



Longfields' Latest 6th October 2021

Autumn Mornings are here!

Dear All,

Well it is certainly getting a little crisper in the morning standing on the gate. There is something about a cold sunny morning that ensures you are awake and ready for the day ahead! It has been really good to see school almost back to normal and having the children all out in larger groups at break and lunch times is fantastic.

We continue to work hard on improving our curriculum offer, constantly changing and adding things to ensure our children have a positive and engaging learning experience.

Thank you again for your continued positive comments and messages of support. Please remember to pass on those positive comments to Ofsted, when they come to visit at some point. Please do also catch a member of staff or myself if you have any worries etc.

Thank you for your continued support.



Christmas Cracker Event

Please save this date in your diary or on your phone. This will be a great chance to buy some early Christmas presents, meet up as a community and raise some more money for the school. Thanks to the PTA for the great belated summer fair. It was a fantastic day and raised over £2000. I look forward to seeing you all at this event too.

Saturday 20th November
11a.m. – 3p.m.

After School Clubs

After school clubs have started again this term and it is wonderful to see our children accessing all kinds of activities at the end of the day. We are intending to run another set of clubs after the half term break so please look out for notification regarding these. Look out for more information coming soon.

Woodlands

What an amazing week!

After the disappointment of having to cancel last year's residential experience and replace with a couple of days activities, it was absolutely amazing to be able to take the Year 6s away to Woodlands for the week. As you may have seen from the photos, not only was the weather amazing, but a fun and action packed time was had by all.

We will shortly be sending information out to our current Year 5s in preparation for their trip next academic year. Look out for the information and book up early in order to spread the cost.



New Parking Enforcement

Please have a look at the news section of the website as this contains a pocket guide to the new parking enforcement in and around Bicester. You will be aware that there were changes to the road markings in our own local community. This 'Glovebox Guide' helps to explain all the enforcement procedures.

Safeguarding



Please can I remind all adults that the use of mobile phones on site is prohibited. This is standard school safeguarding protocol. Please keep your phones in your pockets until leaving the school premises.

Thank you

Bike Library



The bike library is finally arriving. On Tuesday 12th October we will be receiving 18 refurbished bikes from Bicester Green to get our Bike Library up and running. We will have some adult bikes as well as children's bikes and the aim of the library is for us to be able to loan out bikes to families who would like to cycle to school, both for their own benefit and the for that of the environment. If you would like to be considered for loaning a bike from the library then please see myself or Mr Tucker. Bikes will also be supplied with helmets and locks.

CONGRATULATIONS



I have the wonderful pleasure of letting you know that our curriculum development schedule continues to have an impact on the learning experiences our children have on a day-to-day basis. This is further added to by the school being awarded the **'Primary Science Quality Mark'**.

Led by Mr Davies and Miss Kardos, we have worked hard over the past year to meet the exacting standards to wear this Quality Mark. Thank you to all those involved and we look forward to this ensuring a quality science curriculum for all our children. Thanks again, especially to Miss Kardos and Mr Davies.

Women's Cycling Tour Comes to Bicester



The women's cycling tour of Britain set off with Stage One starting from Bicester. Some of our older children were lucky enough to be chosen as team mascots and got to go up on the main stage in Market square with one of the 16 teams taking part. Year 5 and 6 also managed to get to the road side on part of the route to cheer the competitors on. What an inspirational experience and who knows – maybe we will see a champion from our community one day. Check out the tour as it continues throughout Britain for the next week.



COVID UPDATES

It has been good to resume pretty much business as usual this term but that has seen us have more positive COVID cases in the last 5 weeks than we did in the whole of the last 18 months.

You will know that the guidance has changed in terms of pupils only needing to isolate if they test positive. After being identified as a close contact, pupils are asked to undertake a PCR straight away. We have found that in pretty much all cases this comes back as negative because the virus is still within its incubation period. With this in mind we have added a further layer of protection for staff and pupils and this has an impact on those pupils who are living with someone who is COVID positive. In this instance, we are asking that the pupil undertakes an LFT each morning for the week following their negative PCR test, and only attends school if that test is negative. So far this term, these extra precautions have allowed us to identify 3 or 4 siblings who have tested positive at a later date than their PCR and has therefore helped us keep school a safer place.

HIGH TEMPERATURES

As a school, one of the only guards we have against the spread of COVID is testing temperatures. If a child is feeling unwell at school then this is something we do as routine. The result of our temperature test, regardless of any test done at home, has consequences, in that we will ask for the child to have a PCR test (a LFT is not sufficient). In addition to this, the latest guidance asks that even if the PCR test comes back as negative, if the child retains the high temperature then they should be kept off school until 24 hours after their temperature has returned to normal.

CAR PARK

A reminder that the school car park is for staff only. Please do not use it to drop children off or wait for them at the end of the day. If you are spotted using the car park without permission please do not be offended when you are asked to leave. This is for the safety of staff and children attending school. Thank you

School Life App

Some parents are not receiving updates from school via the School Life App because they are only seeing the public site. For safety, school messages are only available to those who have logged in. Parents should log into the app :- just open the app, click the two houses at the top, select log in and enter your user name and password. If you don't have your username or password, just email- office@longfields-primary.org
We can re-set this for you.
Thank you

Dates for your diary:

Please see School Life calendar for full dates

13 Oct – Y4 to Waddesdon
21 Oct - Last day before Half Term (Thursday)
1 Nov - First Day back after Half Term
20 Nov – PTA Christmas Cracker Event 11am-3pm
17 Dec - Last day before Christmas Break
5 Jan - First day back at school (Wednesday)