



# Longmeadow Primary School

**Executive Headteacher: Mr Toby Mills-Bishop**

**Head of School: Mrs Mikki Caplan and Mrs Kerry Randall**

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**13<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

## Update from Mr Mills-Bishop...

### The launch of a 'House System' at Longmeadow / Inspirational Speaker

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your support, positivity and engagement this half-term. The team here have been working really hard, behind the scenes, to ensure the quality of provision at Longmeadow is of an improving standard and that pupils experience a progressive curriculum based upon the building of skills and knowledge overtime.

My role at Longmeadow is to provide the school with stability, after a period of disruption, and improve academic outcomes for children. I have committed to supporting the school for this year, as I think this gives us a logical timeframe to work with – thank you for making me feel welcome. Much of my work so far has been on the school's academic 'intent'. Which means a tight focus on the curriculum in place here at school being coherent, as well as then coordinating staff training so that the curriculum is delivered well.

However, one of the more exciting parts of my job is putting together additional opportunities for the children's personal growth to be developed overtime. In education, we call this 'Personal Development' (PD).

As such, I would like to inform you of two things:

#### 1) The Launch of a new 'House System'

In assembly this week, Mrs Caplan told the children that we would like to official launch a new 'House System' here at Longmeadow – think 'Harry Potter Houses' and points for good work and good behaviour. Essentially, we want a system whereby we can continuously praise and reward those pupils who show the right behaviour and work hard. There are so many children here who always do the right things and we would like to reward them more.

We will be able to do this by awarding 'House Points' and in then celebrating successes together as a school. We also hope that the House System will help to further create a sense and a feeling of 'community'.

The systems will work as follows:

The children will be put into one of four 'Houses' – with siblings being in the same 'House'. When children produce good work, they will be awarded 'one' 'House Point'. If children demonstrate any one of the 'Golden Rules', then they will be awarded two 'House Points'. We have asked the children to come up with some 'themes' for the names of the houses. E.g. rivers, trees, famous authors, capital cities, oceans, composers or tropical plants etc. Something along those sorts of lines. Then, once we have the suggestions in, we'll work with a sample of different pupils to select our new 'House' names. Each house will also be given a colour. After that, we'll need some of the year six pupils to put themselves forward, for election, as potential 'House Captains'.

Exciting times ahead indeed – more information to follow in due course.

## **2) A visit to the school (free of any parental charge) today – by an inspirational speaker**

This afternoon we are having a very special visitor come to the school and meet with children in the reception class up to year six.

His name is Alistair Heselton, and he is a former professional footballer and Team GB Paralympian who has come to speak with the children about having a healthy 'growth mindset', the benefits of hard work and having ambitions in life.

We hope the children enjoy his talk and follow-up work.

Many Thanks

Mr T Mills-Bishop

Executive Headteacher

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