



Longlands Primary School

Friday 24th November 2023



A Message from the Headteacher:

Dear Parents and Carers

The second half of this term has already proved incredibly busy and we have had much to enjoy and celebrate over the past few weeks. As you will read in the articles from our phase leaders, the children have had lots to inspire and motivate them. Once again, we held Kindness Week in mid-November which I am pleased to say has now become a regular feature in our school calendar. Each class had a particular focus and they had a chance to share what they had done with the whole school during our assembly last Friday. I was particularly thrilled to hear that we had received feedback from members of the wider community, including local businesses as to just how wonderful the children's acts of kindness had made them feel. Overleaf are just two examples of the feedback which we received.

EYFS

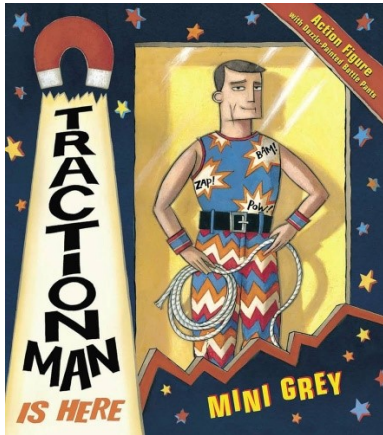
The children in Monet and Matisse classes have been learning about Diwali. They learned all about how some Hindu and Sikh people celebrate the 'Festival of Lights' by decorating their houses, lighting divas, making Rangoli and Mendhi patterns and having special food with their families. We made some divas out of clay and the children will decorate them in the future. During kindness week the children learnt all about how we must be kind to everyone and why, and they thought about kind and unkind behaviour. The children made posters showing everyone how to be kind, wrote thank you cards, made flowers for their parents and posted happy pictures through our neighbours doors. This week we have been looking at the book 'Owl Babies' and the children wrote speech bubbles to show what Bill from the story might say. They have been learning how to estimate and then count to check when looking at the length of 3 different branches and then thinking about how many owls might fit on each. We have also been learning about nocturnal and diurnal animals and the children did a fantastic job at sorting out animals into these categories. Did you know that most humans are diurnal because they sleep during the night and are awake during the day? In PE the children have really enjoyed gymnastics and have learned to do pencil rolls and forward rolls, how to jump off of an agility table and land like a gymnast and have been learning how to travel across benches in different ways. This week we even got out the climbing apparatus in the hall and the children were very brave and climbed right to the top! Next week we will be looking at the book 'Night Monkey Day Monkey' and will be focusing on rhyme and learning why we have night and day.

Mrs Allen



Key Stage 1

In KS1, we have been reading *Traction Man* by Mini Grey. It is written in a comic book style and the children have created their own scenes from the book and written speech bubbles, they have written diary entries and thank you cards from Traction Man's perspective.



In Science, we are continuing to learn about materials. The children have learnt about melting and freezing and they had fun experimenting with chocolate.

In KS1, we also had a Skills Builder week. During this week, the children were tasked with thinking of ideas to Save the Planet. In teams, the children chose to either Save Water, Recycle, or Save Electricity. They created posters with lots of ideas to help people make Greener choices and they created their own team superhero and team badge. The children worked hard on their speaking, listening and team work skills.



Last week was Kindness week. The children in KS1 had lots of brilliant ideas to show kindness to the world. In Warhol class, the children created a Giving Table. This was a table filled with donations from their own toy collections to give to children in Reception. In Murakami class, the children created bouquets of paper flowers to give as a thank you to classes and people in the school. In O'Keeffe class, the children made a Kindness Jar filled with kind notes to bring a smile to people when they are feeling down.

Miss Gayson

Lower Key Stage 2

This term, the children have been busy reading our core text from the Power of Reading, *Mouse Bird Snake Wolf*. So far, learning has focused on using persuasive language and role play to help write Kennings, line poetry, a balanced argument and a note of advice.

This, together with the Roots Food Challenge Day, has linked perfectly with our science topic this term, *Animals, Including Humans*. This has involved exploring healthy eating (making sure we eat a balanced diet), understanding how animals have different skeletons (identifying vertebrates and invertebrates, and animals which have an endoskeleton, exoskeleton and those which are hydrostatic), not to mention finding out the names of the different bones in the human body.

Our cross-curricular lessons have linked quite magically with our art lessons, where we have been studying the work of Andy Goldsworthy, land artist, sculptor, photographer and environmentalist. The children have gone on to sketch their own art in the style of Andy Goldsworthy, and are also creating their own natural art, with a view to making a power point to display their work.

We have also been lucky enough to have a visit from David Bowden, the incredible Word Guerrilla, a genius of modern-day poetry.

The children were mesmerized as he carried out his stand-up display of clever poetry, incorporating beat boxing, rapping and looping. Excited, wowed, elated are just some of the words to describe how the Word Guerrilla left us all feeling. The children didn't stop laughing and clapping during his performance. The children then went on to create some of their own poetry, with the help of the Word Guerrilla of course, as they were now totally engaged, enthralled and inspired by his clever use of words. His words really did set the children free, and we can't wait for his next visit.

Lastly, we have just celebrated Kindness Week in school. Of course, we always carry out kind deeds and say nice things to each other. However, during Kindness Week, we wrote kind words, including kindness quotes, and we took them up to Christ Church, where we left them on the pews for the parishioners to find. We really hope that they enjoyed reading them and that they brought a smile to their faces.



A bird...Art in the style of Andy Goldsworthy



Kindness messages

LKS2 Team

Upper Key Stage 2

What a busy few weeks it's been in Years 5 and 6! We have been reading Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and honing our drama skills. We even took part in a special *Macbeth* workshop where we had a chance to learn about the parts of a stage as well as acting out scenes and thinking about how we can use our body language and facial expressions in order to help tell a story. We have also produced lots of fabulous writing around *Macbeth*. We have written playscripts, diary entries and letters.

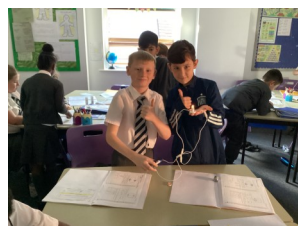
In maths we have been learning about the order of operations and how this can effect a calculation. We have also been tackling long division and have approached this with a growth mindset as it is a little tricky!

During our history lessons we have been learning about the Anglo Saxons and have found out about Alfred the Great and looked into what made him so great! We also learnt about what life was like for the Anglo Saxons and what difficulties they faced, particularly from invading Vikings!

Our art lessons have centred around the skills needed to draw self portraits. We have learnt how to draw realistic facial features. Even though we found this hard, everyone was proud of the final result.

In our science lessons we have been learning all about electricity. We have made our own circuits and have investigated adding motors and different types of switches into these circuits. We will soon be trying to use this knowledge to design and make our own intruder alarms.

Lastly, as part of kindness week Malone delivered kindness cards with uplifting messages to houses in the local area. Ashevak and Wei Wei also made kindness cards and delivered these to local businesses. It was so nice to be able to put a smile on the faces of others.



Miss Childs, Mr Thurston and Mr Allen

Sports Athletics Competition

On Thursday 16th November, Mrs Ward and I took a group of Year 5 and 6 children to take part in The Bexley School Games Athletics Competition. The children had been training for this event with Mrs Ward for weeks leading up to the event. At the event the children took part in events such as: vertical jump, long jump, chest push, javelin, speed bounce and a variety of relay races. Longlands came second in the competition, which is amazing! I was so impressed by the children's determination and support of each other.

Thank you to everyone who came and supported.

Miss Gayson



Thank you to our school community!



BBC

**Children
in Need**

An amazing amount of £346 was raised for BBC Children in Need!



Dear Friends and Supporters ,

Thank you Kindly for your Harvest donation this year, its been wonderful to see much needed food coming into our Foodbank.

Our army of volunteers are sorting and weighing all food and preparing this to be given out to the most needy in our community.

Many families will soon be in receipt of your generosity and the response we've received so far is that of sincere gratitude .

Last year we fed over 14,000 people of which almost 6000 were Children.

So Thank you all at Longlands School

Your donation was 178.10 Kilos

We truly couldn't do the work we do without your support.

Kindest Regards & Blessings

Kate Harris

Volunteer Coordinator Bexley Foodbank

Dates for the diary 2023

Thursday 30th November — Choir Christmas Concert

Wednesday 6th December—Choir performance Care Home

Friday 8th December—Christmas jumper & dinner day

Friday 8th December—Bring a bottle for the FOLS tombola

Saturday 9th December –FOLS Christmas Fete

Wednesday 13th December—KS1 Nativity

Thursday 14th December—KS1 Nativity

Friday 15th December—EYFS Christmas Concert

Thursday 21st December— Last day of Autumn Term



Wraparound Care

Please can we remind you to book your sessions in advance as we are reaching full capacity at certain times. We cannot take walk-ins if the session is fully booked.

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.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Miss Owen and the Longlands Primary School Team



YOU ARE INVITED TO



Longlands Primary School Christmas

Fete

Christmas magic is in the air, and we
want to share it with you!

DEC | **09** | 2023

12-3

Join us for:

Festive Games

Pizza

Drinks & Treats

Facepaints & Hair Glitter

Grand Prize Draw

Prizes including: Harry Potter Tour, £100 Bluewater Voucher, £50
Amazon Voucher and much much more!

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 use of many devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, blogs and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet-enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.

INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that excessive hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new copy of the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes (as you would on a phone or computer). Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'reverse-engineer' an account. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, it's always best to potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.

CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs; from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of their viewing explicit content.

SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.

CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a wealth of years' experience in the industry. Previously the editor of tech website The Register, Carly's new freelance technology journalism, author and consultant.



#WakeUpWednesday