



Longlands Primary School

Friday 27th January 2023



A Message from the Headteacher: Miss Janice Owen

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2023. I am not sure that it is any longer appropriate to wish you all Happy New Year but I know from talking to the children that they enjoyed the festivities. As always, school is very busy and there is lots of exciting learning taking place across the school. Last week I was lucky enough to accompany Mrs Harris, Mrs Short and our amazing school choir to Young Voices at the O2. We had a wonderful day and evening and I hope you enjoy reading about it in more depth from Mrs Harris's piece.

Next half term we will be celebrating World Book Day but before that once again we will be participating in NSPCC Number Day on February 3rd.

During the school day staff make every effort to ensure that children are taking good care of their belongings, particularly their jumpers and coats in such cold weather. However, we do have a lot of mislaid items in our lost property and your support in reminding your child/children to take responsibility for their belongings is greatly appreciated.

Miss Owen

EYFS

The children in Monet and Matisse class have been thoroughly enjoying learning about Space. They have learned lots of facts and many of them can recite the planet names in order. They have learnt that we can't live on other planets as there is no water, are too far away or are too hot or too cold. The children know that the Sun is a big ball of burning gas and the planets in our solar system orbit around the sun. They enjoyed the rocket experiment we did whereby we created carbon dioxide by mixing vinegar with bicarbonate of soda and made a bottle rocket shoot up in the air!



The week that we used the book 'Whatever Next' as our stimulus for learning, the children were very good at sequencing and retelling the story and they thought about what they would take to the moon if they could. We have been looking at pictures of rockets and spacesuits in the past and in the present



and talking about how they have changed over time and we found out that space suits now have built in toilets! The children designed, made and evaluated their own junk modelling rockets which they made independently and also made rockets using our magnetic shapes.

This week we have been learning all about the Lunar New Year which is celebrated in lots of countries like China, Korea, Vietnam, Japan and Mongolia. The children made lanterns, learnt about the story of the animal race, created masks, retold and sequenced the story of the animal race and explored writing numbers in Chinese. Next week we will be using the book Beegu to support our learning which is all about a little lost alien.



Key Stage 1

KS1 started the term off in a very exciting fashion, with a school trip to RHS Wisley. While they were there, the children were able to plant calendula seeds to bring home, as well as walking around the grounds. They were taken to see a pine tree and a Redwood tree, both of which can live up to 2000 years. The pine was the tallest tree at Wisley and could still double in size, whereas the Redwood could grow up to 11 metres in diameter. Interestingly, given the size, the pine cones were tiny! The children loved being able to smell and touch the leaves and flowers and the day linked perfectly to our Science topic of plants. The children were impeccably behaved during the day and made us all very proud!



In Science we have also been looking at potatoes and getting them ready to sprout so we can plant them. This week, to continue our topic of growing, parents have kindly sent us baby photos of the children in each class. The children have loved looking at these and trying to guess who's who!

We have written recounts of the trip and started our new Power of Reading book, 'The Secret Sky Garden'. The children have enjoyed the story of Funni and Zoo and they have been exploring the theme of friendship. They were able to write a description of a chosen friend and used some fantastic adjectives. The children have been working really hard and are all superstars!

Lower Key Stage 2

This term, the children in Thomas, Kahlo and Basquiat Classes have been learning about the Shang Dynasty.

Linked to their Core Book, The Firework-Maker's Daughter, they have discovered that the Shang Dynasty was a time of rule under the Shang family in China from around 1600 BCE to 1046 BCE. They have placed China on a map of the world and they have identified the area of the Shang culture. They have explored the history and have discovered that, based on archaeological and documentary evidence, the Shang Dynasty is believed to be the oldest Chinese dynasty. As part of their studies, the children have learnt about the Shang social hierarchy and the life and jobs of the people.

In English, the children have written in role as Lila (the firework-maker's daughter), written a letter, researched and completed a fact file on elephants and made an instruction leaflet on How to Take Care of Elephants.

During Design and Technology, the children learnt how the ancient Chinese considered jade to be the most precious and most beautiful natural material, and that the stone was laboriously carved and polished into all manner of objects from jewellery to desk ornaments. The children designed their own 'jade' zong/cong (ancient Chinese jade artefact). They then went on to create their ornament from clay, using their skills carefully as they carved the design.

In Maths, Year 3 have been working hard on multiplication and division, and the Year 4s on fractions.

This term's Science topic is 'Sound'. We have carried out lots of experiments around how we hear, what influences how loud or quiet sounds are, and this week, we are linking our 'Sounds' lesson to Music.



Carving the design onto the zong



Painting it to look like jade

Mrs Rossiter

Upper Key Stage 2

To introduce our new History topic and class text, we participated in a fun-filled drama workshop. Through this, we learnt about key dates and events in Early Islamic Civilisation, which has really helped us in our new topic. We have enjoyed reading our class text, '1001 Arabian Nights,' which has allowed us to explore traditional tales that we haven't heard of and relate to others we know. We have been writing our own tales/fables that could fit into '1001 Arabian Nights' and follow the same recurring themes. Also, we have created a storyboard for our favourite tale, used drama to help understand the events of the stories and written a persuasive note to convince us who the cleverest character is. Alongside, we have completed various art activities that allowed us to empathise how the character is feeling and predict what will happen next. In Maths, Year 5 have been working hard with fractions and Year 6 have been working hard with ratio and started learning about algebra. During PE, we have been practicing our gymnastic skills.



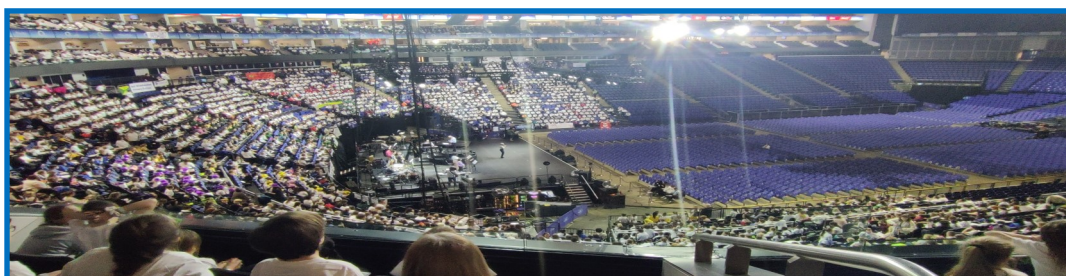
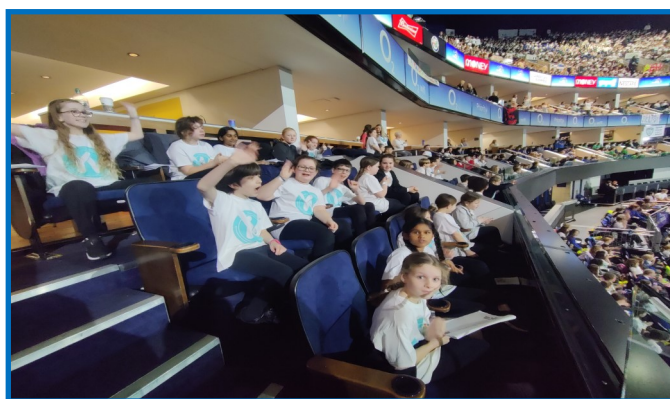
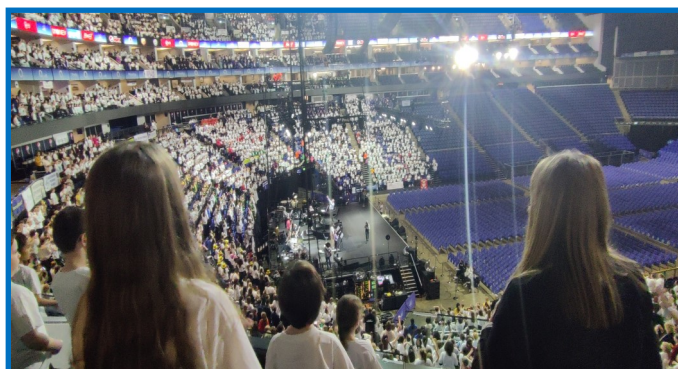
Miss Childs, Ms Griffiths and Mr Allen

Young Voices Choir—O2 Arena—Tuesday 17th January.

Longlands Primary School KS2 choir have 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, 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. The star performers, including Heather Small and Royal Variety performers, Urban Striders, performed and introduced themselves to the children.

As the concert time approached the children became extremely excited.... some of the children had been before so knew what to expect! As the parents started to fill the arena, the usual - "where's my child hunt" began! Finally it was show time! The songs, the moves and the atmosphere lead to an amazing performance - being part of a 5000+ strong choir is an experience that will not be forgotten!





Dear Parents and Carers,

We are excited to announce that we have bought tickets for Annie the Musical at the Orchard Theatre, Dartford for Wednesday 3rd May at 7.30pm.

We have tickets in the stalls. These tickets would usually cost £45.50 per ticket. However, due to a group discount, we can sell the tickets for £41.00*. These tickets will be sold on a first-come-first-serve basis.

If you would like tickets please complete the below form and return it to the School Office by Tuesday 31st January 2023 with a £5 non-refundable deposit per ticket. Please mark Annie the Musical on the envelope.

The full balance will be due by Friday 10th March 2023. Invoices will be sent by email. Any tickets not fully paid for by this date will be reallocated.

*This includes a £3.50 per ticket donation to FOLS.

Name of Child(ren): _____

Class(es) _____

Contact name of purchaser _____

Contact email address of purchaser _____

Contact Telephone number of purchaser _____

Number of tickets (£41 per ticket) _____ Amt deposit paid _____



Thank you to everyone who purchased your childs artwork on a card/tea towel/mug .The commission raised was £472.55 which is an amazing amount. Thanks you again for your support.



Unfortunately, once again, we have been contacted by very upset residents regarding parents and carers parking over their drives and blocking access to their properties which then meant they were late to pick their children up from a neighbouring school. This does not reflect well on Longlands Primary School. We urge parents and carers not to park across our residents drives.

Dates for the diary

Wednesday 1st February - Industrial Action, School closed to Impacted classes only

Friday 3rd February—NSPCC Number Day

Friday 3rd February—3.30pm (Playground) - FOLS Pre-Loved Sale

Monday 6th February—Friday 10th February— Children's Mental Health Week

Monday 13th February—Friday 17th February—Half Term.

Thursday 2nd March— Industrial Action - Restricted Attendance

Wednesday 15th March = Industrial Action—Restricted Attendance

Thursday 16th March—Industrial Action—Restricted Attendance

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



Attendance—16th January 2023—20th January 2023



Monet	93%
Matisse	95%
Murakami	99%
O'Keefe	97%
Warhol	97%
Thomas	99%

Kahlo	92%
Basquiat	95%
Malone	96%
Ashevak	93%
Wei Wei	95%

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Miss Owen and the Longlands Primary School Staff.