



Longlands Primary School

Friday 23rd June 2023

A Message from the Headteacher:

Miss Janice Owen



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to be writing a piece for the newsletter in the Summer term when the sun is shining and we have had a spell of good weather. As always, this half term is hectic and the last few weeks have been no exception. The year 6 children have filmed their Graduokee, sports day was a great success and last Friday we had our accreditation for our OPAL award. (Mrs Allen will be writing to you in a separate newsletter with more information about this very soon.) Mrs Allen and Miss Gayson with the support of our Play Team have worked incredibly hard to improve play opportunities for our pupils and I am very grateful for their sterling efforts over the last eighteen months.

All of our statutory testing has taken place and, before the end of term, Years 1, 3, 4 and 5 will be taking part in assessments in English and Mathematics. Towards the end of term, you will be receiving your child's report which will include assessment information and we will also be informing you of class allocations for next year.

By the end of this week the choir and our talented musicians will have performed to parents and family members over the course of two music evenings. I was at last night's performance which was super despite the heat and some very red-faced children! I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Harris for her commitment and enthusiasm to bringing the joy of performance and song to life in school. Thank you too to Mrs Ward who has supported at both performances.

Miss Owen

EYFS



We really enjoyed our Minibeast topic and were very impressed with both reception classes when they shared their learning in whole school assemblies. They spoke loudly and sang beautifully.

We are particularly impressed with all the wonderful writing the children have been producing lately and how independent that they have become. Children in both classes were enthralled when watching our caterpillars turn into butterflies and they really enjoyed releasing them over at Forest School. Children in Monet class had written a wish which they read out before the release.

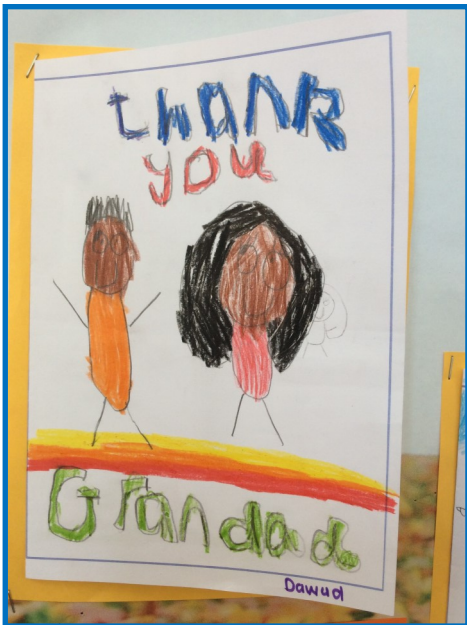
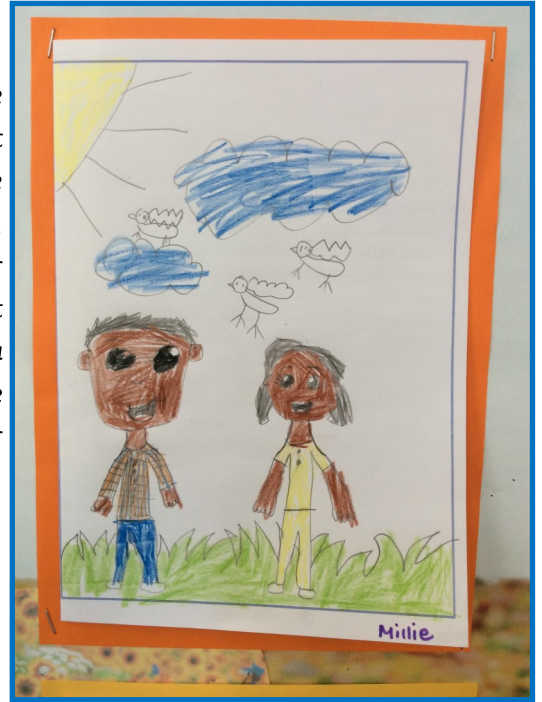


We have now started our topic on Traditional Tales and the children have been exploring how Traditional Tales often have many different versions. They have explored capacity and money in maths and recapped their addition and subtraction facts. They have written letters and stories and created their own beanstalk collages. Children in Matisse class even made a gigantic beanstalk in their class that goes up to the ceiling! Every child learned about the life cycle of bean and pea plants and they have all planted a pea in a bag. The peas have germinated and some have roots and shoots! We are very excited to see how tall they grow.

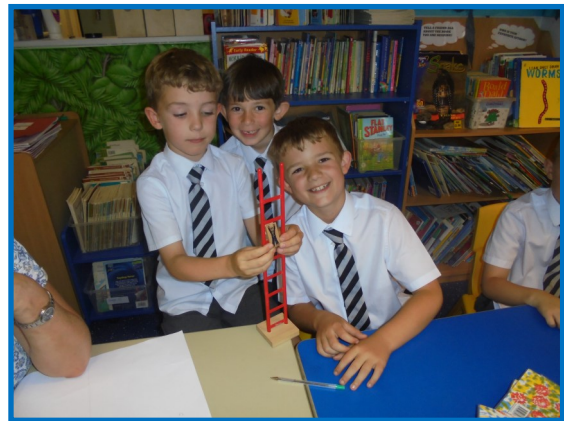


Key Stage 1

It's been a busy start for Key Stage One with a new book for the half term. The children are yet to find out the name or see the front cover, but they have been busy discussing the characters they have learnt about and linking it to their own experiences. In the story, there is a Grandad and a little girl, who do many things together and the children have inferred that this shows they have a great relationship. The children transformed into the little girl to create a thank you card for Grandad, explaining why they appreciated the racing track. They have also thought about a special person in their life, writing a poem using lovely description and similes.



Earlier in the year, the children planted beans and potatoes. The children have loved seeing these grow throughout spring. Last week, the beans were harvested and the children were able to take one home each. This week, the children are going to be picking their potatoes, as well as continuing to look after tomato plants!



In History, the children have been looking at toys from the past. We have looked at Victorian toys and compared them to modern toys, which the children have thoroughly enjoyed.

Finally, KS1 did a fantastic job at sports day. They all tried their best and cheered each other on with excellent team spirit!

Lower Key Stage 2



What a fabulous start to this last term!

The children are really enjoying our new Core Book, *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*.

So far, the children have learnt about Edward's home and what life is like before his adventures begin. They have written a diary extract in role as Edward, completed a storyboard of the events, written a script for the characters, and created a letter to summarise the events. The excitement is really building and the children cannot wait to read on to find out what happens to Edward.

As part of our studies, we have begun to explore the key geographical similarities and differences between the UK and the USA, identifying areas on maps and making comparisons between areas.



In Science, the children have learnt about forces. They have been finding out about friction and have carried out a fair test to examine force and friction. They have also discovered that some forces need contact between two objects, but magnetic forces can act at a distance, and that gravity and magnetism can act without contact.

In Maths, Year 3 have now completed their learning on Measures, which has included using bar models for addition, subtraction, division and multiplication to help solve word problems.

Year 4 have been concentrating on Shape, where we have been working on identifying angles and investigating angles within shapes. They have also compared and classified 2D shapes, including quadrilaterals and triangles.

In DT we have been looking at pneumatic systems in toys and the children have just begun to design their own.

This term has been very exciting in other ways too...The Year 4 Swimming Gala last Monday; the children were amazing. They were great representatives for Longlands school, swimming against children in other schools who were in years 5 and 6. They did brilliantly and came third.



Everyone thoroughly enjoyed Sport's Day on Tuesday. The house teams competed well against each other. They were all very excited and their behaviour was impeccable. What a truly lovely morning it was!

Lower Key Stage 2 Team

Upper Key Stage 2



It has been a very busy time in Upper KS2. In English, we have started a new book called 'Treason' and this is linked to our History topic of the changing power of British monarchs. As an introduction, the children did some fabulous research on some Tudor themes, such as life in Tudor London, Henry the VIII and the Reformation. They then presented their research to each other. As one of the characters in our new book enjoyed testing others with riddles, we got our brains into gear and challenged each other with our own. Linked to our book, in History, we have been learning about the gruesome punishments you could receive for crimes in the Tudor period. We were shocked with what we found out and are relieved that we live in the 21st century – phew! Additionally, Year 5 have been singing a Henry VIII song to remember his six wives.



In Art, we have learnt new sketching skills, such as hatching and stippling; we then looked at the work from Charles Keeping before creating our own scratch art.

For PE, we have been practicing and improving our rounders and fitness skills. We've learnt some new vocabulary such as reaction time and agility. We had a wonderful time at sports day too. In Year 5 Maths, we have been developing our decimal knowledge and worked with negative numbers. Despite being hot and bothered, we have persevered with our learning!

Recently, Year 6 have been rehearsing very hard for our production as well creating a beautiful backdrop – we can't wait for you to see it!

Miss Childs, Miss Griffiths and Mr. Allen

Sports Day



I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who joined us at our annual Sports Day. We were lucky to be blessed with such wonderful weather on the day.

We kicked off sports day with the KS1 and EYFS events. The children worked really hard in all the races. They should all be very proud of all their efforts on the day! It was lovely to hear all the children cheering each other on in their teams.

For the KS2 Sports Day, the children gathered in their houses to take part in the events. The children took part in a variety of different events including long jump, sack races, hurdles and egg and spoon. It was great to see the children in their house colours, as they took part in their races.



The overall winner for the KS2 events was St George's, so huge congratulations to them. It was wonderful to see so many of the Year 6 children take part mini marathon. The winners of the marathon this year were Max, Lucy, Oscar, Iris, Rosalie and Char-



lie.

I would also like to say a huge thanks to the Year 5 and 6 helpers and the Longlands Team for their support.

Basketball Festival



On Wednesday 10th May, 8 children from year 5 and 6 took part in a Basketball Festival held at Beths Grammar School. The children took part in different activities to improve their basketball skills. There were races, shooting and aiming exercises. The children also took part in lots of team games together. It was lovely to see the children enjoying taking part in sport and I was very impressed with the Basketball skills on display.

Well done to all the children who took part!

Miss Gayson

OPAL



This term the children have been continued to be very creative in the Amazing Art Area. They have been making necklaces, rings and bracelets as well as other brilliant pieces of art. There has also been lots of planting going on, which is making the playground a lot greener! The children in KS1 have been planting broad beans and they have helped to plant herbs and flowers around the playground. We also had a donation of Tomato plants, which have been planted outside and will hopefully begin to fruit soon. We had a generous donation of dressing up clothes, which the children have loved using at playtime. Please do read Mrs Allen's OPAL update that follows this Newsletter for more exciting OPAL news!

Thank you to everyone for your support and donations to help improve the children's play experience.

Staffing News



It is always a sad time when we have to say farewell to members of our staff team. Mrs Olstead who has worked at the school for the past seven years will be leaving us at the end of this term to take up a role as an early year's practitioner in a day nursery. Mrs Olstead has worked with great success across many year groups during her time at Longlands but it is in the EYFS that she has found her passion for the future of her career.

It is also with sadness that we will be saying farewell to our amazing SENCO Mrs Branch at the end of this school year. She has been with us for nearly five years and has had a huge impact on the children and families she has worked with. Mrs Branch is leaving to take up a business venture outside of teaching which, although daunting, was simply too good an opportunity to miss.

Finally, it is also with regret that we will be saying farewell to Miss Griffiths as her year with us is coming to an end. Mrs Griffiths has made a great contribution to our school over the past academic year both as a class teacher and with her super IT subject knowledge!

I am sure you will join me in thanking each of them for their hard work at Longlands and them all every happiness and success in the future.

Miss Owen

Dates for the diary 2023

Friday 23rd June—Monday 26th June—Yr 6 Residential Trip

Monday 26th June—Friday 30th June—Assessment Week

Friday 30th June—Reception 2023 stay and play session

Wednesday 5th July—NEU Industrial action (more information to follow)

Friday 7th July— NEU Industrial action (more information to follow)

Saturday 8th July—FOLS Summer Festival

Tuesday 11th July—Parents and Carers Rock steady concert—14.30—15.15

Thursday 13th July—Year 6 leavers production 18.00—20.30

Monday 17th July—Year 6 leavers service at the church - 10.30am—11.15am

Wednesday 19th July—Last Day of Term

Thursday 20th and Friday 21st—INSET Day

Monday 4th September—INSET Day

Tuesday 5th September—Back to school



Attendance—



Monet	94%
Matisse	96%
Murakami	94%
O'Keefe	96%
Warhol	96%
Thomas	97%

Kahlo	94%
Basquiat	97%
Malone	98%
Ashevak	94%
Wei Wei	96%

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Miss Owen and the Longlands Primary School Staff Team.