



Happy New Year!

Dear All,

Welcome back to a new term and a new year. Let us hope that 2022 is a healthier year for us all. I hope that you all managed to have some kind of break over Christmas and that your plans were not disrupted too much. We are looking forward to a new term with new topics and plenty of exciting learning activities. There are trips planned across the school and we hope that these will not be disrupted by any changes to COVID guidance. There have been a couple of updates to guidance over the holidays so please do read below as a reminder.

Thank you again for your continued positive comments and messages of support.

COVID UPDATES

- Face coverings to be worn on site until further notice. We hope that this will not be for too long.
From the 11th January there are changes regarding the need for PCR tests.
- If you have NO symptoms but test positive on a lateral flow device then you no longer need to book a PCR test to confirm the result. You will need to notify the relevant authority and isolate for 10 days unless you test negative on day 6 and 7 on a lateral flow device and then you may come out of isolation. If day 6 remains positive then you need to test day 7 and 8. In order to come out of isolation you need to have a negative result for two consecutive days or reach day 10 when you are automatically released from isolation.
- Please note that if you have symptoms then you are still required to have a confirmation PCR test.
- Please continue to notify school of all positive results as we are required to submit these to Oxfordshire County Council.
- If a member of your household tests positive then pupils will need to LFT test daily to ensure there is no spread to the school environment.
- As there is no longer a staggered start to the day, please ensure that younger siblings are picked up before walking around to KS2.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Headteacher: Paul Hollidge Tel: 01869 252386 email:office@longfields-primary.org Website: www. <https://longfields.sch.life/>

Starting Primary School

Primary school places – Reminder - if your child was born on or between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018, you need to apply for a primary school place IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO. You must still apply even if your child already attends a nursery attached to the school. Deadline for applications is 15 January 2022.

TESCO

Every little helps

Please have a look at the notice boards around school – we are currently one of the beneficiaries of the Tesco community token scheme. If you do shop at Tesco, then please do collect the tokens and pop them into the Longfields School collecting tube. All monies awarded through the scheme will go towards improving the KS1 playground area.

Fresh Start Catering



We would also like to advise you of a Winnie the Pooh, themed day lunch on Thursday 20th January. We hope you will join in the fun, please order in the usual way (order before Thursday 13th Jan 12pm if required). (This is a normal school uniform day, no fancy dress).

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Mrs Davies and to Mrs Huntley who are both expecting new additions to their families. They will both be with us until Easter and will then start their maternity leave. I am sure you will join us in wishing them all the very best for the future.

Attendance and Lateness

This may be strange to talk about attendance when there has been so much absence due to COVID, but it is something that as a school we monitor on a regular basis.

As we enter term 3 we will be looking a little closer at absence patterns. We will obviously take in to account any absences due to COVID, but this attendance analysis will highlight those children whose attendance is low or whose lateness is high. **Please note that school starts at 8:55a.m and that we no longer operate a staggered start to the day.** As attendance was highlighted as an issue for some groups of children during our last Ofsted inspection, we are expected, more so than normal, to ensure this issue is addressed.

Please do not be offended if you are contacted in regards to your child's attendance. This may happen if your child's attendance is below 90% without good reason. In some instances where improvement in attendance is not noted, attendance contracts may need to be agreed with support from the County Attendance Team if needed.

Please help us to ensure all our children are in school as often as they possibly can be.

School Newspaper First Edition

Please check out the NEWS section of the school website for the very FIRST EDITION of our new Pupil Newspaper. This was published before Christmas, but if you haven't had a read then please do. Our amazing reporters have been working hard on the first copy and I am sure you will agree that it is superb addition to our website. We are already looking forward to the next edition

New Parking Enforcement

You may have noticed that parking enforcement officers have been outside school on a regular basis. Please do not risk a fine by parking illegally. Please have a look at the news section of the website as this contains a pocket guide to the new parking enforcement in and around Bicester.

This 'Glovebox Guide' helps to explain all the enforcement procedures.

Bike Library The bikes are here!



Our bikes have now been delivered and we are nearly ready to loan out bikes to children and families who wish to cycle to school and/or use them for recreation.

Please do contact Mr Tucker if you are interested in being considered for a bike loan.

It would be great to use them as soon as possible so please do not hesitate to get in contact.

Bikes will also be supplied with helmets and locks.

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.

PLEASE WEAR CORRECT PE KIT

We have taken the decision to continue to let children come to school in their PE kits on their PE days, but there are many children just turning up to school in sports kit that is not part of our uniform. Please can you ensure that your child has the correct PE kit when turning up to school. I understand that as the weather gets colder then your child may need a sweatshirt or top in addition to the t-shirt, but could we please ensure the correct t-shirt is worn (not a football top that is the same colour).

Thank you.

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.

Dates for your diary:

12 Jan - Year 5 swimming begins
15 Jan - Deadline for Primary applications
20 Jan - Winnie the Pooh, themed day lunch
18 Feb - Last day before half term
28 Feb - First day back after half term
3 Mar - World Book Day
9 Mar - Y6 & Reception Height & weight
8 Apr - Last day before Easter holiday
25 April - First day back after Easter
27 May - Last day before Half Term
7 June - TUE First day back (Mon 6th INSET)
20 July - Last day before summer Holiday

Please see School Life calendar for full dates