

Longlands Primary School

Newsletter



Friday 21st October 2022



A Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

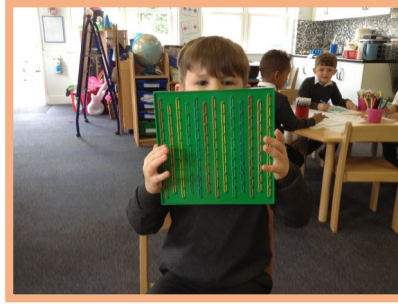
The first half term of the school year is almost complete and I am amazed at how quickly the time has flown. It has been a very productive time and I hope that you will enjoy reading about what the children have been doing in class over the past month. I am pleased to see how well our new Reception children have settled into school and they are already very much part of our Longlands school community. It has been lovely for me to see so many of you at parents evenings this week. I hope that you found meeting teachers to be a positive experience and that you enjoyed looking at your child/children's work. I know that a good number of you also sampled our delicious school dinners in the hall; we are pleased with the quality and I hope those of you that sampled them approved.

When we return to school after half term, the nights will be starting to draw in and it is very likely that the children will need to come to school in their coats each day. I would make yet another plea to you all to ensure that your child's clothing is clearly labelled- it really does make a difference, so thank you in anticipation of your continued support with this.



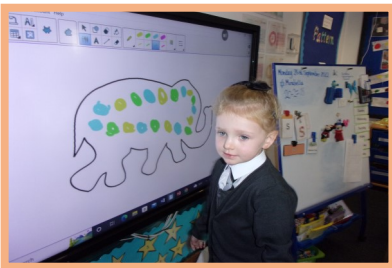
Term Time Holidays and Attendance

I am mindful that many of us have either cancelled or postponed travel plans over the past few years due to the pandemic. However, as we continue to move away from restrictions, I have noticed an increasing amount of requests for holidays during term time. Parents will be aware that I am unable to authorise these requests and that we respectfully ask that parents do not book holidays during term time. Our school's overall attendance figure is once again consistently below the national average and there is a direct correlation between this and absences for holidays. I would like to remind parents and carers that there is a strong research evidence base, which clearly demonstrates that high levels of attendance equate to high academic outcomes. At Longlands, we work closely with our allocated EWO (Education Welfare Officer) who monitors our figures, communicates with parents and in some cases works alongside families to support with improving levels of attendance. I would also like to assure all our families that the school's position will always be supportive and we aim to work in partnership if we have concerns about attendance.



EYFS

The children in Monet and Matisse have been very busy learning all about repeating patterns. They have created them using so many different things including; natural objects, beads, pegs, shapes, bricks, cubes and by drawing them. We looked at the books 'Elmer' and 'Sassoon' and used these as inspiration to create our own patterned elephants and our own snakes like Sassoon made from beads. We have been thinking about how to share things with each other and read the book, 'The Rainbow Fish' which is all about a little fish who realised that when you make other people happy you become happier yourself. The children have been learning to say the following phrases: "Please may I have a turn?" and "When I have finished I will give it to you." The children have been working so hard during their phonics lessons and they have been learning to say the letter name and sound for the following letters: s, a, t, p, i, n, m, d, g, o. It is very tricky learning to write them all correctly but they have been trying their best and with more practise soon they will be able to read and write lots of words! This week we made our own sock puppets using lots of different materials.



Mrs Allen

KS1

KS1 have had a busy few weeks with a new Power of Reading book 'Winter Sleep'. They have been focussing on bats and dormice, producing explanatory pieces of writing about what the animals do to prepare for hibernation, how and where they hibernate and what we should do to protect them. Linked to animals, we have been learning about food chains in Science, thinking about predators and prey, as well as producers and consumers. In Art, the children worked together to create a bird box using a hammer and nails to put it together. They will now decorate it and evaluate the product. We also had fun making bird cakes, mixing lard and bird seed together before putting it into yoghurt pots. These will be hung in the trees and the children will use the practical element to write instructions in English. KS1 have been superstars this half term, we are all very proud of them. Well done and have a restful half term!



Miss Brook

Lower Key Stage 2

Years 3 and 4 have learnt lots of facts about the Stone Age, building on the knowledge they already had, consolidating and embedding lots of information.

The children have been extremely busy and they have had lots of fun in all areas of the curriculum...we had a fabulous Stone Age Day where we looked in greater detail at the tools and weapons made by Stone Age people. We borrowed a Stone Age Loan Box from Knole Park and explored the replica objects inside. The children then went on to make their own tools! They studied the way Stone Age people communicated to each other through images...and they created their own 'Cave Art'.



As well as History, Science has been a big focus during this topic, as we have been looking in greater detail at where rocks come from. We have studied the different types and their uses in today's world. We have been learning about volcanoes, the Ring of Fire, and the locations of some of the volcanoes.



We have moved on to our second book for this first term, 'Ug'. This is a story about a most inquisitive and intelligent boy who is not content with the ways of the Stone Age and so he sets about making improvements (inventions). As part of our writing for this book, the children have been exploring his character and so far, they have been busy writing in role as Ug.

In Maths, both year groups have worked hard to understand Estimating and Rounding numbers, and Year 4 have been practising how to add and subtract using the column method, as well as how to use bar models whilst solving one and two step word problems.

Mrs Harris has been doing an amazing job in Music; the children have been having a great time exploring the beat in Queen's 'We Will Rock You'.



Upper Key Stage 2

Years 5 and 6 have been working incredibly hard these last few weeks and we are so proud of them. In English we have been reading *Journey to the River Sea* by Eva Ibbotson. We have enjoyed the main character's adventures in Brazil and we have produced some fabulous writing around this. We have also taken part in a conscience alley, where we thought carefully about what advice we could give to Finn, another of the main characters.

In Maths, Year 6 have been tackling long division! Which they have really started to get the hang of. Year 5 have been consolidating our written methods, revisiting our mental strategies and recognising the importance of the inverse. They have all worked so hard at this and are fabulous mathematicians!

In our geography and art lessons we have been focusing on the geographical features of Brazil and also producing rainforest inspired art work and learning about the artist Henri Rousseau.

We really enjoyed the 'Happy Puzzle' workshop that we took part in and worked so well together in teams to solve some really tricky problems.

We are all looking forward to more fantastic learning after the half term!



Mr Allen

Badminton Festival

On Wednesday, I took a group of year 4 children to Hurstmere school for a badminton festival. At the festival, the children took part in lots of different activities to help them with their badminton skills. They had to practise their target shooting with giant shuttlecocks. They had to catch the shuttlecock with giant nets and they had to practise using the badminton racket. The final activity was badminton golf they had to aim the shuttlecock into the hoop to gain a point. The children had lots of fun learning a new skill!



Miss Gayson

Wrap Around Care



Wrap Around Care

We've had another busy few weeks in Breakfast and After School Club. We have been decorating the studio with our Halloween themed pictures and creating pumpkin lanterns and have been using the stencils to create beautiful pictures.



If you would like to use any of our wrap around provisions, if you have not done so already, please fill in the [T's & C's](#) and [registration](#) forms before booking your child in via the Parent Mail app. The calendar is now open up to the end of this half term.

Hours are:

Breakfast Club: 07.30am—08.55am

After School Club: 3.15pm—18.00pm

Please be reminded of the terms and conditions for After school club. "If a child booked in is collect later, there will be a £5 charge for the first (or part of) 15 minutes. A further charge of £5 for every 5 minutes will be charged after 18:15.

Any questions, please speak to the school office.

Mrs Foster

Voluntary School Fund

You may be aware that we ask for a voluntary contribution of £10 per child on an annual basis. This is to support the school in providing enhancements to the quality of experiences children have exploring our curriculum. For example, we use this fund to pay for such things as theatre groups and various curriculum theme days.



In order to pay your contribution, please go to your ParentMail app where there will be an item in 'Shop'.
THANK YOU!

Miss Owen

Dates for the diary

Monday 24th October—Friday 28th October —Half Term

Monday 31st October—Return to school

Monday 31st October — Friday 4th November—Yr 6 Bikeability

Tuesday 1st November—School Nursing team—EYFS & Yr 6—
Height,,Weight, Vision and hearing

Thursday 3rd November —New Parent Tour

Friday 11th November—FOLS—Mr Marvels Magic Show

Wednesday 16th November—New Parent Tour

Tuesday 6th December—Rocksteady Concert (TBC)

Thursday 8th December—New Parent Tour

Friday 9th December—NSPCC Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch

Friday 9th December—Years 1-6 Pantomime

Monday 12th December—EYFS Pantomime—The Clumsiest Christmas Elf

Wednesday 14th December—KS1 Christmas Show (TBC)

Thursday 15th December—KS1 Christmas Show (TBC)

Friday 16th December—EYFS Christmas Concert (TBC)

Friday 16th December—Last day of term



School Meals

INDEPENDENT CATERING

Independent catering are our new caterers who provide our school with our school meals. The children and Staff alike are enjoying the variety that independent catering have brought to lunch times and the children are loving the restaurant feel that the table cloths are bringing.

A video of what independent catering do as well as the menu for this term are all on our website. Meals for EYFS & KS1 are free to everyone and for KS2, the cost is £2.50 a day payable via ParentMail. Now that the colder days are drawing in, if your child currently has a packed lunch but you would like your child to try the school meals, please contact the school office.

Attendance—This half term

Monet	96%
Matisse	96%
Murakami	93%
O'Keefe	93%
Warhol	95%
Thomas	95%

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



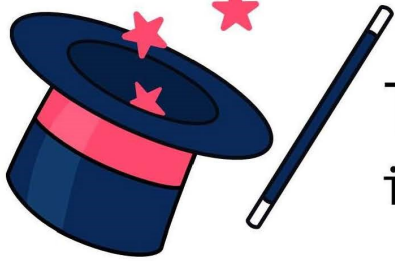
May we wish you all a happy and restful half term and we look forward to seeing the children return to a busy Autumn 2 term.

Best wishes,

Miss Owen and the Longlands Team.

Mr Marvel's

MAGICAL FUN SHOW



TICKETS £3.50
includes popcorn

Friday 11th November 2022
in the School Hall

3.30 - 4.30 pm

Reception

Year 1 and 2

5.00 - 6.00 pm

Year 3 to

Year 6

Magic, Balloon Modelling, Punch and
Judy and Live Rabbits!



Longlands School Parents Association
Registered Charity Number - 1124172



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