



Longfields' Latest

19th July 2022

Well I guess this is it!

Dear All,

Here starts the ramblings of a middle aged, some might say old, man. So far, as many of you have spoken to me on the gate, I have managed to hold things together. I am unashamedly an emotional man, even an advert can start me off, but so far, I have managed to hold things together.

I have a distinct feeling that I am in denial and that I do not really want to process the enormity or reality of the decision I made earlier this year.

Maybe you'll make me crack tomorrow, or maybe it'll be in September when I'm not standing on the school gate.

Words cannot express what a privilege it has been to be your Head Teacher. The ethos and community feel of this school is only created through the work we have all done together. The collective effort of pupil, parent, staff and maybe the Head Teacher too.

This school is a very special place and I will miss you all – there will be aspects of the job I don't miss – but all those who are part of our community will be missed and will always carry a place in my heart.

We have come a long way – developing a curriculum that enthuses and gives the best possible opportunities for our children. Developing Forest School. Providing wrap around care. Changing the school from 1.5 form entry to 2 form entry and changing the physical layout of the school completely. Two 'GOOD' Ofsted reports with this latest one being even more of an achievement under the new Ofsted focus on the curriculum. I am still bowled over by your contribution as parents to that report – I will never forget those kind words of support for every aspect of the school. And then, there are the day to

day gems that come from walking around a school, observing learning and talking to the most important element – our children.

I am immensely proud of my time here, I always say that the ethos and feel of this school is a culmination of the collective commitment of our community, but I am also proud that I have been able to contribute to that feeling and the direction of the school. I will miss you all and wish you all the very best. I am sure I will pop in and that you will occasionally see that unwashed white pick-up in the car park.

Thank you for a most memorable 8 and a half years.

CHANGE TO THE SCHOOL DAY

Please be aware that in line with the government's guidance on the length of the school day our timings for September 2022 will be changing.

The school day will be 10 minutes longer.

School hours will be:

8:50a.m. – 3:20p.m.

Please ensure that you are on time in the new academic year. Tightening up of government guidance in relation to lateness and term time holidays will mean that punctuality and attendance will be monitored more than ever.

Thank you

Message to our Year 6 leavers

One of the things I will miss, not being a Head Teacher is the privilege of watching children grow from infants towards being young adults. This current year 6 started nursery in September 2014, the beginning of my first full year after joining in January. I have been with them for the entirety of their journey through Longfields Primary.

We could not be more proud of them.

They have had to endure and soldier through a disruptive 2 years and yet have still come out smiling and ready to start their new secondary adventure.

We wish them all the very best and ask them all to remember that they are special and unique just as they are. That the things that make us different are the things that also make us special. You do not need to conform to a vision of what people think you should be or how you should act, but should be proud of who you are and be friends with those who love you for who you are. There will of course be rules to follow – secondary school rules – possibly a little tougher! But continue to be you and develop into wonderful people.

We all wish you the very best of luck.

Tesco Grant

We are so pleased to announce that our local Tesco have donated a community grant to the school to the sum of £500.

This will go towards playground improvements and work in the Forest School area.

PTA Fund Raising

A huge thank you to all those involved in our PTA events this year. Whether you are on the committee or have helped out at an event in any way, your contribution has been amazing.

Over the year, your fundraising efforts have raised an amazing

£9,875.18

Some of the money this year has gone towards:

KS1 play car and trailer, Easter eggs, Christmas presents, Yr6 leavers hoodies, Yr3 living wall, new starter welcome packs.

There will be a wish list from the school next year so people can visualise where their money is going. Thank you all for an amazing effort.

School Values

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our questionnaire regarding school values. We have had suggestions from all stakeholders (staff, parents, governors and pupils). We are pleased to say that there were 3 clear leaders in the results and we have now adopted these as our key values for the school.

They are:

**RESPECT
HONESTY
PERSEVERANCE**

We have now established key behaviours that embody these values and they will become the basis of our revamped 'Values Tree' and reward system. They are the following.

RESPECT

- ✚ Follow the 5 STEPS to good manners
- ✚ Show you are listening to others
- ✚ Take pride in your work

SMILE

THANKYOU

EXCUSE ME

PLEASE

SORRY

HONESTY

- ✚ Apologise if you have done something wrong
- ✚ Always ask for help when you need it
- ✚ Tell the truth

PERSEVERANCE

- ✚ Always give 100% effort
- ✚ Use mistakes as a learning opportunity
- ✚ Be Resilient

Volunteers Needed

As part of this focus on reading we would like to ask if you have any spare time and could come in to school to listen to children read. If this is something, you might like to do then please talk to your child's teacher. As part of our safeguarding procedures, you will be asked to fill out a short application form with character references and have a DBS check, but once completed we would be glad to have you help.

We look forward to hearing from you

PARKING IN THE COMMUNITY

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 also respect our local community and neighbours by parking responsibly. Please do not park on the grass verges or over the driveways of local residents. This really is just common decency.

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

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:

Please see School Life calendar for full dates

20 July – Last day before summer holidays
2 Sept – INSET DAY
5 Sept – INSET DAY
6 Sept – INSET DAY
7 Sept – First day back after summer holidays
12-16 Sept – Year 6 to Woodlands
22 Sept – Flu Vaccinations
5 October – Individual School Photographs
21 October – Last day before half term
31 October – First day back after half term