Longvernal
Primary School
Outdoor Learning Leaders

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"part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership"

Headteacher: Mrs Chrissie Brain

Wednesday 9th September

Dear Parents & Carers,

What a wonderful start we have had to the new school year at Longvernal. It has been so lovely to welcome the children back and to see so many smiling faces coming through the gates each morning. The children have settled beautifully into their new classes and routines and there is already such a happy, calm and positive atmosphere around the school. Thank you, too, for your support in getting children into school on time each day; it makes such a difference in helping everyone to enjoy a settled start and ensuring morning lessons can begin promptly, with children ready and eager to learn.

Forest and P.E.

PE and Forest Days - Term 1

Please ensure your child comes to school wearing the correct kit on their P.E. and Forest School days.

Class	PE	Forest
Holly	Wednesday	Tuesday
Oak	Monday	Wednesday
Chestnut	Thursday	Wednesday
Maple	Friday	Wednesday
Cherry	Friday	Wednesday
Willow	Thursday	Tuesday
Sycamore	Wednesday (Swimming)	Tuesday

Coffee Mornings

I hope you have already had the opportunity to say hello to your child's new teacher, before or after school. We would also be delighted to welcome parents and carers to the upcoming coffee

mornings, which provide an opportunity to find out more about class routines, expectations and how to support your child's learning at home. We fully appreciate that work and other commitments may mean that not everyone is able to attend, so following each session we will send out key information to families via email.

Acorn: Tuesday 22nd September 2026
Holly: Thursday 17th September 2026
Oak: Monday 14th September 2026
Chestnut: Friday 11th September 2026
Maple: Friday 18th September 2026
Cherry: Thursday 10th September 2026
Willow: Tuesday 15th September 2026
Sycamore: Wednesday 16th September 2026

Clubs

You will already have received a letter regarding our extra-curricular clubs. As a one-form entry school, we are pleased to be able to offer a broad range of opportunities. However, with places limited, it is not always possible to guarantee every child a place in every club they would like to attend. We keep a record of children who are unsuccessful in securing a place and, should a space become available, this will be offered to another child. We also take into account those children who have missed out during Terms 1 and 2 and will prioritise them when allocating places in future terms. As clubs are often in high demand, we kindly ask that children attend each session unless they are absent through illness. Repeated non-attendance may result in the place being withdrawn and offered to another child.

Attendance

Regular attendance and punctuality are so important in helping children feel settled, confident and ready to learn. Arriving at school on time each morning gives children the best possible start to the day and helps establish positive routines.

Quick Stay or Go? guide:

- **Go to school**: mild cough, cold or sore throat, if your child is otherwise well.
- **Stay at home**: high temperature, vomiting or diarrhoea, or if your child is clearly too unwell to take part in the school day.

If mornings become difficult, routines are proving a struggle or your child is feeling anxious about coming to school, please speak to us- we are always happy to work alongside you and find ways to help. Alternatively, you could email our PSA, Carole Macdonald carole.macdonald@longvernal.mnsp.org.uk who is also happy to help.

School Uniform

We do not insist on gender specific uniforms. Families/children are free to choose items from the list below:

- Black Shoes, Black Trousers, Black Skirt, School Sweatshirt with either big or small logo or School Cardigan, School Polo Shirt, Summer Dress – green gingham dresses are allowed. No leggings.
- PE Uniform – black shorts, daps or trainers and a green school PE t-shirt.
- Forest Uniform – Warm Coat, waterproofs (coat & trousers), socks, hats & gloves, old clothes
- Jewellery-No jewellery except earrings which should be studs or sleepers, with a maximum of one earring per ear.
- Make-Up- No make-up, including false nails and false eyelashes.

Please ensure that all items of clothing are CLEARLY NAMED, this way they can be returned if they end up in lost property.

Drop- off and pick- up arrangements

We offer a drive in and drop off service arrangement from 8.30am but this is not suitable for our youngest children. Please be aware that there are many pedestrians at this time and to enter the school site slowly and carefully. Children who are not at Breakfast Club may arrive from 8.30am at which point the gates are opened and a teacher is on duty in the playground.
Collection points:

- **Acorns:** Outside the nursery building
- **Holly:** Far end of the path, through Woodpecker gate.
- **Oak:** End of the path, through Woodpecker gate.
- **Chestnut:** Through Woodpecker gate, second classroom
- **Maple:** Head towards the playground, pathway on your left, far classroom (formerly Cherry)
- **Cherry:** Through Woodpecker gate, third classroom on your right (formerly Chestnut)
- **Willow:** Head towards the playground, pathway on your left, closest classroom
- **Sycamore:** Exiting through Willow Class

If you have more than one child at school who are collected from different areas, please let the teacher of your older child know where you would like them to meet you. This will be at the collection point of your youngest child.
Parents and carers of children in Upper Key Stage 2 may give permission for them to walk home independently at 3.15pm, provided the school has been informed in advance. Children attending after-school clubs should be collected by an adult as the evenings begin to get darker.
We also kindly ask families to leave the school site promptly after collection so that After School Club can use the playground safely and outdoor clubs can begin unhindered.

Parking

Please remember that the school car park is for staff use only, as spaces are limited and we aim to keep vehicle movement on site to a minimum for the safety of children. The designated accessible parking spaces should only be used by vehicles displaying a valid Blue Badge. Thank you for helping us keep the site safe and accessible for those who need it.

Facebook

Keep up to date with life at Longvernal by following our Facebook page. This is where we regularly share class updates, celebrations, reminders, online safety tips and other useful information for families.

Communication

We aim to keep families well informed through newsletters, Arbor, our school website and Facebook page. If you have a message for your child's teacher, please contact the school office who will ensure it is passed on. Teachers are available before and after school, however if you need to discuss something in more detail, the office can also help arrange a suitable time for a meeting. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays Carole Macdonald, Parent Support Advisor is in school should you need any support. The Senior Leadership Team consists of Jess Collins, Acting Deputy Head jess.collins@longvernal.mnsp.org.uk and myself chrissie.brain@longvernal.mnsp.org.uk .The first port of call for most concerns would be your child's teacher (via the school office), but we are available should you prefer that for a specific reason.

Allergies

Longvernal is a nut free school to help keep children with allergies safe. Please do not send any nuts or products containing nuts into school including items such as peanut butter, chocolate spreads (such as Nutella) or commercially produced cakes and snacks that contain nuts. We

ask families to check food labels carefully and thank you for your support in helping us maintain a safe environment for everyone.



Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It has been wonderful to see the children settle so positively into the new school year and I am looking forward to all that the year ahead will bring for our Longvernal community.

Warm wishes,

Chrissie Brain
Headteacher