



The Longvernal Letter

"part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership"

Term 2

Newsletter 2022/23

Children learn with smiles on their faces and mud on their hands

Dear Parents /Carers

I hope this letter finds you well. This term seems to have flown by. The weather has been kind to us so the children have had maximum usage of our wonderful outdoor space, especially enjoying many and varied cooking experiences in Forest School plus some beautiful autumn -themed crafts. It has been great to once again have our Year 6 pupils act as 'Buddies' to our youngest pupils and our push for children as leaders is going from strength to strength. The children also seem to be enjoying the broad range of after school and lunchtime clubs. Next term we shall be asking classes to discuss with their School Council representatives ideas for clubs after Christmas.

In addition to new pupils and teachers settling in so well, Nursery has evolved positively. We now have two Level 3 trained Forest School Leaders working in Nursery which, in addition to the new 'mini Forest' mud kitchens set up behind Nursery for when it is too windy to safely use the Forest areas, has enhanced provision. We are proud of our status as the only Forest School Association registered school for many miles.

Whatever the age of your child, please ensure they have plenty of warm layers for Forest School as if they are cold, it affects their enjoyment.

We continue to embed our school F-O-R-E-S-T values and British Values in weekly assemblies. This week we celebrated those children who had successfully completed the Citizenship Award and re-launched the award for this year. Please look out for the cards coming home this week. Additionally we will share the updated cards digitally to avoid lost cards being an issue.

Whilst we strive to promote diversity throughout the year, this month we have had a focus on Black History Month and teachers have been using class assemblies and PSHE lessons to explore this with age-appropriate input. November will see us reflect on Remembrance, Democracy and Rule of Law.

Please can I say a HUGE thank you on behalf of Miss James, our English Lead but more importantly on behalf of the children for your generosity with purchasing a wide range of quality books to enhance our children's reading corners. I have been bowled over by how many parents and friends of the school have contributed. These, together with our regular library visits, ensure that your children have as broad a reading diet as possible. If you are able to accompany us on library visits or come into school to hear children read, please notify your child's teacher or the office. You will be very welcome!

On Monday 17th October, some children from Cherry Class (Winter, Charlie, Freya, Arabella and Selena) represented Longvernal in the cross-MAT Poetry Slam! held in the theatre at Writhlington School. The competitors wrote the poem together with children from Chatterbooks Club. It was a fun event and the children gave a spirited, confident performance, with much gusto!

We will be sending home 'Coming Up Next Term' information about Term 2 learning. Please take some time to share this with your child to support us in igniting their interest. If you have any related resources or experiences that may enhance learning, please speak to your child's teacher. For more detailed curriculum information, please see our website curriculum pages.

To find out what has been happening in class, please look at your child's class web pages. Also, please check out our new Facebook page.

We often receive lovely emails and letters of thanks from parents. Please support us by passing on your positivity about Longvernal in the community. Since we are tucked away in a cul-de-sac, we cannot use big advertising billboards so rely quite a lot on word of mouth. Spread the word!

All that remains is for me to wish you all a fun-filled whilst restful half term break.

Karen

Poetry Slam 2022



Uniform:

It has come to our attention that the sizing chart used by School Colours has caused some confusion. We have contacted the company and made them aware of this.

Please take note: T-shirts and fleeces are detailed in **ages** whilst polo shirts, sweatshirts and cardigans are detailed in **cm/inches**.

We urge you to bring your child to try on sample uniform at the office on 14th November, prior to ordering, to avoid disappointment.

We are also aware that there have been some issues around the new PE. T-shirts and how these have worn after washing. If you have had an issue, please could you notify the company to deal with it but it would also be helpful if you let us know so we have an idea about the scale of the problem. Thank you.

In these financially hard times and also thinking about the environment, please remember that the PTFA operate a second hand uniform stock.

Amazing Achievements!

Congratulations to John Williams who took part in the Bath Half and raised £275 for his sister's school, Three Ways.



Also, a big congratulations to Finlay Smith. He climbed Snowdon in order to raise money for The Wallace and Gromit foundation who help children that are sick. He demonstrated a huge amount of determination to reach the top.

Please see the link below for the fundraising page if anyone would like to donate.

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Finlay-Snowden?utm_campaign=lc_frp_share_transaction_fundraiser_page_donation_received_-_nth_donation&utm_content=a7f5ccdc-6f56-4aa7-8a79-be088130d118&utm_medium=email&utm_source=postoffice&utm_term=1661437520179



We are incredibly proud of both boys - what great ambassadors for Longvernal!

PTFA AGM

This was held on October 14th and was well-attended. Thank you to those of you who came along. Please look at the PTFA Facebook page for more information. Many hands make light work- please consider offering to help at Tuck Shop or offer your services at the upcoming Christmas Fayre. Pumpkins- Please remember to enter the pumpkin competition on October 31st.

PE Days for next term

Holly - Wednesday afternoons
Oak - Thursday afternoons
Chestnut - Wednesday afternoons
Maple - Thursday afternoons
Cherry - football Friday afternoon
Willow - football Friday afternoons
Sycamore - swimming Friday afternoons

REMINDERS:

It is wonderful that lots of children are continuing to choose to walk, scoot or cycle to school even now that vehicle drop off is possible. Please note that next term, we would prefer for **all** children to be collected after clubs finish at 4.15p.m. as it will, by then, be beginning to get dark.

Please do not park in the school car park at drop off or pick up times. There are limited spaces and these are for staff and visiting external staff only. The exception is if you have a blue disability badge which is genuinely needed by the driver or child being collected. We need to restrict cars pulling out of school and driving up the hill for the safety of all as most people are walking.

Please continue to be vigilant around your child's online safety and activity. Willow and Sycamore Classes have recently experienced workshops run by Oxford NHS about keeping safe online, with a focus on usage of social media.

Christmas!

Those of you who have been associated with Longvernal for many years will be aware that we have had a long tradition of inviting parents in to enjoy Christmas Dinner with their child.

Unfortunately this year, we are unable to ask you to join your child for their Christmas dinner due to the ever increasing demands on the kitchen. However, inviting you into school to spend time with your child is a tradition we don't want to lose.

Therefore, we shall be inviting you all in to spend half a day with your child and their class to share festive treats and enjoy some Christmas activities. More details to follow early next term.

Please remember Headlice don't go on holiday!
We have had a number of cases in school recently so please keep checking (and treating if necessary) your child/ren's hair over the holiday.

Thank you!



Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 20th October - Y2 Chew Valley Farm Trip
Monday 31st October - PTFA Pumpkin competition
Tuesday 1st November - Parents evening
Thursday 3rd November - Parents evening
Friday 4th November - Mufti Day
Tuesday 8th November - Y6 Orchestral Workshop - Writhlington School
Friday 11th November - Mufti Day
Wednesday 16th November - Y1 Noah's Ark Farm Park
Thursday 1st December - Y3 Bristol Museum
Friday 2nd December - PTFA Xmas Fayre
Tuesday 6th December - Nursery nativity 9 - 9.45am
Wednesday 7th December - YR - Y6 Flu jobs
Wednesday 7th December - KS1 & EYFS Nativity 2-3pm
Thursday 8th December - KS1 & EYFS Nativity 5 - 6pm
Friday 9th December - Cherry & Willow Christmas Celebration St Marys Bathwick
Friday 9th December - Y6 Panto 1 - 5pm
Wednesday 14th December - Christmas Dinner
Friday 16th December KS1 Christmas Parties
Friday 16th December KS2 Christmas disco
Friday 16th December - last day of Term 2

Tuesday 3rd January - Inset Day
Wednesday 4th January Term 3 starts

Parent Pay

Breakfast Club and After School club should be booked and paid for in advance on Parentpay.

Please also remember that school dinners need to be ordered in advance by the Thursday of the preceding week.

Thank you