



Longlands Primary School

Wednesday 20th December 2023



A Message from the Headteacher:

Dear Parents and Carers,

It seems like a very short time ago since I wrote my last newsletter of the year in 2022. December has been an incredibly busy month in school with lots of events and performances. Our school choir have had a hectic month, having sung at our evening concert, a local care home and at the school Winter Fete. The EYFS Christmas show and our KS1 Nativity were an absolute joy to watch - the children entertained and delighted us in equal measure. Earlier this week, we welcomed Reverend Parsons to lead an assembly which focused on the meaning of Christmas and why it is so significant for those of the Christian faith. It is certainly a time of year where regardless of belief or faith many of us take time to reflect on significant events and the world around us. In turn, I am sure like me, many of you will be thinking of children and families in countries torn apart by unrest, conflict and famine and appreciate how very lucky our children are.

In conclusion I would like to thank our wonderful Friends of Longlands School (FOLS). The Winter Fete was a great success and as always so much time and effort went into the planning and preparation. Thank you to the amazing FOLS committee and to all the volunteers who helped make the event a great success.

Miss Owen

Our School Values

School Council thought about what our school values mean. They discussed them together as a group and then designed and made these beautiful pieces of art to represent each value.



Everybody is Valued

We spoke about how at Longlands we respect each other and even though everyone is different we are all part of a beautiful rainbow. We value kindness as that makes people feel valued and happy and we look after each other. Everyone's views and opinions are respected. The children said we are like a big family.

Everybody is Aspirational

The children said that you have to try your best at everything you do and reach for the moon. The teachers at Longlands help them to do that every day by always encouraging them to work hard and never give up. We discussed how rather than saying what you want to be when you grow up, because you might not know, instead to say what you could be. We also talked about how being aspirational isn't just about jobs but about the kind of person you want to be.

Everybody is Proud

At Longlands we have a special Golden Assembly every Monday whereby children receive Golden Awards for a variety of different things. The children said that they are all proud of their efforts and achievements at Longlands and so are all the staff. They also said that we should all be proud of who we are as individuals.

Mrs Allen

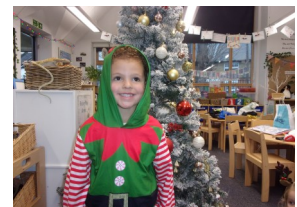
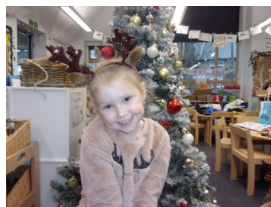


EYFS

In Monet and Matisse classes we have been working very hard on our Reception Christmas Concert 'Santa's Busy Night'. We hope you enjoyed it if you managed to come and watch!

We have also been learning all about 3D shapes and we learned the names of cubes, cones, cuboids, cylinders, spheres, prisms and pyramids and have been working really hard to identify how many edges and vertices they have. We carried out an investigation into which shapes rolled and why and we realised that the shapes can only roll if they have a curved surface. The shapes with just flat faces can't roll. We have also been doing lots of Christmas themed activities in order to further strengthen our fine motor control such as threading beads on to pipe cleaners to make Christmas tree decorations, pushing pegs into pictures and decorating Christmas cards. In phonics we were excited to start level 3 and will be learning all the level 3 digraphs and trigraphs after Christmas.

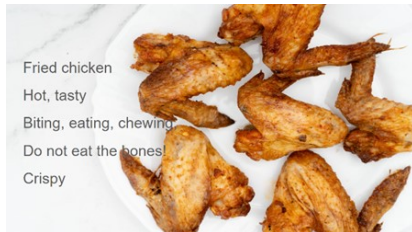
Mrs Allen



Key Stage 1

Over the past few weeks, we have been looking at different types of poetry in English. We have looked at poems about mud, spiders' webs and different types of food! The list goes on.....

All children across years one and two have been practicing reciting, illustrating pictures to go with the text and even adding verses to an already existing poem. Below is a poem they particularly enjoyed and one they made!



Year one have been learning about time in maths, they have been learning how to tell O'clock and half past on an analogue clock. We've recently been moving on to working out calculation strategies for certain sums and have been saying if we'd count on, use number bonds, near doubles or make ten to complete an equation.

In year two, the children studied multiplication and division of the 2, 5 and 10-times tables. More recently, the children have enjoyed looking at time as well, but have learnt about quarter past, quarter to and five-minute intervals.

Rehearsals for the Nativity were underway at the beginning of November and last week we performed to the whole school on Tuesday and to all parents on Wednesday and Thursday. The children did brilliantly and worked really hard to put on a fantastic show, we are all very proud of them. They looked fantastic in their costumes, thank you to all parents for providing them. We hoped you enjoyed our performance.



Murakami celebrated their class's religious holiday which was Christmas. To celebrate this, they made Christingles with oranges, ribbons, candles and sweets. Each representing something important to Christians in the advent period. The children loved doing this and whilst they were learning about Christingles, made some interesting predictions on what they could represent.

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

Lower Key Stage 2

What another busy term this has been!

In English, the children have continued to enjoy our core text from the Power of Reading, *Mouse Bird Snake Wolf*. Our main focus has been to explore the ideas behind the storyline, which led us onto the question, 'Are humans responsible for the destruction of the earth?' The children discussed what they learnt from the text; the actions of the children in the story and the results, both negative and positive. Over the weeks, LKS2 have carried out lots of research and have discussed the reasons for and against the argument, looking at issues such as, protecting the human race, global warming, destruction of the rainforests, advancing technology, which gave the children a chance to decide which of the arguments they agreed and disagreed with. They went on to debate their ideas in class and then present the issues (writing a balanced argument).

In Science, we have continued to study *Animals Including Humans*; the children have learnt about joints and muscles, constructing their own pair of antagonistic muscles, to show how the muscles work in pairs.

In Maths, the children have completed their learning on data (Year 4), and multiplication, division and measurement (Year 3), and all of the children have been working hard to learn their Times Tables.

Finally, what a week Skills Builder Week was last week! Busy, busy, busy! As if by magic, LKS2 could use all of the ideas they had from their English work. The children carried out a little more research, and built and practiced their skills in Listening, Speaking and Problem Solving. Working in teams, each group put together a presentation of one of the ideas behind environmental issues. The children worked so hard and did a fantastic job sewing book marks, making badges, signs and posters...all to persuade their audience to e.g. 'save water', 'stop deforestation', 'slow down global warming' and 'stop plastic pollution'. Well done everyone!

We are all very proud of all that LKS2 children have achieved this term...they have really shown how aspirational they are!!

The teachers and support staff would like to wish all parents, carers and children a fabulous Christmas and New Year...have lots of fun everyone!!!!

Debating environmental issues



Local research, spotting recycling bins



Upper Key Stage 2

It has been a busy term in Upper KS2! We are all very tired and looking forward to a bit of a rest over the winter break.

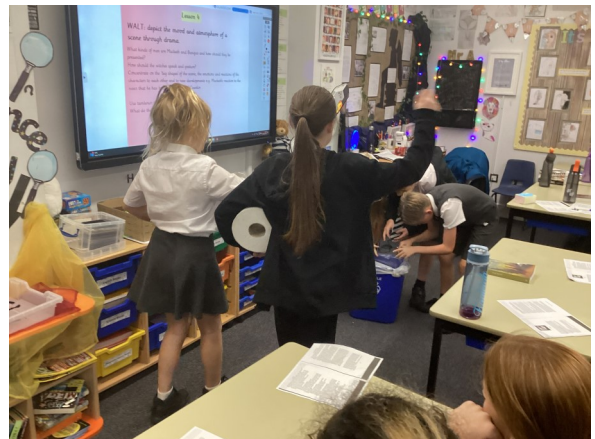
We have enjoyed our Macbeth work. We really liked performing and thinking about how we can convey emotion with our body language and facial expressions. We also turned the play into a narrative and some of us even had a go at writing a sequel! As well as this, we designed our own front covers and wrote a blurb.

In maths we have been working hard at fractions. We have learnt how to add and subtract them, how to multiply them and how to divide them by whole numbers. Some of this is very tricky but we have shown great resilience.

In PE Year 5 have been producing and performing some amazing dance routines and Wei Wei have been honing their fantastic basketball skills.

We also had an assessment week and our teachers are super proud of how well we did and the progress we have made.

We are looking forward to an amazing Spring Term filled with fantastic learning!



Miss Childs, Mr Thurston and Mr Allen

Music at Longlands

Our musicians and school choir have been 'singing/playing their hearts out', spreading Christmas cheer!

The Christmas concert on November 30th was the best way to welcome advent for December! It is truly wonderful to see how many talented performers we have at Longlands Primary School. Our marvelous guitarists, beautiful pianists, wonderful recorders and harmonious choir all put on a delightful concert! Well done to all of you! You really are, awe inspiring!

The Longlands School choir have made some further festive appearances. We took our regular trip to the local care home to visit residents and spread more Christmas cheer! It was lovely to see how much the children enjoyed it and the residents did too! After the choir had performed, the children had a chance to mingle and chat to the residents, meanwhile Ira played Christmas music on the piano...beautiful!

Our choir also featured at the Christmas Fete, complimenting the atmosphere perfectly.

Thank you to all of the children: recorders, choir, guitarists and pianists for featuring in our weekly singing assemblies ...you are AMAZING!

Well done to ALL of our marvelous musicians!

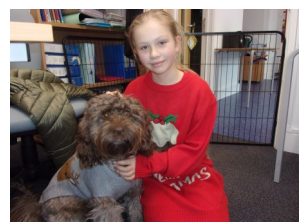


Mrs Harris

Christmas Jumper Day/Christmas Lunch

On Friday 8th December the children and staff wore Christmas jumpers and were asked to bring in donations for the wonderful charity Save The Children. We raised an impressive £435.00 for this charity which helps children all around the World. A huge thank you for your contributions. In assembly the children learned all about the founder of this charity Eglantyne Jebb. A truly inspirational woman who wanted to help children all across Europe in 1919 after the first world war, so she campaigned and set up Save The Children which has now helped millions of children across the globe. She was also responsible for creating the United Nations Rights of The Child. We also had Christmas Lunch on this day and the children thoroughly enjoyed being served their lunch by Miss Owen, listening to Christmas songs and enjoying the yummy food made by our wonderful catering company.

Mrs Allen



Thank you to Thompsons Garden Centre for our amazing Christmas Tree!

Dates for the diary 2023

Thursday 21st December— Last day of Autumn Term

Monday 8th January—Inset day

Tuesday 9th January—Back to school

Monday 15th January—ROCK UK launch meeting

Tuesday 16th January—Young Voices at The O2

Friday 19th January—Malone class assembly

Tuesday 23rd January—LKS2 Mayan workshop

Friday 2nd February—NSPCC numbers day

Monday 5th February—Internet Safety Week



Wraparound Care

Thank you to Mrs Foster & Mrs Needham for making wrap around care a fun, enjoyable & safe environment! It is very popular with the children and we ask that you now book your sessions for Spring 1!

Bookings for Wraparound Care should be made at least 7 days in advance. Cancellations must be made at least 48 hours in advance, otherwise you will still be charged.

Attendance

Monet	93%
Matisse	87%
Murakami	97%
O'Keeffe	95%
Warhol	95%

Thomas	90%
Kahlo	94%
Basquiat	95%
Malone	96%
Ashevak	90%
Wei Wei	92%

**Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
From Miss Owen and the Longlands Staff Team.**

CHRISTMAS announcement

Our Christmas Fete raised a whopping

£3,451.77

*Thank you to our sponsors, volunteers
and wonderful families who came to
support us!*



