children arrived at the Arena and the atmosphere was electric right from the beginning. We spent the afternoon in rehearsals - going over the songs and moves ready for the evening concert.*

*As the concert time approached, the children became extremely excited..... some of the children had been before so knew what to expect. The parents started to fill the arena, the usual - "where's my child?" hunt began!*

*Finally it was showtime! The songs, the moves and the atmosphere lead to an amazing performance - being part of a 9000+ strong choir is an experience that will not be forgotten.*



## **Dates for the diary 2024**

Friday 26th January—FOLS Make The Rules Day

Friday 2nd February—NSPCC numbers day

Monday 5th February—Internet Safety Week

Tuesday 6th February—Safer Internet Day

Monday 11th—Friday 16th February—Half term break

Friday 1st March—Warhol class assembly

Thursday 7th March—World Book Day

Friday 15th March—Red Nose Day

Friday 15th March—Kahlo class assembly

Friday 22nd March—KS2 Choir performing at Care Home

Tuesday 26th March—Rock Steady Concert

Tuesday 26th March—Parents Evening

Wednesday 27th March—KS2 Choir performing at Care Home

Thursday 28th March—Parents Evening

Friday 29th March—Easter Holidays



## **Attendance**

Monet	98%
Matisse	92%
Murakami	95%
O'Keeffe	97%
Warhol	95%

Thomas	95%
Kahlo	96%
Basquiat	95%
Malone	97%
Ashevak	91%
Wei Wei	94%

**From Miss Owen and the Longlands Staff Team.**

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalonlinesafety.com](https://nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, tools and tips for adults.

# What Schools Need to Know about THE ONLINE SAFETY ACT

The Online Safety Act was passed into UK law in October 2023, with the aim of establishing major new layers of protection for children when they're online. The government has pledged "a zero-tolerance approach to protecting children from online harm" – and the act certainly includes more powerful legislation which should help to safeguard young people in the digital world. Our guide summarises the key points for schools –

## WHAT THE ACT WILL DO

### HARMFUL CONTENT

Social media sites must rapidly remove illegal and harmful content such as bullying or harassing comments; pornography; and content that supports extremist activity or encourages or depicts violence, suicide, self-harm or eating disorders. If they fail to do so, they can be fined up to 10% of their global revenue while their executives may even face jail time.

### ANIMAL CRUELTY

Content featuring cruelty to animals is now prohibited, even if it originates from abroad (where the law may be different). Again, it is the platform's responsibility to remove this.

### MORE TRANSPARENCY

Sites must be transparent about the harms that any children using them could encounter – by publishing risk assessments for their platforms, for instance.

### HOSTING MISLEADING ADVERTS

Scams and fraudulent adverts must be blocked or removed, or the hosting companies are liable to be fined.

### NON-CONSENSUAL SHARING

It's now easier to convict online abusers or people who share intimate images without consent, while legislation on the criminality of sexting has been clarified. The new law also relates to any individuals who even threaten to share such images. This should help to protect women and girls in particular online.

### REPORTING AND FILTERING

Sites should have easy reporting mechanisms for children (or their parents and carers) to flag up problems quickly. They must also provide options to filter out unwanted content.

### AGE-RESTRICTED MATERIAL

Sites must prevent children from accessing age-inappropriate material. This includes enforcing age limits and implementing robust age verification.

## What this means for you

The act has some specific implications for schools: it's essential that leaders understand the new legislation's scope and limitations. The act is certainly a positive step, but as artificial intelligence and other advances in tech continue to produce new challenges, schools will still need to remain extremely vigilant.

### KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Look out for the Code of Conduct that Ofcom is creating in response to the Online Safety Act. Note that the new legislation doesn't mean an instant change: many of its elements will only come into force at the end of 2023. An Ofcom consultation on 'protecting people from illegal harms online' will be running until February 2024.

### REMEMBER THE ESSENTIALS

Remain mindful of your organisation's own online activities: the legal duty for schools to maintain appropriate software monitoring and filtering, for example, will not change.

### WATCH FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

There are some issues on which the legislation remains less clear for now: whether it's possible for Ofcom to scan encrypted private messages (such as on WhatsApp) has yet to be resolved, for instance – making this an area where, for the moment, young people have less legal protection.

### UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN

Staff should learn how to raise concerns with tech companies whose platforms contain anything upsetting or unpleasant. Students also need to be made aware of the newly strengthened laws relating to cyber-bullying, sexting or posting inappropriate content. Young people do make mistakes online – so the clearer their understanding of the possible consequences, the better.

### ENGAGE WITH PARENTS

Schools should also explain to parents and carers the new possibilities that the Online Safety Act affords them in terms of protecting their children. Many parents may have previously felt that there was little they could do about changing online platforms' content; they now have a far greater level of support when complaining about a company or the behaviour of an individual.

### Meet Our Expert

John Burrows is Senior Deputy Headmaster and Director of Safeguarding for St Albans Catholic Primary School. He is a regular speaker at conferences and writes for the 100 Learning journal (see our) on digital leadership, pastoral care and safeguarding. In 2022, he was named Pastoral Leader of the Year at the National Awards for Pastoral Care in Education.



#WakeUpWednesday

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