



Longmeadow Primary School

Head: Mr James Berry

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back to School – September 2026

I hope you and your families have had a wonderful summer break and that everyone is feeling refreshed and ready for the exciting year ahead.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming the children back to school tomorrow and we extend a special welcome to those families who are joining our school community for the first time. We are delighted to have you join us.

As we begin a new academic year, I want to take the opportunity to reflect on the progress our school has made and to look ahead with confidence. Over the past year, we have taken important steps forward as a school. While we know there is still work to do, we are proud of the improvements that have been made and the commitment shown by our pupils, staff, governors, and families.

School improvement is a journey, and everyone in our community has a part to play. Our staff have worked incredibly hard to strengthen teaching and learning, develop our curriculum, and ensure that every child receives the support they need to thrive. We remain ambitious for all of our pupils and are determined to continue building on the progress we have already made.

This year, we will continue to focus on providing the very best education, experiences, and opportunities for every child. We know that strong partnerships between home and school are essential, and we thank you for your ongoing support, encouragement, and trust.

Most importantly, we want every child to feel happy, safe, and inspired to learn. We are excited to see our pupils grow in confidence, develop new skills, and achieve their full potential throughout the year ahead.

Below are a few reminders to help everyone settle back into school life:

Lunches:

Please make sure all lunches are ordered by 9am each day. Not having a lunch ordered can be very upsetting for the children and so we ask that you check that this is done, particularly for this week. All ordering of school lunches is done via the **School Grid**. To access this platform, you must have a School Grid account. You are required to pick your child's lunch options in advance. A user guide for parents can be found [here](#). Please get in touch if you encounter any problems with this system and we will be happy to help.

Free School Meals (FSM)

You may be entitled to FSM as the eligibility criteria is changing from September. Please click [here](#) to find out more.

Clubs

Free after school clubs will begin the week of 14th of September and run till Friday 11th December. All clubs start straight after school and end at 4pm.

All Clubs will be available to sign up through Arbor from 10am on Wednesday 2nd September.

Clubs List

Reception & Years 1/2 Singing Club – Tuesdays 3.15 - 4pm

Reception & Years 1/2 Construction Club – Wednesdays 3.15 - 4pm

Years 1/2 Craft Club – Mondays 3.15pm - 4pm

Year 3/4 Dance Club – Wednesdays 3.15pm - 4pm

Year 3/4 Football Club – Tuesdays 3.15 - 4pm

Year 5/6 Dance Club – Wednesdays 3.15 - 4pm

Year 5/6 Football Club – Mondays 3.15 - 4pm

Paid after school club and breakfast club for Reception to Year 6

Breakfast club runs from 8-8.30am daily and can be booked online through Arbor.

Afterschool club runs from after school till 5pm and can be booked online through Arbor. The children complete a wide variety of engaging activities and have a snack during their afternoon.

Class teachers and staff

Year	Teacher/s	Teaching Assistant/s
Nursery	Miss Kennoy	Ms Bernard
Reception	Mrs Galinska	Miss Towell
Year 1	Mrs Robertson	Miss Dell / Miss Twomey (am)
Year 2	Miss Crabb	Miss Stevens / Miss Twomey (am)
Year 3	Mrs Carmen / Mrs Poptani	Mrs Young / Mrs Chase (am)
Year 4	Mrs Laurence	Miss Goddard / Mrs Senior (am)
Year 5	Miss Brooker	Mr Nelson / Miss Hanrahan-Walker
Year 6	Miss Passmore	Mrs Jimo

PE Kit

From Monday 7th of September, on their designated PE days, children should come to school already dressed in their PE kit. This will help us make better use of learning time, as it reduces the time spent changing, and supports smoother transitions between lessons throughout the day.

PE Days	
Nursery	Friday (This is a change from what was originally sent out.)
Reception	Friday
Year 1	Monday and Tuesday
Year 2	Monday and Tuesday
Year 3	Wednesday and Friday
Year 4	Thursday
Year 5	Wednesday
Year 6	Tuesday and Thursday
Pioneers	Wednesday

Uniform expectations

We ask all parents and carers to support the school by ensuring children attend in the correct uniform every day. Wearing uniform helps children feel part of the school community and ready to learn.

Children should wear:

- A **white polo shirt** with a **maroon jumper or cardigan** (logo optional)
- **Black trousers, skirt, shorts, or pinafore**
- **Black, white or grey socks/tights**
- **Plain black, practical shoes or trainers**

In summer, children may also wear a **maroon gingham / check dress**.

Children **with hair longer than their shoulders** should be tied up in a suitable hair band and **earrings** should be studs only.

Please discuss any uniform adaptations that your child may require with the class teacher or SENCO.

Early Finish – Fridays

The school day will end at 2.15pm every Friday starting from this week. If you require wraparound care from 2.15pm until after school care starts at 3.15pm, please contact the school office to confirm reasons for this.

School improvement priorities

The school continues to be supported by the DfE as part of its school improvement and is two terms through the following improvement priorities (these are expected to last 6 terms and until December 2027)

1. Teaching standards	Embed a consistent and inclusive approach to assessment and pedagogy across the school so that teaching practice directly improves pupil outcomes, including for those pupils with SEND and in receipt of the PPG, to be in line with national measures by 2027.
2. Behaviour, attitudes and attendance	Improve behaviour and increase pupil and staff attendance by implementing clear expectations, consistent systems, and proactive early-intervention so that overall attendance rises, persistent absence decreases, and behaviour incidents reduce by 2027.

3. SEND provision	Strengthen SEND provision through timely identification of need, effective use of interventions, and high-quality internal support so that pupils receive the right help at the right time and their outcomes improve by 2027.
4. Curriculum plans	Ensure the school curriculum is fit for purpose by strengthening curriculum design, improving timetabling, and developing subject leadership so that teaching is coherent, well-sequenced, and enables all pupils to make strong progress.
5. Leadership and management	Strengthen leadership and management by developing the skills and capacity of middle leaders and by supporting governors to deepen their understanding of their strategic role so they can provide effective support and challenge. In parallel, secure strong HR processes to manage staffing pressures, including long-term sickness, so that leadership remains stable and able to drive sustained school improvement.

Behaviour – Being a Longmeadow Learner

The rules below and the visual of being a Longmeadow Learner are key to our expectations. If children do not follow these expectations, they will be managed in line with our behaviour policy.

- We are safe
- We are kind
- We are respectful



School day, gate opening and site safety

The playground gates will open shortly before 8.30am and close at 8.40am for all. All classroom doors will be open from 8.30am. The morning bell will ring to give you warning that the gates are about to close. In the afternoon, gates will open at 3.05pm, Monday – Thursday or 2.05pm on a Friday. Please do not come onto the school site until 8.30am or 3.05 / 2.05pm (unless you have a pre-arrangement). Please note that you have responsibility for your child / children until they are in the classroom and after they leave at the end of the day.

Reading and home learning

Teaching children to read is the single most important thing we do at Longmeadow. In many year groups, children will be learning to read using our phonics and reading programme – Little Wandle. Please support your child's learning by reading with them and to them at home.

Parent New Class Information Meetings

Each class (Years 1 – 6) will host a meet the teacher meeting in September as follows:

Y1 – Friday 4th September 1.45pm

Y2 – Monday 7th September, 2.45pm

Y3 – Tuesday 8th September, 2.45pm

Y4 – Wednesday 9th September, 2.45 pm

Y5 – Thursday 10th September, 2.45pm

Y6 – Tuesday 15th September, 5pm (This is a change from previous letters.)

Mobile Phones (children)

Children in Years 5 and 6 can bring in mobile phones from the parents. Once a child has permission to have their phone in school, they must hand their phone to their class teacher at the beginning of the day, and the phone must be named and switched off. Mobile phone usage can have a hugely negative impact on children's wellbeing and mental health, and we will be supporting the children to understand the impact of this as part of updates to the PSHE curriculum.

[Permission to have a mobile phone in school](#)

Walking home alone

Children in Years 5 and 6 are welcome to walk home after school unaccompanied as long as parent permission has been provided. Please use the link below if your child is in Years 5 or 6 and you would like them to walk home alone. Walking home alone following a sporting fixture or club needs permission to be given separately.

[Permission to walk home alone](#)

Parent Teacher Consultations

As last Spring term, our parent consultations will run over two days – with one of the days starting at 1.30pm (school closing at 1.15pm). We will also be offering an afternoon provision, from 1.30pm, for working parents who require it and we will enquire if you need to stay for the afternoon provision closer to the time. The dates for these will be in the date list at the end of this letter.

Bags and what to bring to school (including what NOT to bring)

All belongings should be labelled and be brought into school in a suitable bag. A water bottle and clothing suitable for the weather, including a hat in hot weather and waterproof / warm coat when needed.

Please do not send children into school with items from home. Children who require sensory equipment (e.g. fidget toys) will have these provided from school and this adjustment must be discussed with your child's class teacher.

Birthday Treats

We understand that children want to celebrate their birthdays and bring in treats to share with their friends. However, as we have children with allergies within the school, treats must not be handed out on the school site. This is a directive from the local authority.

Reading and Home Learning

Teaching children to read is the single most important thing we do at Longmeadow. In many year groups, children will be learning to read using our phonics and reading programme – Little Wandle. Your child's class teacher will discuss reading expectations with you at the meet the teacher events in the first full week of term. Please support your child's learning by reading with them and to them at home.

Dates for the Year

Tuesday 1 st September	INSET Day
Wednesday 2 nd September	INSET Day
Thursday 3 rd September	Children Back to School
Friday 4 th September	Welcome to Year 1 Meeting
Monday 7 th September	Welcome to Year 2 Meeting
	Swimming Lessons start for Yrs 4-5
Tuesday 8 th September	Welcome to Year 3 Meeting
Wednesday 9 th September	Welcome to Year 4 Meeting
Thursday 10 th September	Welcome to Year 5 Meeting
Monday 14 th September	School Clubs Start
Tuesday 15 th September	Year 6 Welcome and Gillwell Park Meeting
Thursday 1 st October	Individual School Photos
Wednesday 7 th October	Reception Stay and Play – 10-11am
Thursday 8 th October	Author Visit – Su Murley
Monday 19 th October	Harvest Assembly
Wednesday 21 st October	Flu Vaccinations Nursery and Reception Party – 3.30pm - 4.15pm
Thursday 22 nd October	KS1 Silent Disco – 3.45pm - 4.30pm KS2 Silent Disco – 4.45pm - 5.45pm
Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th October	Half Term
Monday 2 nd November	Children Back to School
Tuesday 3 rd November	Parents Evening
Thursday 5 th November	Parents Evening – Early Finish at 1.15pm
Friday 6 th November	RBL selling Poppies after school
Monday 9 th November	RBL selling Poppies after school
Wednesday 11 th November	Remembrance Assembly
Tuesday 17 th November	Reception Open Morning
Tuesday 24 th November	Reception Open Morning
	Flu Vaccinations – 2 nd Round
Friday 27 th November	Year 5 Sharing Assembly
Thursday 3 rd December	Christmas Fayre – 3.15pm - 4.30pm
Friday 4 th December	Occasional Day – School Closed to students
Friday 11 th December	EYFS Production
	Christmas Lunch
	Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 15 th December	KS1 Production
Wednesday 16 th December	Carols at the Church
Thursday 17 th December	Carols with Parents

Friday 18 th December	School Finishes for Christmas Break at 1.15pm
Monday 21 st December – Friday 1 st January	Christmas Break
Monday 4 th January	INSET Day – School Closed to Children
Tuesday 5 th January	Children Back to School
Thursday 21 st January	Nursery Open Morning
Friday 22 nd January	Year 6 Sharing Assembly
Wednesday 27 th January	Year 4 Parents Workshop
Friday 5 th February	Year 5 Sharing Assembly
Wednesday 10 th February	Reception Stay and Play
Friday 12 th February	Bake Sale – 2.15pm
Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February	Half Term
Tuesday 23 rd February	Parents Evening
Thursday 25 th February	Parents Evening – Early Finish 1.15pm
Thursday 4 th March	World Book Day
Friday 5 th March	Year 4 Sharing Assembly
Friday 19 th March	Year 3 Sharing Assembly
Thursday 25 th March	Easter Raffle Last Day of Spring Term – School Finishes at 1.15pm
Monday 29 th March – Friday 9 th April	Easter Break
Wednesday 28 th April – Tuesday 4 th May	Book Fair
Friday 30 th April	Year 2 Sharing Assembly
Monday 10 th May – Thursday 13 th May	Year 6 SATs Tests
Friday 14 th May	Year 1 Sharing Assembly
Wednesday 19 th May	Reception Stay and Play
Thursday 27 th May	Non School Uniform Day. Bouncy Castle after School EYFS and KS1 – 3.15pm - 4.15pm KS2 – 4.30pm - 5.30pm
Monday 31 st May – Friday 4 th June	Half Term
Monday 7 th June	INSET Day – School Closed to Children
Friday 11 th June	Reception Sharing Assembly
Monday 14 th June – Friday 18 th June	Phonics Screening Week
Friday 25 th June	Sports Day
Tuesday 29 th June	Reserve Sports Day
Wednesday 30 th June	Parents Book Look
Thursday 8 th July	Transition Day – Children move up to their new classes
Monday 19 th July	End of Year Reports Sent Home
Tuesday 20 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly and Show Morning Colour Run
Wednesday 21 st July	End of Term – School Finishes at 1.15pm

Many thanks for your support,

Mr Berry

Headteacher