



# The Longvernal Letter

"part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership"



Newsletter  
2023/2024

Term 1

## News from Mrs Bazeley...

*Dear Parents /Carers*

*Wow - yet another term has whizzed by! I hope that you are keeping abreast of what's been happening in school by not only chatting to your child/children but by keeping an eye on our Facebook updates and also reading the class pages on the website which will be updated this week with all the news about what your child has been learning this term. Holly Class has impressed Miss Whittaker and the Early Years team with the ease with which they have settled into school life and similarly Nettie reports that Acorns Nursery children have enjoyed a positive, happy start. Thank you to our Year 6 children whose role as 'buddies' eased our youngest children into Longvernal life.*

*A huge thank you to all of you who ventured out on welly walks to provide us with ample pine cones and conkers for Forest fun and crafts. I was a little naïve offering one house point per conker - it just shows you are never too old to learn from your errors!*

### **School Council & Clubs**

*The School Council and I have met, having been democratically appointed by their peers and they were very organised and strategic in sharing their concerns and suggestions.*

*Clubs are also well-attended. Thank you for ensuring that your child attends every week; this enables them to understand the concept of commitment and reliability but is also fair when places are limited.*

### **Parent Support**

*Thank you to those of you who supported the recent Scholastic Book Fair from which school benefits by way of discounted purchases based on percentage of sales. Longvernal is blessed with a very supportive parent body with such support as: contributions to curriculum enhancement when you come in to talk to classes; hearing readers; support on trips and walks to the library and church; attendance at events such as Harvest Festival plus sharing of resources and expertise. All of the above is much appreciated. Thank you.*

### **Celebration Assemblies**

*Our Celebration Assemblies are the highlight of the week. Please remember that if your child has achieved something outside of school in a hobby that they do, we love to celebrate this in school too and also sharing such successes can encourage other children to have a go at a new activity. If your child learns an instrument within or outside school, please make us aware as we are keen to give as many children as possible the opportunity to play in assembly.*

Additionally, it is fantastic to have children playing as we enter and leave the Hall.

### **Doodle Maths & Reading**

Uptake of Doodle Maths is strengthening, as was participation in the Summer Reading Challenge at local libraries. Again, thank you for your support - these really do support your children in achieving their potential at school.

### **Character & Citizenship Award**

The Character and Citizenship Award template and letter has been distributed. Please do give this a go and ask if you need any help with this such as a hard copy printed or some ideas. The children enjoy hearing about the activities their friends have done towards achieving this.

### **Football Club**

We are delighted and grateful that Michael Korasiak has kindly offered to coach our football teams, giving up considerable time for this. The teams have been eagerly preparing for scheduled matches against local schools. Likewise, our netball team is training for upcoming matches. We wish all the children the very best of luck.

### **Attendance**

We have put considerable care and effort into ensuring that our curriculum is carefully sequenced, building on learning year on year from age 2 to 11 years, with frequent recall of prior learning so that children can make links between and within subjects. Each and every lesson is also carefully sequenced. I cannot overstate the importance of ensuring that your child attends school as much as possible; one lesson missed can impact their success with future learning. I am not able to authorise any holiday during term time except in exceptional circumstances. Children are negatively impacted; they are frequently distracted (and can distract others) in the days before they go on holiday and then are on catch up on their return as they have not participated in preceding lessons. We do our utmost to close any gaps but this is not as effective as having been present throughout the series of lessons. Check our holiday dates on our website or MNSP

Website - we do not necessarily 100% match BANES dates.

### **Parking on site**

We have very limited parking on site and we also wish to minimise vehicles for the safety of children. Only vehicles with a valid disabled blue badge should be parked on site and then only if the person for whom it has been issued is present. Unless arrangements have been made with the Headteacher for a specific reason at a specific time, parents/carers should park outside the school grounds and walk to collect their child.

### **Final Notes**

Please note: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October is an INSET day so the children do not return until Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup>. This is Halloween but school uniform is required as normal. All clubs re-start the first week back.

As the clocks will be changing and the nights getting darker earlier, no child will be permitted to walk home alone following an after school club from Term 2 onwards. This also applies to Year 6.

I would like to wish you a fantastic half term break and I look forward to hearing all about it from the children next term.

Best Wishes  
Karen Bazeley

### Dates for your Diary:

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October - End of Term 1  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October - Inset Day  
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October - Start of Term 2  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November - PTFA Tuck Shop & 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Uniform Sale  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December - PTFA Christmas Fayre, Tuck Shop and 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Uniform  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December - Nursery Nativity  
9.30am - 10.30am  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December - YR R/1/2 Nativity 1.15 - 2.45pm  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December - YR R/1/2 Nativity 1.15 - 2.45pm & 5 - 6.30pm  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Carol Service - Time TBC  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Last day of Term 2  
  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January - Inset Day  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January - Inset Day  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January - Start of Term 3

### PE Days for Term 2

Holly - Wednesday  
Oak - Tuesday  
Chestnut - Friday  
Maple - Thursday  
Cherry - Friday  
Willow - Monday  
Sycamore - Friday (Swimming)

**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/children's hair over the holiday.

Thank you!



### REMINDERS:

#### 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.

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