



16 December 2016

Longmeadow Newsletter

Message from the Headteacher

We had a lovely Christingle assembly on Monday, with both humour and quiet reflection, led by Reverend Kate and her colleagues from St. Peter's church. There are quite a few Christmas activities at the church that you and your family may be interested in.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Christmas plays by avoiding bringing young children to the main performances. It really helps the performers to do their best when they are not distracted by little ones, and it ensures everyone in the audience can hear and enjoy the show. We have seen some fabulous plays!

Just a reminder that term ends on Wednesday, when school finishes at 2:15 p.m. There will be no newsletter next week.

All the staff and I wish you and your families a really peaceful and enjoyable Christmas.

Longmeadow Primary School

Oaks Cross, Stevenage, HERTS
SG2 8LT
Tel: 01438 351087
Fax: 01438 210544
admin@longmeadow.herts.sch.uk

Information

- ☺ Swimming - £3.35 per week
- ☺ Dinners Years 3-6 £2.30 per day
- ☺ Find us on Facebook - Official Longmeadow Primary School
- ☺ Recommended Phone apps - School Gateway & School News

Dates for your diary

Return to School	9 Jan
Year 5 Swimming	17 Jan
Year 4 Assembly @ 2.30pm	27 Jan

Christmas Parties - 20th December

Everyone is welcome to wear a Christmas Jumper on 20th December, as this is the day for the children's parties.



Alternatively children may bring in party clothes to change into after lunch.

Attendance

Top class for attendance week ending
9th December is Amber Class
Well done !!

Amber

Reading with your child Reception and KS1

If you would like some tips on how to make home reading time constructive for you and your child, in January we will be holding some short sessions with our librarian Ms Storms. She will be able to give you tips and strategies for making home reading time something to look forward to.

You should have received a letter with more information.



Feedback from the Anti-Bullying Questionnaires

Overall, there was a positive response from parents and children. Both parents and children felt that the behaviour of the children was good and if there was any bullying it was not any different to other schools in the area, being at a very low level.

It was evident that not everyone really understood what bullying was and so, with the children and parents, we will be designing some overall guidance for the school.

Bullying is classified as:

'Deliberately hurtful behaviour, often repeated over a period of time...'

Bullying does also often involve physical harm – such as punching and kicking, or emotional harm, such as name calling or ignoring – but more often these behaviours are because children fall out and have arguments and disagreements, become frustrated and lash out, or are being spiteful. They want to hurt the other person because they are hurting too. These behaviours are more common, they are often impulsive, reactive and unplanned. They are understandable and can easily be dealt with as it is a normal part of growing up and learning how to deal with people. Bullying also sometimes involves using power inappropriately.

There were some concerns from the children about adult behaviour sometimes, from their parents and staff; if adults are being shouty this upsets them or if adults are cross. Some of the children felt that there were too many arguments over football and they felt sad if other children were lonely.

Some parents agreed with the children and also mentioned children are upset by parents swearing in front of children or smoking at the gate.

Governors feel that this is an opportunity to redo our Home School Agreement, so parents, staff and pupils agree what is important for our school as we further develop an outstanding and safe learning environment for our children. We will be beginning this in the new term. **If any parents would like to be involved in helping us develop this, we would be very pleased.**

We also took on board some of the suggestions that parents and children had about how we can raise the profile of anti-bullying, such as:

- Assemblies for children and parents
- Invite outsiders in to train about anti-bullying
- Anti-Bullying Charter
- Rewards for kindness
- Encourage good manners and good behaviour

The Governors will be introducing a Governor's 'Kindness Award' at the beginning of next term. Children will be being encouraged to be kind to each other, and 'notice' each other being kind – so that it can be reported and celebrated. There will be awards for individuals and for classes.

We would like to thank all the parents who took time to complete the questionnaire and also the parents who attended the information event. We rely on people like you to become part of developing our school community and we are very grateful.

Governors of Longmeadow School

Sports News

SPEED STACKING COMPETITION

Arranged by Year 6
Sports Ambassadors
Results to follow



Premier Sports After School Clubs

The Premier Sports Clubs will be
restarting week commencing
16th January 2017.

Please take a look at the list of
clubs available on the School
Gateway as there are some new
activities being offered.

NETBALL

Girls Year 5/6 A Team
Longmeadow v Roebuck
11 January



Girls 5/6 B Team
Longmeadow v Codicote
18 January

Other News / Reminders

Pantomime - Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 have enjoyed watching pantomimes this week.

Wednesday: Years 5 & 6 saw the Harry Potter panto at Barnwell school.

Thursday: Years 3 & 4 went to Nobel School to see Cinderella and Years 5 & 6 visited the da Vinci School in Letchworth to see Jack and the Beanstalk.

A great time was had by all - **OH YES IT WAS !!**



After School Clubs

The clubs for next term are now added to Gateway. If your child cannot attend after you have booked you must inform the office so they can be cancelled.

Please book for all sessions, not just the first.

For sessions with payments due please book the sessions then pay for them afterwards to guarantee your child's place. Non payment means you will lose your place.

If you wish to use PPG money to pay please book your space then fill out a form at the office asap so the space will not be reallocated.

Christmas Shows

The shows have all finished now, we hope you all enjoyed them.

The children and staff worked very hard.

Well done.

AUTUMN DATES

Christmas Break

Wednesday 21 December @ 2.15pm

Return to School

Monday 9 January

Parent / Headteacher Conversations

Wednesday 18 January @ 9.00am - 10.00am & 6.00pm - 7.00pm