



Longfields' Latest 14th July 2021

Nearing the end of another year!

Dear All,

We are fast approaching the summer break and if I am really honest with you, I am so looking forward to it. It has been an incredibly hard year for everyone and a few weeks of rest and recuperation are needed for us all.

I am extremely proud of our school community and how we have navigated the challenges of the year. Proud of our staff for their commitment and excellent curriculum provision throughout, and of all our parents and families who have worked so hard at home to ensure our children kept learning, even in the most difficult of circumstances.

We hope to return in September with less, or no restrictions but the DfE have asked all schools to create local plans to ensure we can manage any rise in COVID infections should they occur (I will make sure you have information about this before we return).

I am looking forward to be able to have face-to-face assemblies with the whole school and for our children to be able to mix again and support each other in their learning. It will also be nice for us all to be able to use the school staff room again!!

Thank you for your continued support and I hope that you all have a well-deserved break over the summer. I hear there is some good weather on the way! Let's hope so, especially for those of us having staycations!

Aztec Duel

This week your child will be sent home with a free game for the garden or large indoor room (probably the garden!!). We were contacted by the inventor of the game who was winding up their business and didn't just want to ditch the surplus stock. The game has been sold through Lakeland and through Amazon in the past and the stock has been kindly donated to us to give to each of our children. Instructions should be with the game so enjoy some family fun over the summer break.

FAMILY FUN DAY

Please remember that there is a non-school uniform day this Friday.

This is to collect goods for our Fun Day on **Saturday 11th September.**

Remember to put the date in your diary. It will be great to get together as a community.

COVID UPDATES

Schools have been issued with new guidance, which takes into account the government's latest steps out of the COVID restrictions. There will be new guidance for September and I will update you over the summer break via the School Life app and the School Website in regards to arrangements, as who knows, things may change.

As there will only be 4 days left of term when these restrictions are lifted, we are not planning on changing much until September, particularly as cases are still on the rise in Bicester.

From Monday 19th July:

- **Facemasks on site will be optional**
- **One-way system will remain in place**
- **Staggered starts and pick up will remain in place**

Current thinking regarding September:

- **All restrictions will be lifted**
- **School will start at 8:55a.m. and finish at 3:15p.m. for everyone**

We have been asked by the DfE to have a new local COVID management plan which would allow us as a school to re-introduce certain restrictions should the local COVID situation get to a point where this was deemed necessary.

Let's hope that is not needed.

COVID GUIDELINES

Could I please remind you all of the following:

DROP OFF and PICK UP

Please do ensure you drop your children off at the correct time. Over half the school has a start time of 9:10a.m in the morning, yet by 9:10a.m I am normally standing on the gate alone with very few parents walking past. Equally, 3:15p.m sees very few parents left on site. There may well be a temptation to drop off early if you can, or pick up early if you can, but this should only be for those who have siblings with different start and finish times. If that is not the case for you, then please stick to the correct timings.

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 and other siblings to be collected from school and for the child with a temperature to book 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 for a further 24 hours.

If you are at all worried about whether your child has COVID symptoms then you should go ahead and book a test, but please also be aware that if you send your child to school with a high temperature this may ultimately be required.

I understand that it is so difficult as many of our children just have normal coughs and colds which result in a rise in temperature, but currently we have no alternatives to this process.

Class Photos

All photos that have been ordered should now have been distributed, unless you requested a home delivery. We hope that you enjoy them all.

Reports

Reports will be sent out this Friday afternoon (16th July). As with last year, these will be emailed to the parent emails we have on file. **If your email has changed then please let the office know as soon as possible.** Included with your child's report will be a letter indicating your child's teacher for next year and other important information, so please do read it through. Pupils will have a chance to meet their teacher next week on Wednesday when we will be having half hour sessions outside on the school field.

Please note that all emails sent containing reports will be encrypted. This is part of GDPR protocol. This does however mean that some mobile devices may not be able to open attachments. Please use a laptop or computer to do so. If you are still struggling then please speak to your class teacher.

Attendance

Even though this has been an extremely unsettled year, our attendance has been fantastic.

Currently the attendance figure for the whole school stands at just under 97%.

This is a great achievement
Well done everyone

Summer Cabin Club is Back!! Last day for booking Summer Cabin is Friday 16th July (tomorrow!!)

Summer Cabin Club will be open for the first 4 weeks of the school holidays - 26th July until 20th August 8 am – 4 pm.

Day Session 9am-3pm £23
Early 8am-9am £3 includes breakfast
Late 3pm-4pm £3
Sessions are booking fast – limited places available

This is also open to everyone Foundation to Year 6.

Booking forms are available via email:
cabinclub@longfields-primary.org

Year 6 Leavers Assembly

Dear Parents of Year 6 pupils,
We are intending to hold a fun day for our Year 6s which will include all kinds of activities.

Unless guidance changes at the last minute on Monday, we are intending to invite parents for the morning assembly.

This will be held outside and I am afraid that we will be limiting attendance to 2 adults per pupil.

The date for the event is **Tuesday 20th July**
Please look out for the message from year 6 staff giving more details.

We tentatively look forward to seeing you there.

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

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

PSHE and RSE curriculum

We are required by the DfE to publish our PSHE and RSE policy online. This is now available to view in the curriculum section of our website. Our policy is in line with statutory guidance and gives the option for parents to remove pupils from certain RSE sessions in Year 5 and 6.

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



SCHOOL WEBSITE

The school website has now started its transformation with our home page and menu system having changed. We will be continuing the changes over the next few weeks and the summer. We are sure that the changes will lead to a better site. You do not need to do anything on the school App to access any changes.

Dates for your diary:

Please see School Life calendar for full dates

20 July Y6 Leavers Assembly
22 July - (Thursday) Last day before Summer Holiday
3 September (Friday) - First day back after Summer
11 September - Family Fun Day
13-17 Sept Year 6 Woodlands Trip
21 Oct - Last day before Half Term (Thursday)
1 Nov - First Day back after Half Term
17 Dec - Last day before Christmas Break
5 Jan - First day back at school (Wednesday)