



Longlands Primary School

Friday 10th March 2023



A Message from the Headteacher:

Miss Janice Owen

We have now passed the mid-point of the academic year and it is quite daunting to think how quickly that time has passed. Classrooms are very busy and I am proud that the children are working so hard. World Book Day was a great success, but more of that later in the newsletter.

As many of you will now be aware, Mrs Pearce will be leaving us at the end of next week to take up an exciting new position with Woodlands Academy Trust. Mrs Pearce has been a member of the staff team at Longlands for over seven years and she will be missed by us all. Mrs Pearce always goes that extra mile to support colleagues, parents and children and her kindness and dedication to the school will be a great loss. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Pearce for the wonderful contribution that she has made to Longlands and I am sure you will join me in wishing her every success and happiness in her new position.

Miss Owen

EYFS



In Monet and Matisse classes the children have been thoroughly enjoying our topic on dinosaurs. They pretended to be palaeontologists and looked for 'bones' in the sand. They have written facts about dinosaurs and made their own Non-fiction books together in their classes. The children learned that carnivores ate meat, herbivores ate plants and omnivores ate both. The children sorted the dinosaurs into different groups using Venn diagrams and even completed their own tally charts to show which dinosaurs were the most popular and the least popular. We loved reading the book 'Tyrannosaurus Drip' and the children worked together in twos or threes to build bridges that were strong enough for toy dinosaurs to

cross.

This week we have based our learning on a beautiful book entitled, 'If I Had A Dinosaur'. The book inspired some of the children to write their own versions and they had some wonderful ideas about where they would take their own dinosaurs if they had a pet one! In maths we have been working very hard learning doubles up to 10 and also number bonds.

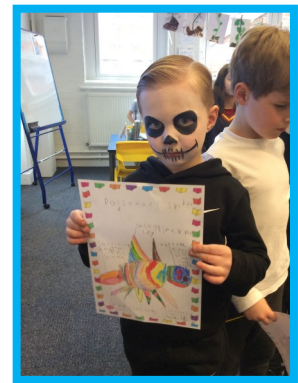


Mrs Allen

Key Stage 1



KS1 have had a busy couple of weeks since half term, as we started our new book '10 Things I can do to Help my World'. In English, we have been finding different ways to help the world, using the book for inspiration and ideas. We then used our ideas to create lift-the-flap posters and zig-zag books. We then wrote poems using a set structure, including all of the different ways to help the world.



We celebrated World Book Day and everyone looked fantastic in their outfits. We read the story 'The Baddies' by Julia Donaldson. Our activity was to create our own baddie and describe it using adjectives and similes.



KS1 have also been busy planting for our Science topic. We started by growing beans in plastic food bags in the classroom and watched them grow, keeping a bean diary each week. These have now been planted in pots or planters so they can continue to grow and we look forward to seeing the beans develop. This links to our DT topic of cooking. The children participated in a food tasting session last week, where they had to try different combinations. We had combinations such as cheese, ham and pineapple and ham and grapes! The children will be picking their favourite combination to use in a wrap!

Miss Brook

Lower Key Stage 2

This term, linked to their Core Book, 'The Tin Forest,' Thomas, Kahlo and Basquiat, have been working hard in Science, adding to their knowledge of plants, with labelling, and learning about the different functions. They have discovered different types of plants (both edible and those that are poisonous) and they have studied the process of pollination and fertilisation, with still more learning to come.



In English, the children have been focusing on how words and images work closely to provide more information, detail, and emotion for the reader. They have written descriptive poetry, have taken part in 'Hot Seating', created 'Dream Jars' and have written in role, explaining in detail how the character in the book feels about the environment they live in and the changes they dream about.

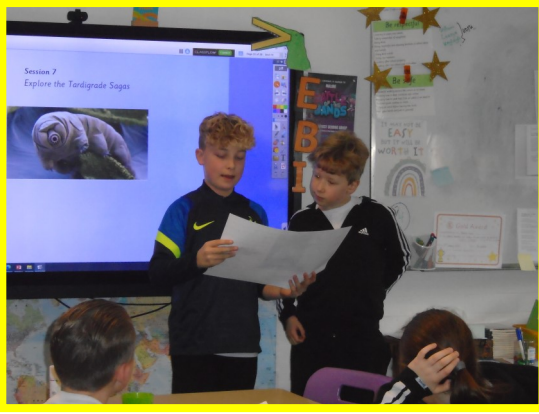
Art and English have been very much combined, as the children have studied impressionist and post-impressionist art with the work of Monet, Renoir and Henri Rousseau, making comparisons with the illustrations within the text.



In Maths, Year 3 have been working hard on Time and Year 4, Decimals.

World Book Day was amazing in LKS2; the children looked at the alliteration, onomatopoeia and description within some of Roald Dahl's writing in George's Marvellous Medicine. They considered the ingredients in a revolting recipe and then created some fantastically 'revolting' recipes, which they later shared in assembly.

Upper Key Stage 2



What a busy half term so far! We have studied lots of fantastic poetry. First, we read 'Dark Sky Park' by Phillip Gross and used this to inspire us to write our own poetic sagas. We learnt all about the extremely interesting creatures, the Tardigrade and the snow leopard. We even produced our own adverts to persuade others to donate to help save these majestic animals.

Year 6 visited Erith Fire Station and took part in a citizenship day where they learnt how to stay safe. This was delivered by various members of the emergency services. They all showed themselves to be safe, respectful citizens and were a credit to the school throughout the day.

We have started our new 'Power of Reading' text, 'Corey's Rock' and have enjoyed analysing the text and beautiful illustrations. Year 5 have been completing multiplication and division problems using various methods and deciding which is the most efficient. Year 6 have been working on decimals, shape and statistics. Year 6 have also been practising their SATs and they have impressed us with their attitude towards this.

During World Book Day, Upper KS2 explored the book 'Journey' which has no words and only pictures. Using our inference skills from the clues in the pictures, we discussed the events that were happening in the story and meanings behind it. The main character was lonely and perhaps quite miserable as the colours were dark. No one would play with her, as they were too busy. However, she realised she could make her own fun and imagine her own world that she wanted to be in, by drawing a door with a red crayon. Within this world, she explored forests, castles and rivers and eventually met a friend who also had a crayon to create his own world. After detailed conversations, we came up with our own versions, taking the character to a place of our choice. We're looking forward to all the fantastic learning to come!



Miss Childs, Miss Griffiths and Mr. Allen

Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 7th February, Longlands celebrated 'Safer Internet Day' where the whole school celebrated how we use technology to enhance our lives but also how we can keep ourselves and others safe when using it. In classes, discussions were had about both the benefits and dangers of using the internet.

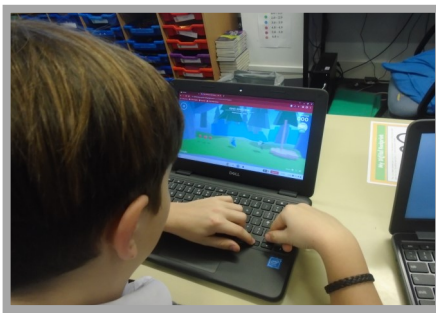
Our morning, in Key Stage 2, started with an interactive online lesson, where the children were challenged to solve online safety issues in the fictional 'Digital Defence Squad' game, and to unlock advice from famous gamers and cyber savvy celebrities. The classes explored how the internet can be a positive or negative place where sometimes people can be unkind and where online abuse, trolling or harassment can take place. Discussions were had about how information and data is shared and used online, and the importance of keeping personal information private. The children were all very knowledgeable about the rules for keeping safe online: how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them to stay safe. Finally, the importance of regulating how long we are online for our own wellbeing was also highlighted.



In Reception, Key Stage 1 and Lower Key Stage 2, some Year 5 and 6 pupils visited each class to read them an online safety related story. These stories led to interesting conversations related to the key safety areas of always having adult permission before using a device, what information to keep private, how to question the reliability of information online, including sometimes who people say they are, and finally who to talk to.

As children are spending more and more time online for their learning, socialising and entertainment, it makes this year's theme, 'Want to talk about it? making space for conversations about life online' more relevant than ever.

Also linked to talking and connecting we celebrated Children's Mental Health week, 6th-10th February, and explored this year's theme of 'Let's Connect'. This theme highlighted how positive relationships play a huge part in our happiness and wellbeing. In Key Stage 1, the classes looked at how we all have similarities and differences but how when connected we make something amazing. In Lower KS2, they created paper chains which illustrated children's interests. Finally in Upper Key Stage 2, we built our own team of superstars who we can turn to help guide us to be our best selves. By getting the children to think about who would be on their team of superstars, we promote positive thinking, as we consider the very best attributes in other people.



World Book Day

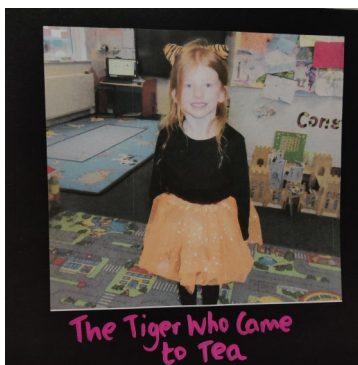


In case you didn't know, World Book Day was created by UNESCO on the 23rd April 1995. It is a celebration of books and reading and it is celebrated in over 100 different countries around the world. As you know at Longlands, we feel very strongly about children reading for pleasure and so this is one of our favourite days of the year!

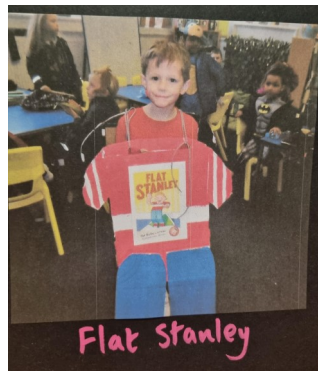
In fact, this year, we had yet another fantastic celebration of this wonderful day, with children and staff looking absolutely spectacular as they dressed up as a character from a book.

Towards the end of the day, the children from EYFS to Year 6 (including Alfie, our school dog who was dressed as 'Superdog'), came together in an assembly to share the activities they had completed in their classrooms during the day. What fabulous writing, inspired by such authors as Roald Dahl and Julia Donaldson; children described their own 'baddies' and wrote some truly fabulous poetry and stories.

The outfits were incredible...so it was with great difficulty that four winners were chosen. These were The Tiger Who Came to Tea, Flat Stanley, Six Dinner Sid and Wednesday from The Adams Family.



The Tiger Who Came to Tea



Flat Stanley



Wednesday' The Adams Family



Six Dinner Sid

Thank you to all those children who brought in a cake (decorated as a book or a character from a book). They were amazing!! We couldn't resist giving out some prizes for these too!



To finish off, all cakes were donated and sold in the School Hall at the end of the day. What a wonderful day!

Thank you so much for all your support with costumes, cake provision and cake purchasing. We raised £202.20. All proceeds will go towards purchasing more books for your children.





FOLS have been busy planning lots of fun events for you and your children to enjoy in the Spring and Summer term. We are aiming to raise £6,800 to buy 22 iPads for the school which will enrich the childrens learning across all subjects. Make the Rules day was a fantastic starting point, raising an amazing £528!



There are other ways that you can support FOLS, such as Easy Fundraising, which is easy to set up and costs nothing! By simply adding Longlands Primary School Parents Association as your charity when you sign up at www.easyfundraising.org.uk, and doing your normal shopping via this link, a percentage of what you spend is donated to FOLS. FOLS are not given any information on what has been spent where, we just get sent the donation!



We still have tickets available for Beauty and the Beast at the Orchard Theatre on Saturday 30th December. The non-refundable deposit of £5 per ticket will be payable with a completed form which was sent out via Parent Mail on the 7th February. There are also forms in the school office. If you have any questions, please email Tracy at longlandspa@hotmail.com.

Please take a look at the notice board on the school gates for all the latest dates, news and updates on money raised. This will be updated regularly, as well as our social media pages, so please do take a look and follow us.!



Dates for the diary

Wednesday 15th March - Industrial Action—Restricted Attendance

Thursday 16th March—Industrial Action—Restricted Attendance

Monday 27th—Friday 31st March—FOLS Sponsored Bunny Hop (in PE Lessons)

Tuesday 28th March—Rock Steady Concert at 2.30pm

Tuesday 28th March—Parents Evening

Thursday 30th March—Parents Evening

Monday 3rd April—Friday 14th April—Easter Holidays.

Monday 8th May—Bank Holiday

Tuesday 9th May—Friday 12th May—Yr 6 SATS

Friday 19th May—FOLS Kings and Queens Disco

Monday 29th May—Friday 2nd June—Half Term

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

Wednesday 19th July—Last Day of Term

Thursday 20th and Friday 21st—Inset Day



Attendance—20th February 2023—3rd March 2023



Monet	94%
Matisse	90%
Murakami	98%
O'Keefe	92%
Warhol	96%
Thomas	96%

Kahlo	92%
Basquiat	95%
Malone	95%
Ashevak	93%
Wei Wei	98%

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Miss Owen and the Longlands Primary School Staff Team.