



Longfields' Latest 7th Oct 2019

Washed Away!!

Dear All,

Well summer (what we had of it!) has certainly been washed away over the past few weeks and although gardens are looking good it would be great to have a few dry days. As usual it has been a busy start to the new academic year, with our year 6s and our year 4s having both been away on their respective residential trips. School has been buzzing with plenty of exciting learning activities and the children have now well and truly settled back in to school routines. Thank you all once again for your continued support. It is absolutely paramount that we work together for the good of our children.

THANK YOU

TAG RUGBY



At the end of September, we entered a Year 5/6 team into the Tag Rugby Festival at The Cooper School. The children demonstrated excellent team spirit, they coached and supported each other in every match (even when the going got tough and they had to dig deep) and ended up winning all of their games! All the children who went were commended on the respect they showed the other teams and the young leaders.

We are very proud of not only how brilliantly they played tag rugby as a team, but also of their attitude and sporting spirit. Well done!

SAD NEWS

If you have been involved with Longfields Primary School for any length of time then you may remember Joy Lewis. Joy worked at the school in a number of capacities – as a teacher for some time and then latterly running the Story Keepers club that ran throughout the year. After being ill for a while, Joy sadly passed away last week. We will all have fond memories of her commitment to the school and the work she did to support our children. Our thoughts go out to her family at this difficult time.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Please keep an eye out for the After School Clubs letter. Clubs are due to start the week after our Parents Evenings week after Half Term. This is week beginning 18th November. We hope to offer a good variety of clubs with a couple of new editions to the line-up, so please keep an eye out. If you yourself have a talent that could lend itself to an After School Club then please let us know. We would support you with a member of staff if you were able to run one. Pop in and see us if you have an idea.

FRIENDS of LONGFIELDS SCHOOL (FOLS)

As you will have read in my message last week. FOLS has now folded and we are looking to set up a new PTA to start in January 2020.

A reminder that there is a meeting tonight at 7:30p.m. in the nursery where all are welcome. If you are interested in helping as a committee member or simply as someone who could help out now and again at an event, then please do come along. The meeting shouldn't be too long tonight and we will schedule another meeting for after Half Term where new committee members can be voted on.

Once again, I would like to thank Amanda, Tom and Isobel for their amazing work over the past 4 years – raising in excess of £20,000 for the school. I look forward to seeing you all tonight and getting the ball rolling again.

Year 6 Parents: Please remember to apply online for your child's place at secondary school by 31st Oct - www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

Woodlands and Everdon



The year 4 children had such an exciting time at Everdon last week and we are so proud of all that they accomplished. The first group had fun dodging the weather and found themselves getting very soggy but there not a single moan or groan. The second group had much nicer weather and therefore went on some long walks, even spotting a barn owl in full flight. The children are now busy creating presentations using some of the wonderful photographs and memories that they have taken from the trip.



Year 6 had a wonderful time at Woodlands.

The weather was beautiful and we all challenged ourselves and conquered our fears!

Staff NEWS

Some wonderful news for two members of our staff. We would like to say a huge congratulations to Mr and Mrs Davies who are expecting their first child. Mrs Davies will be with us until Christmas, with the new arrival expected in the New Year. And also to Miss Skinley who along with her partner are expecting their first child too, a little bit later in the new year. We wish them all the very best.

MINDFULNESS at LONGFIELDS

At Longfields we are committed to promoting the well-being of all the children and the staff. To achieve this, we are developing our use of **Mindfulness** across the school. Practicing **Mindfulness** techniques can help children change their mindset from a **FIXED** mindset to a **GROWTH** mindset.

Mindfulness can help children feel empowered, so they can learn to try new things and take more risks, overcoming anxiety when they make mistakes.

Mindfulness means paying full attention to something. It means slowing down to really notice what you're doing. ... When you're **mindful**, you're taking your time. You're focusing in a relaxed, easy way. Across the school, every class takes part in a mindfulness activity for 10-15 minutes each day.

These activities may include

- Breathing exercises
- Listening to music
- Yoga
- Exercise
- Mindful colouring – focus on the shapes, pencil stroke
- Keeping a Feelings Journal
- Paper folding
- Weaving

Parent Evening Dates

Please note that the first Parent Evening Week of the new academic year is the second week after the half term – week beginning 11th November. I will update you regarding the opening of online booking as soon as this has been confirmed but please put this week in your diary and make every effort to attend. Thank you.

School Attendance and Lateness

Please can I remind everyone of the importance of regular school attendance and arriving on time. I know that we all have an off day now and again and occasionally things happen that cause our schedules to change, but it is important that your child is in school on time. Missing the start of the day can have a negative impact in a number of ways. If too late, then the key input at the beginning of a lesson can be missed and this then needs to be recapped, with the flow and organisation of the lesson having to be adapted at the last minute. Please make every effort to get to school on time and allow your child to access their learning for the **whole day**

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

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

Online Safety

You may have been aware in the news of the increase in stories relating to children's on-line activity and the types of content they are able to access and the adverse impact this can have on their emotional well-being.

It is very difficult to police or monitor what our children are doing all the time, particularly if they have their own connected devices.

Please do ensure that you are fully aware of the content your children are viewing. There are some useful on-line safety links for parents on our website.

Search under: Useful Information/e-safety. Please do have a look

Harvest and Bicester Food bank

Harvest in Primary school is a great time for learning about different foods; where our food comes from and the disparity in provision across the world.

As part of our Harvest focus this year we will be collecting for Bicester Food Bank – supporting those in our community who are not as fortunate or experiencing tough times.

We will be collecting for this cause on Monday 14th October through to Friday 18th October. Please do look at the list below (from BFB website) for suitable food stuffs to donate. Thank you in advance for supporting our local community.

Sugar 500g, Soup, Pasta, Rice and Pasta sauces
Tinned tomatoes, vegetables, meat/fish, fruit & Rice pudding
Instant mash, Jam & Cereals

Dates for your diary:

Please see School Life calendar for full dates

8 Oct-Cotswold Wildlife Park –Miss Kardos/Miss Skinley
9 Oct- Cotswold Wildlife Park –Mr Davies/Mrs Davies
10 Oct – Individual School Photographs
25 Oct – PTA Disco
25 Oct - Last day before half term
31 Oct - **Closing date for secondary applications**
4 Nov - First day back at school
11 Nov - Parent Evening this week
18 Nov – After School clubs begin this week
30 Nov – PTA Christmas Market
11 Dec - Nasal Flu immunisation-Rec,1,2,3,4,5&6
13 Dec - KS2 Carols (2.45pm – 3.15pm)
18 Dec – Christmas lunch day for children
19 Dec - Last day before Christmas Break (Thursday)
6 Jan - First day back at school (Monday)