



# The Longvernal Letter

"part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership"

Term 3 Newsletter 2023/24

## News from Miss Richards...

Dear Parents /Carers

I hope you have had a pleasant and calm start to 2024. This term has flown by since the return to school and the children have settled well and are working hard. It is wonderful that we continue to have members of the public and visitors comment on how polite, courteous, kind and supportive they are to each other and when out in the community. They should be as proud of themselves as we are of them.

As a school, we focus on a holistic education for the children and having a strong personal development offer remains at the heart of our curriculum. Already this term we have experienced the following;

### Curriculum Enrichment:

- A highly aspirational STEM week, with guest visitors from STEM backgrounds, a Science Fair and ongoing investigations throughout the week.
- Bikeability workshops
- Weekly library visits
- Cherry's trip to the Roman Baths
- Walk, Scoot, Cycle to school week
- Drama workshops for Years 5 and 6 with a PSHE focus
- Maple's trip to Cheddar Gorge (Feb 8<sup>th</sup>)

### Performance opportunities:

- We are delighted that a record number of 34 children have entered the Mid-Somerset Festival in Bath, where they will be performing verse speaking or a prepared prose in front of an audience and judging panel.
- Cherry and Maple's musical through the ages performance (more details in due course).
- Debating Club have written a two-sided debate based on humans being parasitic or not which will be heard at the cross-trust Speak Out! Competition at Writhlington School.
- Chestnut and Cherry are busily preparing for the Dance Umbrella performances at the Bath Forum.

### Personal Development:



Children's Mental Health week will be explored in class from week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> February. This year, the theme is 'My Voice Matters'. The children will be learning about how they can make their voices heard and why it can make a difference. On the 6<sup>th</sup> of February, it is safer Internet Day. As a school, we understand that it can be difficult monitoring your child's online usage.

However, please can you remain alert in order to safeguard them on both social media and games with recommended ages. Apps like Qustodio and Google Family Link can be a helpful tool to support this



### Reggie the Reading Dog

The children have loved having Reggie the Reading Dog in school over the past few terms. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, he has been unable to come for a while. Hopefully, next term, he will be back in hearing readers with a wagging tail and wet nose!

### Supporting home learning

We appreciate that lives are busy with work, out of school activities and other commitments but it is important to support your child with their home learning. We have noticed a decrease in children on Doodle Maths, which is a supportive tool to aid fluency and understanding. I know Mr. Dobson would be encouraged to see an increase in usage over the half term. Please remember also the importance of hearing younger and less confident children read aloud to an adult at least three times a week. Furthermore, it is important to share stories with children (even older, independent readers); as this can open opportunities to discover new vocabulary and challenge comprehension. If you would like further support with home learning, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher.

### Website and Facebook

Please take a look at the school website for end of term updates, topic webs for the new term and the school calendar for upcoming events. In addition to that, please take a look at the Longvernal facebook page to see what is happening on a daily basis throughout the school.

### Huge congratulations!

Please join the Longvernal Family in wishing Ms. James huge congratulations and warm wishes on her upcoming nuptials. Ms. James and Mr. Moore will be getting married over the half term and we wish them all the happiness in their future. Ms James will return to term four being called Mrs James Moore.



Have a fantastic and fun-filled half term, I look forward to seeing everyones safe return in mid February..

-Chrissie Richards

### Forest Days for next term

Holly - Friday  
Oak - Monday  
Chestnut - Wednesday  
Maple - Wednesday  
Cherry - Monday  
Willow - Thursday  
Sycamore - Monday

### P.E. and Forest Kit

#### Correct kit consists of:

- Black jogging bottoms or shorts
- Black Longvernal fleece or green Longvernal jumper/cardigan
- Trainers or daps
- Hair tied back.

#### Forest Kit:

- Warm, long sleeved top
- Trousers
- Waterproofs
- Wellies

### PE Days for next term

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

**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:**

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 do not park in the Combe Lea Residential Home car park as they need constant, unrestricted access. Thank you.

Slap Cheek, Scarlett Fever and Measels: Please be advised that these illnesses are in the community and can present with similar symptoms. If concerned, parents should seek advice from their GP or 111-and can access advice via the NHS website. If your child is diagnosed with one of the above illnesses please can you inform school.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February**- Y3 Cheddar Gorge Trip  
**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February** - End of Term 3  
**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February** - Term 4 starts  
**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February** - Y6 Sycamore Class - Lifeskills trip  
**Week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> March** - Book Week  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March** - Midsomerset Festival  
**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March** - Easter Service Methodist Church  
**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** - Yr 4 Camp  
**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March** - End of Term 4  
**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April** - Start of Term 5

### 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**. If you don't order by this time, you will be asked to provide a packed lunch.

Thank you

