



Longlands Primary School

Friday 16th December 2022

A Message from the Headteacher: Miss Janice Owen



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the last newsletter of 2022 – and what a busy year it has been. I cannot recall an autumn term ever having passed by so swiftly. It really does seem like yesterday when we returned to school in September. As always, Christmas is a great time of year in school and the classrooms are inviting with festive decorations as well the wonderful displays of the children's work. Over the past week or so, it has been a delight to hear lots of singing as the EYFS and KS1 children rehearse in the hall for their respective performances. As is my usual pattern, I have tried not to linger in the hall, this is because I love to be surprised when I watch the performances in the same way that parents and other family members will be. Last Friday was a great day in school –as well as raising money for Save the Children on Christmas Jumper day we had a delicious dinner cooked by our caterers and in the afternoon a panto for Years 1 to 6. The start of this week has proved exciting with the snow and I know that the children have loved playing out in it. This week we have both the KS1 nativity and the EYFS performance to look forward to, and no doubt some other festive activities to enjoy in class. Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the amazing Friends of Longlands School. The Winter Fete was a great day and the amount of organisation required to make it a success was enormous. Thank you to the fantastic FOLS committee and to all of the volunteers who helped make the day a great success.

A Message from FOLS

FOLS would like to say thank you for everyone's support in making the Christmas fete such a success! We raised an amazing

£3008.64!

We are currently raising funds to buy new Chromebooks for the school, which will be used by all the children. The money raised means we are well on our way to buying the first ones.

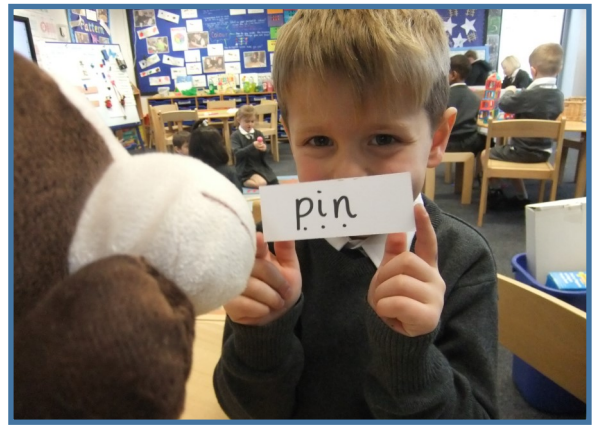
Please keep checking the newsletter and social media for announcements of more fantastic events in the new year!

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and happy new year!



EYFS

The children have been really busy practicing all their songs for their Christmas Concert and we really hope you enjoy the show. We are very proud of them for learning so many songs and all the actions and for some children being brave enough to speak in front of everybody on the stage.



They have started learning Level 3 sounds in phonics and are becoming so much better at reading and writing words. The children really enjoyed the book we did a few weeks ago called 'Night Monkey Day Monkey'.



They worked in pairs to create beautiful rainforest collages of the habitat that the monkeys lived in and also taught night monkey to read as he doesn't get to go to school as all the schools are shut at night. Next term we are looking forward to starting our topic on 'Space' and learning lots of facts all about the different planets in our Solar System.

Key Stage 1



We started celebrating the Christmas period with our Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch. The children all looked wonderful in their festive gear and thoroughly enjoyed all sitting with the classes together to enjoy lunch. We finished our festive fun-filled day with the pantomime. The children loved watching it and were in fits of giggles over the chaos that Dip and Dab caused!



We all woke up to snow on Monday and the children enjoyed going outside in it at break and lunchtime. They threw snowballs and created snow characters and had a wonderful time!

Over the last few weeks, the children have been working really hard on their acting and singing skills, ready to perform the Nativity. As I write this, the children have just performed the Nativity to the school. They were amazing and the teachers have had lots of compliments from other children and staff, saying how much they enjoyed it. A couple of children in Year 6 said it was the best nativity yet! The children are really looking forward to showing it to their adults on Wednesday and Thursday. KS1 hope you love it as much as the school did!



Lower Key Stage 2

We can't believe that it is the end of term, nearly Christmas and that we have come to the end of our second core book this year.

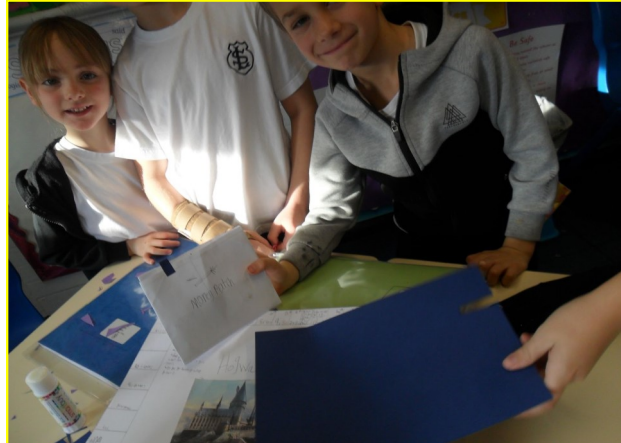
What a fabulous few weeks we have had learning so much about the different areas of Africa!

Geography lessons have been very exciting, with the children exploring the area of Drakensberg, the main mountain range in Southern Africa, and then going on to write, as a tour guide, their own short script to introduce tourists to this amazing, historic site!

The children had a wonderful time as they learnt about the judge, jury and witnesses in a courtroom. They used role play to examine the evidence within one of the stories from African Tales, and this helped them to go on to write a newspaper article about the story.

In Science, the children have been extremely busy learning about the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system, they have also learnt about teeth...identifying the different parts and describing each type and their functions. The children went on to carry out a fair test to investigate tooth decay, where hard boiled eggs were left to soak in different liquids for 1 week. The children then looked at the damage that occurred to the egg shells and so made a link with the damage that may occur to teeth through drinking some liquids.

Finally this week, through Skills Builder, the children have had a fantastic time exploring different board games and making their own new Maths one. They have used a number of skills including problem solving, creativity and staying positive.



Upper Key Stage 2

We are very proud of all the children in Years 5 and 6 for their fantastically hard work during their assessment weeks. They all tried their best with some very tricky tests!

We have continued reading *The Adventures of Odysseus* and have produced some super writing where we continued the story ourselves! The children used all their learning in history about the Ancient Greeks to help them write. Their stories were full of mythical creatures, gods and goddesses and scary beasts!

We have also continued to work hard at our fractions and have become fraction superstars!

Our skill builder challenge has been to design and create a board game with a Maths theme. We have really enjoyed creating these and producing adverts to promote them.



Ashevak have been creating their own Zorba Greek dance. They took inspiration from other Greek dances they had watched and danced to choreography first. Afterwards, they created their three sections of the Zorba dance in groups. They have worked incredibly hard in their teams to keep in time and demonstrate slow and controlled movements. Ashevak are excited to perform to Alfie tomorrow!

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas break and we looking forward to all the fantastic learning to come in 2023!

Miss Childs, Ms Griffiths and Mr Allen

School Council



A big thank you to the School Council who did a wonderful job of decorating the Christmas tree which was kindly donated to us by Thompson's Garden Centre. The children thought really hard about where each bauble should go and ensured that they were well spread out and baubles of the same colour were not placed together.

It looks very festive and beautiful, well done!



Mrs Allen

Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2 Pantomime



Last week, KS1 and KS2 had lots of laughs and plenty of audience participation in the comedy duo, Dip and Dab's Christmas show. Dip and Dab arrived for an end of year school inspection to do some urgent restoration with help from the audience. It was a Christmas pantomime with a twist pantomime. The pupils and staff thoroughly enjoyed it!

Miss Childs

Dates for the diary

Friday 16th December—Last day of term

Tuesday 3rd January—Inset Day

Wednesday 4th January—Return to School

Wednesday 4th January — KS1 trip to RHS Wisley

Friday 6th January — Reception 2023 Parent Tour

Tuesday 17th January—Young Voices Choir @ O2

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



Attendance—31st October 2022—9th December 2022



Monet	94%
Matisse	95%
Murakami	94%
O'Keefe	90%
Warhol	96%
Thomas	95%

Kahlo	95%
Basquiat	95%
Malone	92%
Ashevak	94%
Wei Wei	95%



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year!

Miss Owen and all of the Longlands Team.