



## Action Packed Christmas!

Dear All,

Firstly, apologies for my tardiness on newsletters this term. It has been absolutely manic – even more so than usual. I wanted to start by saying a huge thank you to all our pupils, staff and parents who continue to play a huge part in the tangible atmosphere here at Longfields and our ethos. Something earlier this term just highlighted the community feel that we have here at school. Some of you will know the fiasco we had trying to get tickets for our choir families to go to Oxford. Only a third managed to acquire them. This really put the whole event in jeopardy, but the generosity of those who had tickets meant that in the end we managed to get a family member to accompany all of those children attending the event. I know of other schools that were in a similar position but with very different outcomes. I am always thankful for that sense of community and partnership we have here at Longfields and I hope it always continues that way. Thank you once again to all who helped out and thank you again for your continued support.

**HAVE A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS**

### Christmas tree Festival

There have been many choir events this term and we are so proud of all our children who sing their hearts out at each event. I've said it many times before but there is nothing quite like listening to the sound of children singing. It gets to me every time.

Our most recent event has been the Christmas Tree Festival held at St Edburgs Church. Well done once again for a wonderful performance and for representing the school in amazing fashion once again.



### CROSS COUNTRY EVENT

Following on from our Cross Country Day at Longfields, we took a Year 3/4 and a Year 5/6 team to the Bicester Schools event. All of the runners ran incredibly well on what was a very cold afternoon. So I would like to say a massive well done to them! At that event, Liam came 3rd in his race and Maisy finished 1st, so an extra well done to those two! This meant that they qualified for the North Oxfordshire Cross Country race at Sibford School, along with Samuel, Annie-Rose and Lilly. Again they all ran very well and we are proud of how they represented the school at such a big event.



### 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](mailto:office@longfields-primary.org)  
We can re-set this for you.  
Thank you

## Year 3 and 4 Victorian Day

Years 3 and 4 had a fantastic Victorian school day and it was wonderful to see how involved the children became. They all learnt a little Latin as well as looking at traditional playground activities. This was such a great way of celebrating all of the hard work the children have put into this topic.



## KS1 Christmas Production

Well done to the children of KS1 who performed their nativity 'Everyone Loves a Baby'. The children worked really hard to sharpen their acting skills and learn the songs and we are all incredibly proud of their performances.



## Shakespeare Drama Workshop

As part of our continued work as a Shakespeare Hub School in Bicester some of our Year 5 and 6 children took part in a full day drama workshop run by HighlySprung Performance Co.

It was an absolutely amazing day all based around A Midsummer Night's Dream, which culminated in a drama production at the end of the day. It was a truly fantastic day.



## The Book People

**BIG BOOK BOOST**

Help us give **FREE** books to schools!

If you are planning on buying any books in the near future then why not visit The Book People. They are donating a £1 for every £10 spent. Just find the link and nominate Longfields  
Thank You

## Foundation Stage Nativity



Another wonderful nativity experience from our youngest children. There is something special about small children and Christmas. If you came this afternoon then we hope you had a fantastic time. I am sure that the children all did.

## 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

## 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**

## 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**

**Dates for your diary:**

**Please see School Life calendar for full dates**

11 Dec - Nasal Flu immunisation-Rec,1,2,3,4,5&6  
13 Dec – Christmas Jumper/colours day  
13 Dec - KS2 Carols (2.45pm – 3.15pm)  
17 Dec – Whole of KS2 – Christmas Theatre at Mill Arts  
18 Dec – Christmas lunch day for children  
19 Dec - Last day before Christmas Break (Thursday)  
6 Jan - First day back at school (Monday)